

Financial Inclusion of Marginal Farmers and Landless Categories in Border Area of Punjab

Mr. Lovepreet Singh¹, Mr. Shamsheer Singh²

^{1,2}University College of Agriculture

^{1,2}Guru Kashi University, Talwandi Sabo

Abstract

The prime objective of this study was to ascertain the financial inclusion of marginal farmers and landless categories in border area of Punjab. The study was conducted in one of districts the border areas of Punjab i.e. Amritsar district selected purposively during the year 2017-18. A multistage stratified random sampling technique was employed to select blocks, villages & households from the study area. Out of 10 blocks of the district, Chogawan & Attari block were randomly selected. Further, one village from each selected block i.e. Kakkar and Bhakna Kalan was randomly selected. For this investigation, from both the villages 40 marginal farmers and an equal matching sample of 40 landless farmers were selected, thus, comprising of a sample of 80 farmers to achieve the objectives of the study. The results indicated poor financial inclusion among farmers. The basic components of financial inclusion like availing of insurance, forex transaction, and locker facility were completely lacking among the respondents. No respondent was reported to be having availed any of these services. Other components such as seeking financial advice investing FDRs also showed poor response. This can be attributed to low income of the respondent and the vicious circle of debt leave little income for saving and availing government sponsored scheme for financial inclusion of weaker section. Such government initiative in lifting the weaker section poverty line or debt trap becomes an obstacle causes financial exclusion.

Introduction:

The process of guaranteeing access to financial services, timely and adequate credit needed by vulnerable groups at an affordable cost is termed as financial inclusion (C.Rangarajan Committee on financial inclusion, 2008). The objective behind is to provide a holistic set of services through multiple delivery channels. The World Bank has made universal financial access by 2020 as one of its goals, and reports that more than 50 countries are actively developing financial inclusion plans and policies. Governments and businesses can be more efficient and unbanked population will find a better quality of life if financial products are

extended to them. Financial inclusion is the delivery of financial services at affordable costs to sections of disadvantages and low income segments of society, in contrast to financial exclusion where those services are not available or affordable. In the context of risk and vulnerability of poorer sections of population, dynamic definition of financial inclusion would need to cover several aspects that include range of products and services, affordable and competitive prices, awareness of products and prices, simple and convenient process of delivery and the attitude of the concerned staff (Arunachalam, 2008). There was also evidence that financial inclusion is crucial to poverty reduction. The success of financial inclusion is primarily breaking the link between poor public service, patronage and corruption. The term *financial inclusion* has direct correlation to poverty. In India, the financial inclusion initiatives were undertaken since 2005-06 (Subbarao, 2009).

Leyshon and Thrift (1995) defined financial exclusion as “those processes that prevent poor and disadvantaged social groups from gaining access to the financial system.

In the Indian context, financial inclusion has been described as the provision of affordable financial services namely, access to payments and remittance facilities, savings, loans and insurance services by the formal financial system to those who are excluded (Anonymous, 2014). The earlier campaign on financial inclusion started in 2011 had a limited objective. The focus was on the coverage of villages with population of 2000 or more with banking services. The coverage of individual households with bank accounts was not the focus. Out of the 5.92 lakh villages in the country, only 74000 villages could be covered (Anonymous, 2014a). As quoted by United Nations:- Access at a reasonable cost for all households to a full range of financial services, including savings or deposit services, payment and transfer services, credit and insurance, sound and safe institutions governed by clear regulations and industry performance standards, financial and institutional sustainability, to ensure continuity and certainty of investment and competition to ensure choice and affordability for clients (Ministry of Finance, GoI, 2015-16)

Significant progress has been reported in account opening with the commencement of Prime Minister's Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) (a national financial inclusion initiative), and associated insurance schemes since August 2014. The JAM Trinity Jan Dhan Yojana, Aadhaar, and Mobile numbers) are being linked for transfer of payments to individual beneficiaries. The rapid pace of opening bank accounts is a demand driven approach. By the end of January 2015, 12.31 crore no-frills bank accounts were opened in five months, of which 60 percent were in rural areas, and 40 percent were in urban areas. 67.5 percent of these savings accounts were with zero balance. The number of new accounts opened increased to 21.7 crore by end –April 2016. Basic savings bank deposit accounts (BSBDAs) reached 39.8 crore at the end of March 2015, and 44.1 crore by the end of September 2015. Total number of banking outlets in the country went up from 567,713 at end –March 2015 to 567,530 at end –September 2015. 91.2 percent of them were in branches of banks. State Level Bankers Committee Convener Banks have been advised by RBI to identify villages with above 5,000 population not having a scheduled commercial bank branch,

Financial Inclusion of Marginal Farmers and Landless Categories in Border Area of Punjab

and purpose the task of opening bank branches in these locations by the end of March 2017.(Govt. of India, 2017).

