
An analysis of food expenditure in Orissa :

An Econometric analysis

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Household consumption expenditure is an important indicator of the level of living of a household. Empirical studies of consumer behaviour have been undertaken for the choice of the most suitable functional form of Engel function¹ estimated from household budget data on broad groups of items of consumption and to test various theoretical postulates and to quantify the extent of response of the consumer to change in economic factors such as income, prices, stock of wealth, extent of monetization and so on; socio-demographic factors such as households size and its composition, occupation, social class, communities etc.; other factors such as the level of education and age of the head of the households, race, region, physical and climatic conditions, cultural factors etc. Apart from this, empirical studies on consumer behaviour has great significance in the formulation of planning programmes for achieving economic development by eradicating poverty, inequality and bringing about equitable distribution of income and wealth. A popular way of looking at the level of living of the people in a country is to look at the state of poverty by analyzing consumption pattern. For the developing country like India, it is imperative to define and estimate a poverty line and to determine the percentage of people below it on the basis of consumption expenditure for the formulation and implementation of policies in the right direction.

In most of the cross-sectional studies based on NSS data, consumption pattern of the rural and urban sectors of the country have been separately examined. These studies reveal marked differences in consumption habits in the two sectors of the country (Rudra and Roy, 1960; Sinha, 1966; Gupta, 1970 and 1973; and Mahajan, 1971). In fact, several

consumption items appear to be luxuries in the rural sector are found to be necessities in the urban sector. For food grains, the Engel curves quickly reach a satiety level in the urban sector, while the curve for the rural sector shows very little of any such tendency. The factors responsible for such differences seem to be numerous, the important factors being the differences in the standard of living between the two sectors, the difference in the relative prices and in the extent of monetisation prevailing in the two sectors, variation in the occupational pattern of the population and so on.

Objective of the study:

The Objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To examine the pattern of household consumption in Orissa, ten different functional forms of Engel functions viz., linear (L), double-log (DL), semi-log (SL), exponential (EX), log-inverse (LI), hyperbolic(HYP), parabolic(P), log-parabolic(LP), log-log-inverse (LLI), and semi-log-inverse (SLI) are estimated using the method of Weighted Least Squares and a most suitable Engel function is chosen for each item of consumption for inter-sectoral variation.

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3. The Engel ratios and elasticities² are also estimated to explore the factors responsible for the variation of household consumption and to ascertain the variation in standard of living among the households of different occupations in the rural and urban sector of the state.

4. To classify the consumption items as necessity, luxury and inferior, Engel elasticities are estimated at mean level of specific item expenditure and total expenditure for all the ten functional form of Engel curves.

Methodology:

Empirical studies on consumer behaviour started in India in the fifties in connection with the formulation of India's second five-year plan. Since then a large number of studies have been carried out mostly on the basis of National Sample Survey (NSS) budget data. However, initially demand projections for individual items of consumption were carried out on the basis of Engel Curves with many simplified assumptions. With the availability of more and more extensive household budget data from NSS, the researchers were induced to study the effect of the total consumer expenditure on consumption pattern of different items of consumption. Gradually, methodological questions that arose in the context of demand projections from Engel Curves attracted researchers³ to examine the effects of factors other than total consumption expenditure on household consumption pattern.

The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) is one of the leading data collecting agencies of the Government of India adopting very scientific sampling methods. Different subjects are taken up for survey in different rounds of NSSO. The 55th round of NSSO (1999-2000) includes survey on household expenditure, employment and unemployment, and informal non-agricultural enterprises and was the sixth quinquennial survey in the series of quinquennial surveys conducted by NSSO in every five year. Data on monthly total expenditure and per capita total expenditure is available both for 7 days and 30 days reference period. The sixth quinquennial survey includes 71, 355 rural households and 48, 924 urban households. The present study is based on validated

NSS unit record data of 400 rural and 200 urban households.

For the purpose of comparing the consumer behaviour in the rural and urban sector of Orissa, it is imperative to use the same functional form of Engel curves for both the sectors. This is necessary because different functional forms have different assumptions and also yielding different elasticities. In view of this, we choose the Linear (L) Engel function for meat, fish and egg; pan, tobacco and intoxicants; and all non-food items; the Double-log (DL) Engel function for cereal and its products; edible oil; vegetables; fuel and light; and all food items and the Exponential (EX) Engel function for durable goods and finally, the Parabolic (P) form for pulse and its products; milk and its products; and clothing.

