

Analysis of Gender Budgeting in the Agricultural Sector in Uttarakhand State

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Abstract : Gender budgeting is a tool for women empowerment. Agriculture is the largest sector in developing the economy, and a large part of women involve in this sector for their subsistence and livelihood. Gender and development generally indicate the women empowerment process this paper is going to find out the gender budget initiative in Uttarakhand state and bringing the picture of gender budgeting in agriculture in Uttarakhand.

Keywords: Gender Budget, Empowerment, Agriculture, Development,

INTRODUCTION

It is about twenty years to Uttarakhand got shape from the Uttar Pradesh State of India. The state was carved out because of the continues ignorance of Hilly region of that time Uttar Pradesh state known as Uttarakhand (previously Uttaranchal) and the massive gap between plain area and hilly area of the Uttar Pradesh in terms of human development, infrastructure development and in health facilities accessibility.

Uttarakhand is a small hill state in India carved out from Uttar Pradesh (UP) state on 9 November 2000. In the state topography divide into two terrains Plain area and Hill area. The area covered by the state is about 53483 KM² in which 46035 KM² (around 86 per cent) is Hilly region, and 7448 KM² (around 14 per cent) is the plain region. It is evident that the state Uttarakhand formed based on high expectations of the hilly people to reached and to pursuit development and fetch better living standard as it worsened in Uttarakhand (formally known as Uttaranchal) as compared to Uttar Pradesh State's plain region.

The gender budget in Uttarakhand commences from the financial year 2007-08 onward every financial year with the main budget document of the State. The main objective of the gender budget is to development and empowerment of women through the ongoing budgeting process and budgetary schemes of the government. It is not the separate budget for the women but the identification and imputation through the making special provisions for women.

AGRICULTURE PROFILE OF UTTARAKHAND

The total geographical area of the state is about 5.35 million hectares, which is divided into Hilly and Plain area. The 4.6 million hectares (86%) consists of a hilly area, and the remaining 0.74 million ha (14%) is plain area. Thus the hilly trans makes it a Hilly state. Due to hilly trans, only about 14 per cent of the geographical area is cultivable. Because of its location and diverse climate, the State has certain unique advantages for the development of horticulture, agro-processing industries, organic farming, off-season vegetable cultivation and cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants which can be gainfully exploited. The State has about 61.1% area under forests. The share of net sown area is only about 14 % as against the national average of 43.37%. The share of culturable wasteland is about 7%, which provides a massive potential for fodder trees and other plantation crops including fruits. Table 1 shows the Land use pattern in the Uttarakhand from the year 2013-14 to the year 2016-17 under the different head of land use.

Table 1: Land Use in Uttarakhand

(In Hecteyer)

S.No.	Particular	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	Total Reported Area	5992272	5992604	5992604	5992604
2	Forest	799953	3799953	3799953	3799953
3	Not Available for Cultivation	228016	228200	228106	228091
4	Permanent Pastures and other Grazing Land	192098	192077	192071	192075
5	Land under Misc. Tree, Crops and Grooves	389183	387817	387673	387176
6	Cultivable Waste Land	316898	316984	317777	317885

7	Net Area Sown	701030	700171	698413	690562
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Source: *Statistica Dairy Uttarakhand 2016-17*

In the state economy, the leading sector is agriculture. Its contribution to the state Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) is about 23.4 per cent. Land hoardings are small in State, the average landholding size in the state is about 0.95 hectares, whereas the national average is 1.57 hectare. The marginal size of the holdings is 0.39 hectare, Smallholding size is 1.38 hectare, medium size of holdings is 3.33 hectare, and the large size of the holdings is 36.0 hectare in the state. Table 2 given below shows the distribution of operational land holdings in the Uttarakhand.

Table 2: In Uttarakhand, the number of operational holdings details (2010-11)

S.No	Size (Ha)	Number		Area	
		Total Holdings	%	Area (Ha)	%
1	Less than 1.0	672138	73.65	295556	36.23
2	1.0-2.0	157330	17.24	225124	27.6
3	2.0-4.0	64781	7.1	175381	21.5
4	4.0-10.0	17302	1.9	94220	11.55
5	10.0 and above	1099	0.12	25401	3.11
	Total	912650	100	815682	100

Source: *Statistica Dairy Uttarakhand 2016-17*

The agriculture in the state is still the game of rain heavily depends on monsoon. The irrigated area is just about 44 per cent of the total area, which consists of 3.45 hectare of land. Further in the hilly and plain area of the state it is 14.17 per cent and 85.83 per cent respectively.

Table 3: Agricultural Labours in Uttarakhand Census 2011

S.No	Particular	Male	Female	Total
1	Population	51,37,773	49,48,519	10086292
s2	Working Population	25,51,921	13,20,354	38,72,275
3	Main Workers	20,70,760	799864	28,70,624
4	Cultivators (Main+Marginal)	73,5,412	84,5,011	15,8,0423
5	Agricultural Labours (Main+Marginal)	28,6,540	11,6,761	40,3,301

Source: *Registrar General of India*

GENDER BUDGETING IN AGRICULTURE IN UTTARAKHAND

Women empowerment is one of the vital issues to tackle in the modern society for gender equality. It is just a tool for bringing gender equality, which is useful when other tools incorporated with it. It is going to be more than ten years to the adoption of gender budget in the state Uttarakhand of India. It is to examine hows the journey of this policy implication of gender budget in Uttarakhand.

Women are the backbone of hill economy due to massive man migration from hill area to plain area basically for employment thus the mostly agricultural matters deals by the women in their addition to day to day business of houses like caring, food, and other things. There is 25,51,921 number of the working population in Uttarakhand in which female cultivators are 845011 and 11,6,761 female agricultural labours. Table 3 given below describes the clear picture of working and agricultural labour numbers in Uttarakhand according to census 2011.

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Gender budget makes the provision that the marginal sections of the society(s) take advantage of development progress through the budgetary provision of the government. The share of agriculture in the economy is going to be a shrink, but it is still the most significant sector in providing job opportunity to the people.

In the financial year, when state-led congress government introduce gender budget at that time, it started only with the 18 government department. At the initial level, the budget allocation was ₹ 330.30 crores. Moreover, the departmental schemes were divided into two sets of categories, category I belong to 100 per cent allocation to women scheme, or it is called to be pro-women scheme, and category II belongs to at least 20 per cent allocation to women.

In the financial year 2019-20, the government allocated 6192.89 crores in Gender Budget. In agriculture, the Uttarakhand government allocated, under the head of Crop Husbandry and Research (in Hindi कृषि कर्म एवं अनुसन्धान) ₹ 2200480 thousand. It is about 3.55 per cent of total gender budget. For the crop husbandry government allocated ₹ 1105480 thousand in the year 2019-20. For the agricultural research, ₹ 980000 thousand in the revenue head. under the capital head of capital outlay on crop husbandry government allocated ₹ 115000 thousand.

CONCLUSION

Through the gender budget government want to empower the women, agriculture is one of the leading sector to the adaptation of gender schemes. In the agriculture sector, it is clear from the data; not enough amount just 3 per cent of total gender budget is allocated to the agriculture sector. The Uttarakhand lives in the hilly region which has hard terrain and difficult for doing agriculture. For the sake of women's empowerment and agricultural benefits, government should enhance the budgetary allocation and its coverage under that. It is much better if the government initiate more schemes through which women shift from traditional to modern agriculture and, from traditional crop pattern to the new and scientific direction for more and diversified agriculture. Thus, the agricultural sector reforms through gender budget lead to women empowerment.

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