Through, our country's economy is growing at one digit, still the growth is not inclusive with the economic condition of the people in rural areas worsening further. In our country around 40 percent of people lack access to even basic financial services like savings, credit and insurance facilities. Mainly, rural area suffer from lack of access to basic financial services. India is the second large only to China in the number of people excluded from financial facilities. Even after 68 years of independence, around ten crore households were not connected with banking (Jayadev et al., 2012 and Khuntia, 2014). According to Rural Finance Access Survey (2003), 70 percent of marginal/landless farmers do not have a bank account, 87 percent have no access to credit from a formal sources. As a result, they were forced to rely on informal finance who charged exorbitant rates of interest (Basu and Srivastva, 2005).

These include not only banking products but also others financial services such as insurance and equity products' (Rajan, 2009). The essence of financial inclusion is to ensure delivery of financial services which include bank accounts for savings and transactional purposes, low cost credit for productive, personal and other purposes, financial advisory services, insurance facilities (both life and non-life), etc. It is imperative that the availability of banking and payment services to the entire populace without discrimination is the objective of public policy. Providing access to basic banking services is the first phase of the financial inclusion process'. (Chakraborty,2013). Besides, Financial Inclusion also mitigates the exploitation of vulnerable sections from the usurious money lenders by facilitating easy access to formal credit.

Financial inclusion is the topical concept that helps to achieve the sustainable development of the country, through available financial services to the unreached people. The Government of India and the RBI have been making concerted efforts to promote financial inclusion as one of the important national objectives of the country. Financial Inclusion can be measured in terms of access to institutions such as banks, insurance companies and MFIs (Micro Finance Institutions) and the services that they provide such as payment services, savings or loans and credits.

The banking sectors has made significant improvements in the areas relating to financial viability, profitability and competitiveness, there are concerns that banks have not been able to include vast segment of the population, especially the underprivileged sections of the society, into the fold of basic banking services .The data provided by Basic Statistical Returns of Scheduled Commercial Banks reveals that critical financial exclusion exists in 256 districts spread over 17 states and one union territory. Thus, it can be stated with certainty that financial exclusion is there among specific occupational and social groups and it has the regional dimensions. The poor are left behind in the race for development either due to their neglect by the state policy or on account of their inherent characteristics.

It is important to study the reasons that lead to financial exclusion of poor section of population especially of border areas. It is need based to investigate the extent of penetration of public and private institutional saving and insurance products into rural areas and which section of rural population are availing these services. In this background, the study tends to examine some of the issues pertaining to financial inclusion and accessibility to credit for marginal farmers and landless labourers in border areas of Punjab with the objective of Financial inclusion of marginal farmers and landless categories in border area of Punjab.

Methodology

The Present study was conducted in the Amritsar District of Punjab during the year 2017-18. Of all the border areas of Punjab (Gurdaspur, Ferozpur, Tarn Taran, Pathankot and Amritsar). Amritsar district was selected purposively from all border district as researcher belongs to this district. For the selection of the respondents, a multistage stratified random sampling technique was employed to select blocks, villages & households from the study area. Initially, a list of all development blocks (Attari, Chogawan, Ajnala, Jandiala, Guru, Tarsikka, Majitha, Rayya, Verka, Harsha Chhina) falling under the selected district was compiled. Of all these blocks Chogawan & Attari were randomly selected. For the selection of the villages, A separate list of villages falling under selected blocks was obtained from the concerned block development officers. one village from each selected block were randomly selected. Villages selected were Kakkar and Bhakna Kalan. Further, all the cultivation households (marginal farmers) were enlisted with the help of Numberdar, Sarpanch. The marginal farm size was obtained as below 1 hectare (as per govt. of Punjab classification). Of all these marginal farmers, 40 Marginal Farmers from both the villages were randomly selected. Equal number of landless households were selected. The households sample included 40 marginal farmers & 40 landless respondents making a total of 80 for the study. Collection of data was done with the help of primary and secondary data to achieve objectives of the study. Primary data:-Primary data relating to various parameters of financial inclusion were collected through Personal Interview Method with the help of Pre-Tested Schedules. Information related to Socio-Economic profile of the respondent operational area, farm & livestock assets, different sources of income, savings, consumption expenditure, details of various institutional& non-institutional loans etc were collected from both categories of respondents. Secondary data:-Keeping in view the objective of study the secondary data was obtained from published & unpublished govt. sources. The information about the number of banks operate, cooperatives societies etc were taken from statistical abstract of Punjab Secondary data on growth of financial inclusion in district was collected from various sources also various websites, bulletins, etc. The data so collected was analyzed with the help of simple statistical tools such as percentages and averages to estimate the results and draw inferences.