The organisation of the present study is as follows: section -1 deals with the objectives and the methodology of the study; the characteristics and magnitude of inter-sectoral variation is analysed in section -2; the inter-sectoral variation in household consumption are examined in section-3 and finally, section-4 is the conclusion of the study.

2. Characteristics and magnitude of Inter-sectoral variation:

Orissa comprising of 36.1 million people accounts for 3.58 per cent of the population of the country (as per 2001 census). Nearly 87 per cent of its population live in rural areas and depend mostly on agriculture for their livelihood. The decadal growth rate of population during 1991-2001 was 16.25 per cent as against 20.06 per cent in the previous decade (1981-91). The marginal decline in the growth rate of population in the state may be attributed to the rise in the literacy rate, effective dissemination of the message about the benefits of small family and the drive launched by the state government to provide access to family planning measures. The sex ratio in the state declined from 933 in 1991 census to 927 during 2001 census. The density of population, which was 203 persons per square km in 1991, has increased to 236 per square km in 2001. Similarly, the urban population increased from 13.4 per cent in 1991 to 14.99 per cent in 2001. On the literacy front, the achievements have been remarkable. It has been

noticed that the literacy rate increased from 49.1 per cent in 1991 to 63.1 per cent in 1991 as against the increase from 57.1 per cent to 64.8 per cent at the national level. The male and female literacy rates were 63.1 per cent and 34.7 per cent in 1991 which has increased to 75.3 per cent and 50.5 per cent respectively in 2001.

Demographic structure:

The figures in Table-1 show that about 85 per cent of population resides in the rural areas and rest 15 per cent in urban areas. About 30 per cent of the urban populations are in the age group of 'under 15' as against 34 per cent in rural areas. Average household size in rural Orissa was 4.8 per cent per household where as in urban Orissa, average household size was 4.4 per household. In lower MPCE classes' average household sizes were, as usual, much higher than all other classes. The average household size declined steadily from 5.5 in the lowest MPCE (Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure) class to 3.6 in the highest MPCE classes. The corresponding figures for urban area were from 5.2 to 3.2. The average number of 'under 15 years of age' members have shown a declining trend from 2.5 in the lowest MPCE class to 0.7 in the highest class in rural sector and 2.1 to 0.7 in urban sector. The number of females per thousand males in case of lower MPCE classes is much higher than that of highest MPCE class, both in rural and urban areas of the state.

It is noticed that the proportion of females is lower in the higher educational level (Graduate and above) as compared to their male counterparts both in rural and urban areas of the state. About 62 per cent of literate females have completed only primary or below primary level of education in rural sectors as against 41 per cent in the urban sectors. But literate males who completed primary or below primary level of education account for a lower level of 55 per cent and 33 per cent as compared to their female counterparts in rural and urban sectors respectively. This indicates that number of males having qualification above primary is more than that of females. Illiteracy is more among females than males both in rural and urban areas. The corresponding percentages are 54 for female and 34 for male in rural areas and 37 for female and 20 for male in urban areas. In rural areas there is 44 per cent illiteracy while it is 28 per cent in

urban areas with male and female taken together. This indicates that the number of males having qualification above primary is more than that of females.

Distribution of Households by social groups:

Information on the percentage distribution of households by social group as presented in Table-2 reveals that the percentage composition of households in ST, SC, OBC and 'others' are 24, 22, 28 and 26 in rural Orissa as against 13, 17, 29 and 41 in urban Orissa. The distribution of social group was found to be almost homogenous in rural area, where as it is heterogeneous in urban areas. Higher concentration of 'other' category of households is mostly found in urban Orissa.

The percentage distribution of households and persons by social group for broad Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) class is provided in Table-3. It indicates that the percentage composition of households and persons is more in ST category than other i.e. 57 and 63 respectively in lower MPCE class in rural areas. The same trend is also noticed in the urban areas i.e. 61 per cent and 67 per cent in case of household and persons respectively. The percentage composition of households for SC, OBC and 'others' categories are 43, 28 and 27 in rural areas and 54, 39 and 19 in urban areas in lower MPCE classes. But the trend is just the reverse in both the sectors for higher MPCE classes. This indicates that in both rural and urban households as well as among persons of different social group, poverty is more rampant among ST households than SC, OBC and 'others'. Taking all social groups into account it can be seen that on the whole 42 per cent of people in rural areas and 40 per cent in urban areas are below the poverty line taking MPCE as Rs. 325.00 as the cut off line for poverty.

