

**POVERTY DIMENSIONS AND MULTI- DIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX: A CASE STUDY WITHIN MARUTHANAGAR GS DIVISION**Thanusiya Suppiramaniam¹ and Kamalakumari Karunaanithy²Correspondence: kkamal@univ.jfn.ac.lk**Abstract**

Kilinochchi is one of the war-torn district and still struggling to come out of poverty due to its poor human and physical resources. As many families are living under poverty line in this area Samurdhi programme is implemented as a solution to alleviate poverty. Since the measurement of poverty amongst these households is questionable, the alleviation also not successful. Therefore, this study attempts to measure poverty via Multi- Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) and associate poverty status of Samurdhi beneficiaries in Maruthanagar GS division among the 100 Samurdhi beneficiaries who were selected based on conditional, convenient sampling method. It is identified that improvement in the components of MPI through the activities of Samurdhi poverty alleviation Programme facilitated the people to emerge out of poverty in part or whole. The findings confirm that the Samurdhi Programme assisted the beneficiaries to come out of severe poverty by means of education, health, livelihood development when other factors are not changing. In the sample households, it was also noted that 40% of the households were still under extreme poverty, despite the assistance they obtain from Samurdhi programme due to other influencing factors. It is concluded that other behavioural patterns should also be changed if people want to move out of poverty.

Keywords: Poverty alleviation Programme, Multi- Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI), Samurdhi beneficiaries

¹ Graduate, Department of Economics, Faculty of Arts, University of Jaffna

² Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, Faculty of Arts, University of Jaffna