

Changes in structure of labour participation and wage dynamics in Jharkhand

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Introduction

- Jharkhand state dominated by tribal population
- Endowed with poor soil fertility, undulating land and lack of agricultural infrastructure
- Lack of proper education and skill orientation restricts employment opportunities
- Rural labour force growing but low productive agriculture has limited capacity to absorb.

Objectives

To examine the changes in structure of labour participation and wage dynamics as a key element of improving household wellbeing in rural area.

Data and methodology

Survey year: 2010-11 to 2013-14

No. of households per village: 40



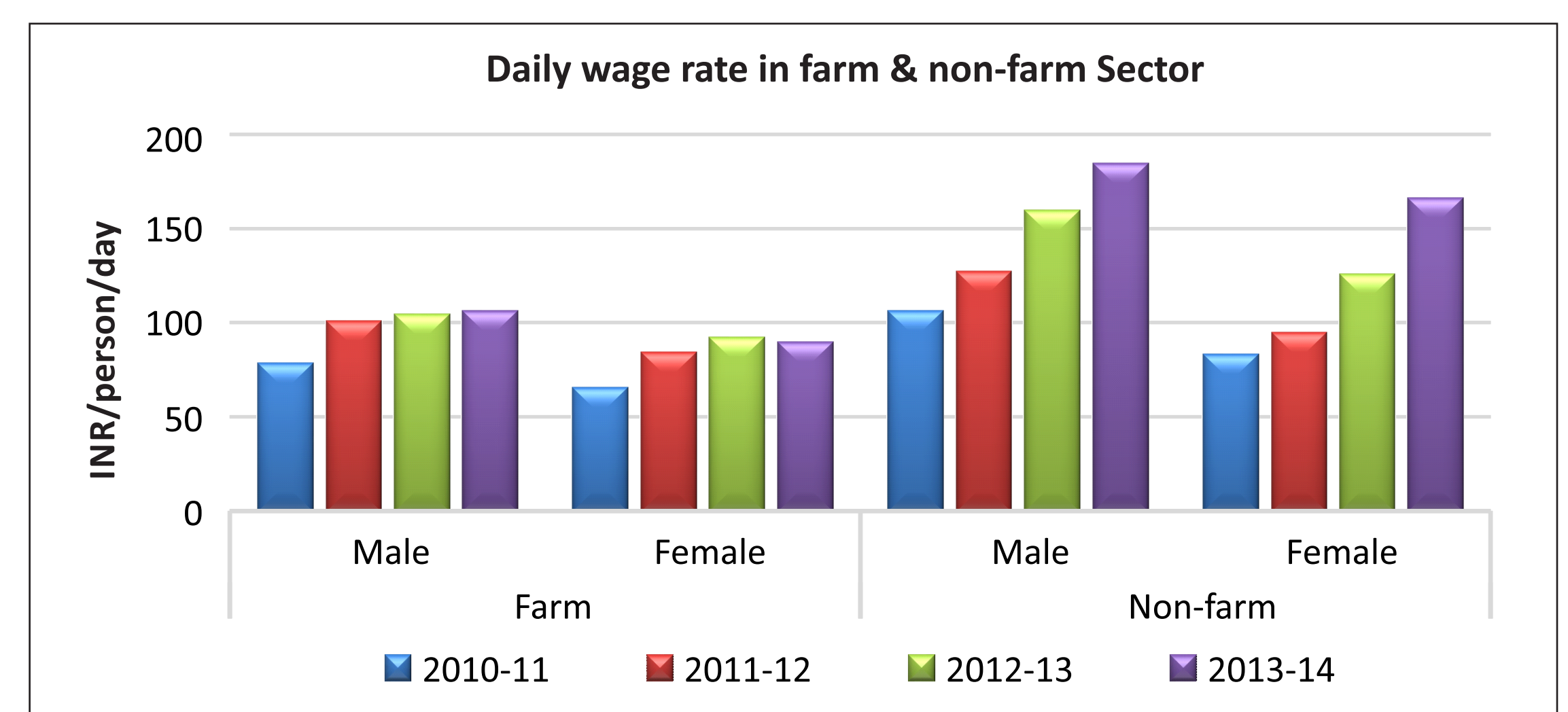
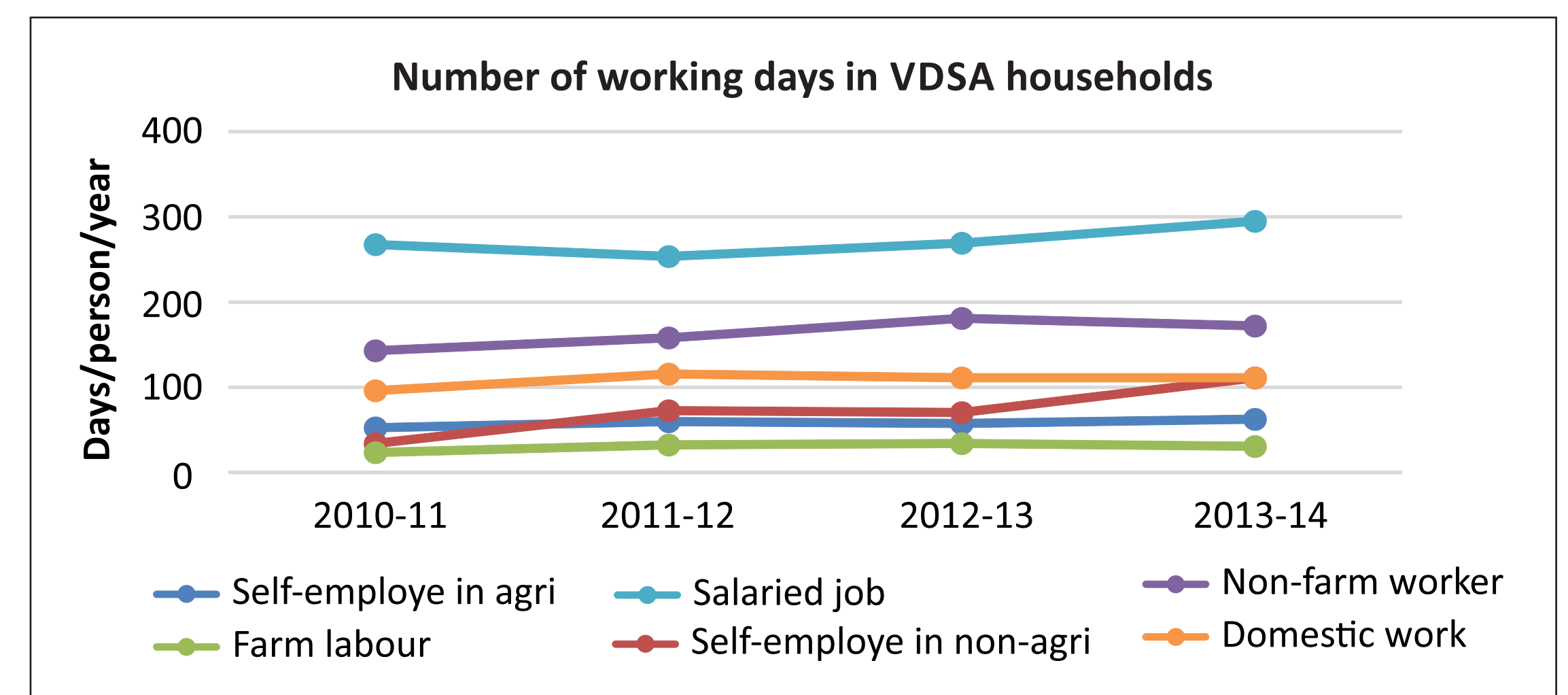
Demographic profile of household