The percentage distribution of households and persons by broad MPCE class in receipt of income from different sources during a period of 365 days is presented in Table-4. The figures reveal that the highest percentage of households and persons getting their income from fishing and other agriculture enterprises are in lower MPCE class (up to Rs.325) in rural areas. It is just the reverse in urban areas. In rural area, the highest percentage of persons and households belonging to higher MPCE class are getting

their income from pension, remittance, rent, interest and dividend. It is also the case with higher MPCE class in urban areas. Cultivation is more common among households as well as persons in the higher MPCE class than its lower MPCE counterparts in rural area but it is just the reverse in urban areas. It indicates that in urban areas, the highest percentage of persons and households of lower MPCE class are getting their income from cultivation. But for higher urban MPCE classes the receipt of income from the sources like pension, rent, remittance, interest and dividend constitute a major part of their income.

Table-6 presents the average monthly per capita expenditure and percentage distribution of monthly expenditure per person on different groups of items of consumption in rural and urban areas. The average monthly per capita expenditure on all items (food and non-food) in rural areas is Rs.392.54 out of which the expenditure on food items accounts for Rs.246.56 (63 per cent) and the balance amount of expenditure on non-food items accounts for Rs.145.98(37 per cent). The highest amount of expenditure of Rs. 134.36(55 per cent) is made on cereals under food items in the rural sector. The level of expenditure is the highest being 25 per cent on fuel and light followed by 23 per cent on miscellaneous goods and services under non-food items. In urban areas, the monthly per capita expenditure on all items (food and non-food) is Rs.653.81 out of which the expenditure on food items is Rs.341.75(52 per cent) and the balance amount of Rs. 312.06 (48 per cent) spent on non-food items. The level of expenditure is the highest on cereals (40 per cent) under food items for urban areas. The rate of expenditure is the highest being 38 per cent on miscellaneous goods and services followed by 16 per cent and 15 per cent on fuel and light and clothing respectively under non-food items.

A comparison of the results of rural and urban areas of the state with all expenditure classes taken together would indicate that the monthly per capita expenditure of urban households is higher than rural households. The ratio of expenditure under food to non-food expenditure in rural areas is 1.69 and that of urban areas is 1.10. This ratio is an indicator of quality of life and it indicates that the quality of life of urban people is better than their rural counterparts. The figures in Table-6 reveal that the share in total

expenditure for a quite large number of items such as pulses and pulse product, edible oils, sugar, salt, spices, pan, tobacco, and intoxicants and clothing are more or less equal in the two sectors. The rural and urban variation in consumption expenditure is observed in the share of cereals (rural share exceeding urban by 14 percentage points), and miscellaneous goods and services (urban share exceeding rural share by 10 percentage points). The per capita expenditure on clothing, education and medical (both institutional and non-institutional) as compared to total per capita expenditure and to that of total per capita non-food expenditure is another important indicator for measuring standard of living. It shows that the percentage of expenditure on clothing, education and medical is 7.40, 1.52 and 4.69 respectively in rural areas as against 7.35, 3.75 and 4.19 in urban areas. Expenditure on these minimum common needs to total non-food expenditure are 20 per cent, 4 per cent and 13 per cent in rural areas and 15 per cent, 8 per cent and 9 per cent in urban areas respectively.

The percentage of expenditure on pan, tobacco, and intoxicant is all most the same in both rural and urban areas. It is about 2 per cent of total consumption expenditure in both the sectors. The percentage of expenditure on taxes and cess is the lowest being 0.03 per cent and 5.4 per cent in rural and urban Orissa respectively. But share of expenditure on miscellaneous goods and services is high in urban areas as compared with rural areas. Percentage of expenditure on entertainment is just double in urban area than rural area.

