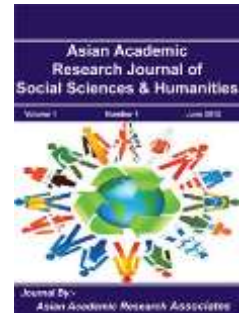




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**A STUDY ON AGRICULTURAL WOMEN LABOURERS IN  
REDDIYARCHATTIRAM BLOCK, DINDIGUL DISTRICT**

**DR. MRS. D. FATIMA BABY\***

Asst. Prof. in Economics, Fatima College, Madurai-18

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**ABSTRACT**

Agricultural laborers, mostly landless constitute the poorest segment of the Indian agricultural population. They belong to the economically backward and oppressed section of the society. They mainly belong to the scheduled castes and other backward communities. They are basically unskilled and unorganized and work in farms of prosperous big farmers as casual workers on wages for a larger part of the year (Padhi, 2007). One of the most disquieting features of the rural economy of India during the past several decades has been its constantly increasing trend in the number of landless laborers. Factors like rapid growth of population, law of inheritance, rise in cost of agricultural inputs and decline in small scale industries have been responsible for this increase (Sajjad, 1998). The phenomenon of under employment, under development and surplus population are simultaneously manifested in the daily lives and living of agricultural laborers.

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