Results:

Table 1: Distribution of the marginal farmers based on their occupational Composition

Category	Chogawan		Attari		Overall	
Only Farming	5	(25)	3	(15)	8	(20)
Dairy + Farming	6	(30)	6	(30)	12	(30)
Dairy + Artias	3	(15)	3	(15)	6	(15)
Artias + Farming	3	(15)	3	(15)	6	(15)
Poultry + Farming	2	(10)	2	(10)	4	(10)
Piggery + Farming	1	(5)	3	(15)	4	(10)
Total	20	(100)	20	(100)	40	(100)

Occupation is major avenue for increasing income and raising livelihood. Respondents tend to have different socio-economic profile within an economy in term of position they occupy and the activities they engage it. Overall economic status of person rests upon employment that empowers with income one earns thereof. Occupational structure of sampled Marginal Farmers is shown in Table 4.13. Data for sample blocks indicated that overall 20% of the Marginal Farmers based their income on only farmers. 30% of the marginal farmers supplemented their farming with dairy enterprises 15% of the marginal farmers cultivated crops and were professional Commission agents (artias). 15% of marginal farmers supplemented their income with dairy and business (C.A) 10% of the farmers pursued poultry farming and piggery along with farming. Blockwise results indicate almost the same situation where 25% of marginal farmers from Chogawan block were pursuing only farming, piggery was adopted by only 5% in Attari as compared is 15% piggery in Attari.

Table 2: Occupational Composition of Landless Categories:-

Category	Chogawan		Attari		Overall	
Self Employed						
1. Fruit Vendors	2	(10)	1	(5)	3	(7.5)
2. Shopkeeper (Sweet Shop)	1	(5)	2	(10)	3	(7.5)
3. Tailor	2	(10)	1	(5)	3	(7.5)
4. Snack maker	2	(10)	3	(15)	5	(12.5)
Wage Earner						
Masons	3	(15)	3	(15)	6	(15)
Agriculture Labourers	2	(10)	1	(5)	3	(7.5)
Labourers	1	(5)	2	(10)	3	(7.5)
Salary Earner						
Labourers in Factory	7	(35)	7	(35)	14	(35)

Data furnished in Table 2 revealed the occupational structure of Landless labourers categories and results showed that of each self-employed categories, 7.5% were fruit vendors, shopkeepers, tailors and 12.5% constituted snack makers, Of the wage earner category, 15% were masons, 7.5% each were agricultural labourers and labourers with mason. 35% of the landless labourer categories were salary earners working as labourers in Khasa Distillery.

Table 3: Net income of marginal farmers from all sources.

Sources of Income	Overall	Percentage
Gross income from crop	1,23,347	
Variable expenditure	49,338	
Net income from crops	74,009	41.99%
Net income from dairy	23,225	13.20%
Income from poultry	40,000	22.70%
Income from piggery	38950	22.10%
Net income from farm business	1, 76,214	55%

Source: field survey

The Table 3 Indicates net income of farmers. The total net income generated from all sources in case of Marginal farmers was 1,76,214. Income from crops constituted the maximum contributions to income (41.99%). Next in order of contribution was the net income from poultry (22.70%), piggery (22.10%) and minimum from dairy farming (13.20%).

Table 4: Net Income of Landless labourers from all sources:

	Number of Landless labourers	Average Income(Rs.)
Self Employed		
• Fruit vendor	3	1,00,000
• Shopkeeper • (Sweet Shop)	3	1,33,333
• Tailor	3	1,16,666
• Snack maker	5	1,08,000
Wage Earners		
• Masons	6	1,20,000
• Agri. Labourer	3	84,000
• Labourer	3	84,000
Salary Earner		
• Job in Factory	14	90,000

The table 4 indicates net income of landless labourers. Maximum income was earned by shopkeepers (Rs. 1,33,333), followed by wage earners (masons) (1,20,000), snack maker

Financial Inclusion of Marginal Farmers and Landless Categories in Border Area of Punjab

(1,08,000), tailors (1,16,666), fruit vendors (1,00,000), services (90,000) and minimum was earned by Agricultural labourers (Rs. 84,000) with mason Rs. 84,000.