3. Inter-sectoral variation in household consumption:

The magnitude of average level of living of a region/country is measured in terms of per capita total expenditure. The average per capita specific item expenditure; the percentage of average per capita specific item expenditure to per capita total expenditure (in proportional terms - it is the Engel ratio) and the Engel elasticities computed from the best-fit Engel curves of different items of consumption for the rural and urban sector of Orissa is represented in Table-7. The per capita average total expenditure for the rural sector is Rs.373.17 and for the urban sector is 618.48 in the state. The per capita average total expenditure

in the urban sector is more than 1.7 times of the rural sector. This shows the disparity in the level of living of the people in two sectors of the state.

It is noticed that the Engel ratio of most of the food items such as cereals, vegetables and all food items is much higher in the rural sector as compared to the urban sector and the reverse is the case for pulse and its products; edible oil; milk and milk products and meat, fish and egg. But for the non-food items like clothing, fuel and light, durables and all non-food items, the Engel ratios are higher in the urban sector as compared to the rural sector and reverse is the case for pan, tobacco and intoxicants (Table-7).

The Engel elasticities for cereals; pulses and its products; edible oil; meat, fish and egg and all food items are higher in rural sector whereas these elasticities for milk and milk products, vegetables, pan, tobacco and intoxicants, fuel and light, clothing, durables and all non-food items are higher in the urban sector. The Engel elasticities are less than unity for cereals, pulses and its products, edible oil, vegetables, all food items, pan, tobacco and intoxicants, and fuel and light. But these elasticities are greater than unity for clothing, durables and all non-food items. This indicates that all food items are necessary items and all non-food items except pan, tobacco, intoxicants and fuel and light are luxury items in both sectors of the state. One peculiarity is that milk and milk product is a necessity item in the rural sector but it is a luxury item in the urban sector whereas meat, fish, egg is a luxury item in the rural sector but a necessity item in the urban sector. The above analysis indicates significant inter-sectoral variation in the consumption pattern of most of the consumption items in Orissa.

4. Conclusion:

The conclusions that emerge from the above analysis are as follows:

All the functional forms do not satisfy all the criteria postulated for the plausibility of Engel functions and very few of them meet Slutsky's conditions. It would be, therefore, difficult to reject or accept any one of them on a priori basis. Thus, for this purpose, we use only those forms of Engel curves which are computationally convenient and also in line with the

aim of two and three parameter functions in this study. For most of the items, the two-parameter functions are preferred to three-parameter ones except for pulses and its products, milk and milk products and clothing. In both the sectors the double-log (DL) Engel function was found to be suitable for cereals, edible oil, vegetables, all food item and fuel and light; linear (L) Engel function was found to be suitable for meat, fish and egg, pan, tobacco and intoxicants and all non-food items; the exponential (EX) Engel function was found to be suitable for durable consumer goods. For the rest of food and non-food item the parabolic (P) Engel function was found to be the most suitable one.

The elasticities estimated from various Engel functions for different items of consumption reveals that the magnitude of the elasticities for different items of consumption depends on the functional form chosen. Further the elasticities obtained from the same functional form are also different across the two sectors which may be due to the variation in the consumption pattern caused by factors such as household income, household size and a host of economical, sociological and psychological factors.

The Engel ratio for various food items except pulses and its products; milk and its products; edible oil and meat, fish and egg are higher in rural areas as compared to urban areas of the state. On the other hand, the Engel ratios for various non-food items except pan, tobacco and intoxicants are higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas. It is also observed that rural elasticities are greater than urban elasticities for most food items such as cereals; pulses and its products; edible oil and meat, fish and egg and all food items and the reverse is the case for milk and its products and vegetables. But the urban elasticities are higher than rural elasticities for most of non-food items in the state.

The analysis of covariance based on cross-sectional data confirms the existence of significant inter-sectoral variation in the consumption pattern of various food and non-food items except pan, tobacco and intoxicants. The inter-sectoral variation in the consumption pattern of milk and its products, meat, fish and egg; all food items; fuel and light; clothing and all non-food items is due to the variation of marginal propensity consume and the mean level of expenditure. But the inter-sectoral variation in the

consumption pattern of cereals, edible oil and vegetables is due to the significant difference in the mean level of expenditure and that of pulses and its' products is due to the significant difference in marginal propensity consume.