	Family size	Sex ratio	% of tribal population
Ranchi villages	5	822	85
Dumka villages	5	944	79

Majority of sample households belong to scheduled tribes.

Work participation rate in VDSA villages of Jharkhand (%)

Occupation	Gender	2010	2011	2012	2013
Self-employed in agriculture	Male	62.50	59.52	52.09	49.26
	Female	3.95	2.65	2.93	10.84
Self-employed in non-agriculture	Male	4.30	4.76	4.94	5.93
	Female	0.00	0.44	0.84	1.20
Agricultural labour	Male	4.30	2.38	1.14	1.48
	Female	2.19	1.33	0.42	0.80
Non-farm worker	Male	19.92	26.19	32.70	34.44
	Female	4.82	6.64	9.21	16.06
Salaried job/contractual job	Male	6.25	6.75	7.22	6.67
	Female	3.07	1.77	2.93	2.81
Other including domestic work	Male	2.73	0.40	1.90	2.22
	Female	85.96	87.17	83.68	68.27



Emerging non-farm sector

- Agriculture still largest employer, but share declining
- Proportion of non-farm workers growing in the region
- Salaried and contractual job also steady
- Male participation increased by about two fold and female participation by three fold during last four years.
- Number of working days in non-farm sector much higher than that in farm-sector
- Farm labour gets less than 50 days of employment

Closing gender gap in work participation

- Female taking charge in farming activities
- Non-farm sectors also providing increasing opportunities for female workforce
- Male labour more than female labour on others farm, though preference for labour wage in farm sector declining.

Wage rate dynamics

- Wages of male and female workers increased in VDSA villages during last four years
- Male wage higher than female wage
- Wage differential in non-farm sector closing faster than that in farm sector
- Wage rate for agricultural activities much lower than non-farm activities.

Conclusions

- Work participation rate of male workers is higher than female workers in Jharkhand
- Participation of female workforce rising faster in farm as well as non-farm sector
- Non-farm self-employment emerging mainly in petty business and small work contract
- In Jharkhand, women workers participate in almost all agricultural activities from ploughing to threshing
- Gender gap in activities as well as wage rate closing faster in Jharkhand.