Table 5: Magnitude of debt:-

Amount of Debt	Chogawan				Attari				Overall			
	Marginal farmers		Landless labourers		Marginal labourers		Landless labourers		Marginal farmers		Landless labourers	
	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age
No Debt	12	60	14	70	11	55	14	70	23	57.5	28	70
<5000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5000-10000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10000-15000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15000-20000	4	20	3	15	1	5	0	0	5	12.5	3	7.5
20000-25000	2	10	3	15	3	15	3	15	5	12.5	6	15
>25000	2	10	0	0	5	25	3	15	7	17.5	3	7.0
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	20	100	40	100	40	100

Table 5 assessed the magnitude of debt of respondents. Overall results indicates that 57.5% of the Marginal Farmers and 70% of Landless households had no debt. 17.5% of Marginal & 7% of Landless households had incurred highest debt (>Rs.25000). 12.5% of Marginal farmers & 15% Landless households had debt in the range of Rs. 20000 -25000. 12.5% of Marginal farmers & 7.5% of Landless households had debt in the range of 15000 – 20000.

Financial Inclusion/Exclusion of Respondents.

In this section, in an attempt to estimate and assess Financial Inclusion/ Exclusion, the following parameters have been analyzed: Account holders in various bank, Saving in the financial institutions, Availing Loans, Fixed deposits, Locker, ATM, Financial Advice from bank, Forex, Insurance (life/crop/assets/non-life)

Table 6: Nature of bank wise distribution of account holders in 2017-18.

Bank Category	Blocks		Overall
	Chogawan	Attari	

	Marginal farmers		Landless labourers		Marginal farmers		Landless labourers		Marginal farmers		Landless labourers	
	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age
Public sector Bank	3	15	2	10	2	10	2	10	5	12.5	4	10
Regional Rural Bank	5	25	3	15	3	15	3	5	8	20	6	15
Private sector Bank	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	2.5	0	0
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	5	100	40	100	10	100

Source : Field survey

The result of Table 6 shows the percentage of account holders in various Public, Private & Regional Rural Banks. Result shows that 12.5% of Marginal farmer had account in Public Sector Bank. 20% have accounts in Regional Rural Banks (Gramin & Cooperative Banks) and only 2.5% had account in Private Bank (HDFC). Similarly, in Landless category majority had account in Regional Rural Bank (15%) & 10% had account in Public Sector Bank & none in Private Sector Bank.

Table 7. Number of respondents availing loan:

Sources	Blocks								Overall			
	Chogawan				Attari							
	Marginal farmers		Landless labourers		Marginal farmers		Landless labourers		Marginal farmers		Landless labourers	
Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	
Institutional	4	50	3	50	4	44.4	3	60	8	47.05	6	54.54

Financial Inclusion of Marginal Farmers and Landless Categories in Border Area of Punjab

Non-institutional	4	50	3	50	5	55.5	2	40	9	52.9	5	45.45
Total	8	100	6	100	9	100	5	100	17	100	11	100

Source : Field survey

Figure in parenthesis indicates percentage of total.

The table 7 indicates the respondent having availed loan from various sources. The results indicate that 47.05% marginal farmers availed loan from institutional sources as compared to 52.05% from non institutional sources. Landless labourers availed 54.54% loan from institutional sources thus belying the fact that landless labourers get more loan from non institutional sources. Earlier studies conducted had estimated higher access of non-institutional loan by landless labourer. The trends of relying more on institutional sources is due to govt. efforts from time to time to help farmer get institutional loans at lesser interest rates & with easier formalities.

Table 8: Number of respondents having KCC:-

Blocks	No. of farmers	F	%
Chogawan	20	4	20%
Attari	20	4	20%
Overall	40	8	20%

The table 8 indicates number of farmers availing Kissan Credit Card scheme. This scheme inhatred of NABARD has been designed to meet comprehensive credit requirements of the agriculture section by giving financial support to the farmers. To provide term loan. Required Rural banks, Cooperative Banks & Public Sector Banks, Commercial banks has implemented the KCC. It is offered to Kissan Credit Card holders to promote coverage for crop loan given under KCC sceheme for certain crop.