Notes:

1. The Engel Curve (or function) explains the relationship between quantity of a commodity purchased (or specific item expenditure) and level of income (or total expenditure) of the consumer.
2. The Engel elasticity is the percentage change in the quantity purchased (or specific item expenditure) in response to a change in income (or total expenditure) calculated at mean level of specific item expenditure and total expenditure. Whereas the Engel ratio is the ratio between specific item expenditure and total expenditure.
3. Praise and Houthakker (1955); Roy and Dhar (1960); Roy and Loha (1960); Liviaton (1961); Singh (1968); Gupta (1968); Maitra (1969); Maitra and Bhattacharya (1970); Coondoo (1975); Rao, Singh and Patel (1982); Tansel (1986); Nicol (1993); Panda (1996); Pattanaik (2004) and Sarangi (2004).
4. The unit consumer scale is a scale on the basis of which the different age and sex composition of the members of a household are calculated in terms of a standard adult equivalent unit.

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Table – 1**Demographic variation between the poorest and the richest segments of the rural and urban population in Orissa**

Population Characteristics	Rural			Urban		
	Bottom5%	Top5%	All	Bottom5%	Top5%	All
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Average household size	5.5	3.6	4.8	5.2	3.2	4.4
Average number of adults per household	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.1	2.5	3.1
Average number of children per household	2.5	0.7	1.6	2.1	0.7	1.3
Sex ratio	1075	805	982	1118	919	891
Sex ratio among adults	1025	853	995	1166	876	901
Sex ratio among children	1139	682	957	1051	1095	868
% Population	—	—	85	—	—	15

* Ranked by MPCE (Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure)

Table – 2**Percentage distribution of households by social group for rural and urban Orissa**

Sl. No.	Social Group	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
1.	Schedule Tribe	23.8	12.9
2.	Schedule Caste	22.4	17.6
3.	Other back word classes	27.8	28.9
4.	Others	26.0	40.7
5.	All classes	100	100

Note : Computed from NSS data of 55th round, 1999-2000

Table – 3**Percentage distribution of households and persons by social group and broad MPCE Classes**

Social Group	Rural				Urban			
	MPCE upto Rs. 325		MPCE Rs. 325 and more		MPCE upto Rs. 325		MPCE Rs.325 and more	
	Household	Person	Household	Person	Household	Person	Household	Person
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ST	56.8	62.9	43.2	37.1	60.5	67.0	39.5	33.0
SC	43.2	49.3	56.9	50.7	54.1	58.0	45.6	42.0
OBC	28.0	29.8	72.0	70.2	38.8	40.2	61.2	59.8
Others	26.9	30.4	73.1	69.6	18.7	23.7	81.3	76.3
All	38.0	41.5	62.0	58.5	36.0	40.0	64.0	60.0

Note : Computed from NSS data of 55th round, 1999-2000

Table – 4**Percentage distribution of households and persons reporting receipt of income during a period of 365 days from different sources by broad MPCE class**

Source of Income	Rural				Urban			
	MPCE upto Rs. 325		MPCE Rs. 325 and more		MPCE upto Rs. 325		MPCE Rs.325 and more	
	Household	Person	Household	Person	Household	Person	Household	Person
Cultivation	36.0	36.0	64.0	64.0	60.4	60.6	39.6	39.4
Fishing & other Agricultural Enterprises	56.8	60.3	43.2	39.7	33.3	34.8	66.7	65.2
Wage/salaried expenditure	42.0	44.8	58.0	55.2	39.2	42.4	60.8	57.6
Non-agri Enterprise	33.0	35.0	67.0	65.0	29.9	32.5	70.1	67.5
Pension	24.3	20.3	75.7	79.7	21.3	18.5	78.7	81.5
Rent	15.2	19.0	84.8	81.0	13.1	17.8	86.9	82.2
Remittances	14.1	15.4	85.9	84.6	16.2	29.7	83.8	70.3
Investment & dividends	17.4	21.8	82.6	87.2	14.9	15.8	85.1	84.2
Others	37.0	40.7	63.0	59.3	35.6	40.1	64.4	59.9
All	37.9	41.5	62.1	58.5	36.0	40.1	64.0	59.9

Note : Computed from NSS data of 55th round, 1999-2000

Table – 5**Percentage distribution of households and persons calorie intake level**

Calorie intake level. Expressed as a percentage of a "norm" level of 2700 kcal per consumer unit per diem