Table 9: Average credit availed from various sources. (In Rupees)

	Marginal Farmers	Landless Labourers
Institutional	19,625	23,833
Non- Institutional	31,444	25,166

Source : Field survey

Table 10: Purpose wise loan of the respondents in two blocks Chogawan & Attari:-

Purpose	Number of marginal	Schemes	Average Amount	Rate of Interest	Security	Guarantee
---------	--------------------	---------	----------------	------------------	----------	-----------

	farmers					
Crop loan	7	KCC	22428	4%	Land	Numbardar Or Sarpanch
Education of Kids	0	-	-	-	-	-
Medical Emergencies	0	-	-	-	-	-
Marriage and Funeral	0	-	-	-	-	-
Starting up new business/ vocation	0	-	-	-	-	-
Construction of house	0	-	-	-	-	-

Source : Field survey

Table 10 Indicate per house hold institutional loan availed by marginal farmers. The results show that 7 marginal farmers had availed crop loan from kisan Credit card. Scheme of average amount of Rs. 19,625 at 4% rate of interest. They had put up land as a security with gurantees of the numbardar or sarpanch as guaranter, except for crop loan for the village. For no other purpose (Education, Medical Education, Marriage, Starting of new business and Construction of house) was loan availed through institution loan.

Table 11: Purpose wise Credit by financial institution in Chogawan and Attari (Landless Labourers):-

Name of Bank	Purpose	Number of Landless labourers	Schemes	Rate of Interest	Amount	Guarantee
Public Sector bank	Crop loan	0	-	-	-	
	Education of Kids	0	-	-	-	
	Medical Emergencies	0	-	-	-	
	Marriage and Funeral	0	-	-	-	
	Starting up new business/ vocation	6 (15%)	Pradhan Mantri Mudhra Yojana	8%	23833	Security
	Construction of house	0	-	-	-	

Source : Field survey

Financial Inclusion of Marginal Farmers and Landless Categories in Border Area of Punjab

In Case of landless labourer categories, institutional loan was availed by 6 (15%) landless labourer category respondents through schemes of Pradhan Mantri Mudhra Yojana scheme was availed by Landless Labourer category respondents from Punjab National Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Gramin Bank. Average amount borrowed was Rs. 23,833 at 8% rate of interest. The Indian govt. has come up with loan scheme Pradhan Mantri Mudhra Yojana and is called Mudhra Loan Yojana with main objective of to fund the unfunded. It has three components:

- 1). Shishu Loan - Loan disbursed upto 50,000
- 2). Kishor Loan - Loan disbursed between Rs. 50,000 – 5 Lakh.
- 3). Tarun Loan - Loan disbursed 5 lakh to upto 10 lakh.

The govt. gives subsidies on interest rates in the loan Interest rate are between 10% to 18%. Small business owners like vegetable vendors, truck operators, food vendors, shopkeepers, repair shop etc, are eligible for loan under this Yojana.

Table 12. Source wise Credit by financial institution (Marginal Farmers):-

Name of Bank	Purpose	Number of Marginal Farmers	Schemes	Average Amount	Rate of Interest	Security	Guarantee
Public Sector bank	Crop Loan	2 (25%)	KCC	25,000	4%	Land	Landlord Or Sarpanch
Private Sector bank		1 (12.5)		45,000	4%	Land	Landlord Or Sarpanch
Regional rural bank		5 (50%)		23,250	4%	Land	Landlord Or Sarpanch

Source : Field survey

Table 12 Indicate source wise institutional loan provided by banks. The marginal farmers of both the blocks have availed only Kisan Credit Card scheme. No loan was availed for any other purpose. Source wise data reveal that 25% of Marginal Farmers availed from Public Sector Bank, 2.5% from private sector and 50% from Regional Rural Bank(Gramin & Co-operative Bank). The maximum average amount borrowed was from Private Sector Bank (HDFC Bank) of Rs. 45,000 at 4% rate of interest. Next in order was Public Sector Bank with average amount borrowed Rs.25,000 and minimum amount borrowed was Rs. 23,500 from Regional Rural Bank.

Table 14: Source wise Credit by financial institution (Landless Labourers):-

Name of Bank	Purpose	Number of Landless labourers	Schemes	Average Amount	Rate of Interest	Security	Guarantee
--------------	---------	------------------------------	---------	----------------	------------------	----------	-----------

Public Sector bank	Starting up new business/vocation	2 (33.33%)	Pradhan Mantri Mudhra Yojana	25,000	8%	Guranteed	Landlord
Private Sector bank		0	0				
Regional rural bank	Starting up new business/vocation	4 66%	Pradhan Mantri Yojana	23,250	8%	Guranteed	Landlord

Source : Field survey

Table 14. Indicate source wise institutional loan provided by banks. The landless category of both the blocks have availed only starting up new business/vocation under Pradhan Mantri Mudhra Yojana. No loan was availed for any other purpose. Source wise data reveal that 33.33% of landless category availed from Public Sector Bank, 0% from private sector and 66% from Regional Rural Bank (Gramin & Co-operative Bank). The maximum average amount borrowed was from Public Sector Bank (Gramin Bank) of Rs. 25,000 at 8% rate of interest. Next in order was Regional Rural Bank with average amount borrowed Rs.23,250.

Table 15: Access to Banking Operations:

Characteristics	Block				Overall	
	Chogawan		Attari		Marginal Farmers	Landless Labourers
	Marginal Farmers	Landless Labourers	Marginal Farmers	Landless Labourers		
Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	
Total Account Holders	8 (40)	5 (41.6)	6 (40)	5 (41.6)	14 (40)	10 (41.6)
Saving Accounts	2 (10)	2 (16)	1 (6.6)	1 (8.3)	3 (8.5)	3 (12.5)
Credit availed	4 (20)	3 (15)	4 (20)	3 (15)	8 (20)	6 (0)
FDRs	2 (10)	0 (0)	1 (6.6)	1 (8.3)	3 (8.5)	1 (4.16)
Locker Facility	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (6.6)	0 (1)	1 (2.8)	0 (0)
ATM	8 (40)	5 (41.6)	6 (40)	5 (41.6)	14 (40)	10 (41.6)
Forex	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Financial Advise by the bank	4 (20)	3 (15)	4 (20)	3 (15)	8 (20)	6 (15)

Financial Inclusion of Marginal Farmers and Landless Categories in Border Area of Punjab

Insurance	0	0	0	0	0	0
-----------	---	---	---	---	---	---

Source : Field survey

Results of Table 15 shows extent of financial inclusion among respondents of the border district of Amritsar. The overall figure indicate that in case of number of account holders in various banks, 40% of marginal farmers and 41.6% of landless labourers have accounts in various banks. Block wise, similar results have been indicated. Of all these account holders, 8.5% of marginal farmers and 12.5% of landless labourers have saving account with some savings invested. 8.5% of marginal farmers and 4.16% of landless labourer reported fixed deposits receipts in the banks. Blockwise, Chogawan had 10% of marginal farmers with FDRs and none of Landless labourers and in case of Attari, 5% of marginal farmers and Landless labourers had FDRs. Locker facility available with banks was being availed by 2.8% of marginal farmers and none of landless labourers. Only 6.6% of marginal farmers have availed locker only in Attari block. ATM facility is availed by 40% of marginal & 41.6% of Landless labourers. Operating ATM requires awareness, literacy only those with required skills can operate. Blockwise, equal number of respondents 40% of marginal farmers and 40.6% of landless labourers operate ATM facility. Those who availed loans sought financial advice from the bank. Only 20% of marginal farmers and 15% of landless labourers sought financial advice. Block wise also similar results were worked out. No respondent was found to assess the services of the banks in case of forex transaction. No Marginal farmer and Landless category reported having availed crop/assets/livestock/life insurance from any bank, non bank or insurance agencies.

Conclusion

The results indicate poor financial inclusion. The basic components of financial inclusion like availing of insurance, forex transaction, locker facility are completely lacking among the respondents. No respondent reported having availed these services. Other components like seeking financial advice investing FDRs also show poor response. This may be due to low income of the respondent and the vicious circle of debt leave little income for saving and availing government sponsored scheme for financial inclusion of weaker section such government initiative in lifting the weaker section poverty line or debt trap becomes an obstacle hence financial exclusion.

References:

1. Rangarajan, C. (2008) **Repost of the committee on financial inclusion.**
2. ANUJA KUMAR (2019) financial inclusion Retrieved from <https://www.slideserve.com/rossa/financial-inclusion-powerpoint-ppt-presentation> on 25-03-2019
3. Subbarao, D. (2009) Financial inclusion: Challenges & opportunities.

4. Leyshon, A. and N. Thrift. 1995. "Geographies of Financial Exclusion: Financial Abandonment in Britain and the United States." *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers, New Series*, 20: 312–41.
5. Arunachalam, Ramesh S. 2008. *Scoping Paper on Financial Inclusion*, UNDP.