Sector	Unit	<70	70-80	80-90	90-100	100-110	110-120	120-150	>150	All
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Rural	Household	13.2	12.6	15.8	14.4	10.8	9.7	14.3	9.2	100
	Persons	14.0	14.0	18.3	14.2	11.2	9.3	12.4	6.5	100
Urban	Household	10.4	11.7	15.5	18.3	15.7	10.3	13.1	5.5	100
	Persons	11.1	12.7	16.8	19.6	16.1	8.0	11.5	4.2	100

Note : Computed from NSS data of 55th round, 1999-2000

Table – 6**Average monthly expenditure and percentage distribution of monthly expenditure (in Rs.) per person on different groups of items of consumption**

Sl. No.	Items	Rural		Urban	
		Average monthly exp.	Percentage distribution	Average monthly exp.	Percentage distribution
1.	Cereals	134.36	34.23	135.42	20.71
2.	Pulses & its products	12.96	3.30	20.02	3.06
3.	Milk & its products	8.61	2.19	26.89	4.11
4.	Edible oils	12.46	3.17	19.87	3.04
5.	Meat, fish & eggs	15.33	3.91	30.56	4.68
6.	Vegetables	32.35	8.24	50.19	7.68
7.	Fruits (Fresh+dry)	3.65	0.93	10.02	1.53
8.	Sugar	6.02	1.53	8.67	1.33
9.	Salt	1.34	0.34	1.97	0.30
10.	Spices	9.65	2.46	13.35	2.04
11.	Beverages, refts etc.	9.37	2.39	24.13	3.69
12.	FOOD TOTAL	246.56	62.81	341.75	52.27
13.	Pan, tobacco & intoxicants	8.68	2.21	14.22	2.17
14.	Fuel & light	35.85	9.13	49.51	7.58
15.	Clothing	29.06	7.40	48.03	7.35
16.	Foot ware	2.53	0.64	6.92	1.06
17.	Education	5.97	1.52	24.52	3.75
18.	Medical	18.41	4.69	27.5	4.19
19.	Misc. cons. Goods	17.76	4.52	35.86	5.48
20.	Misc. cons services	14.73	3.75	47.36	7.24
21.	Rent, taxes & cases	0.82	0.30	35.3	5.4
22.	Durable goods	12.16	3.10	22.91	3.50
23.	NON-FOOD TOTAL	145.98	37.19	312.06	47.73
24.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	392.54	100.00	653.81	100.00

Note: Computed from NSS data of 55th round, 1999-2000

Table-7**Sector-wise average specific item expenditure, percentage of average specific item expenditure and the corresponding Engel elasticity in Orissa**

Sl. No.	Consumption	Rural				Urban			
		Most suitable form	A.S.E.	% of MPCE	Engel elasticity	Most suitable form	A.S.E.	% of MPCE	Engel elasticity
1.	Cereals	DL	22.50	8.33	0.767	DL	17.96	2.48	0.641
2.	Pulses & its products	P	8.81	3.26	0.964	P	12.08	1.67	0.875
3.	Milk & its product	P	15.83	5.86	0.759	P	52.16	7.20	1.135
4.	Edible Oil	DL	5.95	2.20	0.669	DL	11.04	1.52	0.472
5.	Meat, fish & egg	L	12.92	4.79	1.247	L	54.95	7.59	0.929
6.	Vegetables	DL	16.14	5.98	0.503	DL	23.56	3.25	0.639
7.	All food items	DL	115.26	42.69	0.872	DL	253.11	34.94	0.749
8.	Pan, tobacco & intoxicants	L	6.42	2.37	0.880	L	8.11	1.12	0.929
9.	Fuel & light	DL	10.78	3.99	0.484	DL	44.91	6.19	0.636
10.	Clothing	P	15.97	5.92	1.237	P	51.98	7.18	1.383
11.	Durables	EX	15.38	5.69	1.211	EX	47.78	6.59	1.745
12.	All non-food	L	154.6	57.30	1.265	L	471.29	65.06	1.899

Note: 1. A.S.E. - Average Specific Expenditure Per Capita; and % of MPCE- Percentage of average monthly per capita specific expenditure to average monthly per capita total expenditure.

2. Computed from NSS data of 55th round, 1999-200