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The Socio-Economic Condition and the impact of various Natural Calamities on Coastal Local Residents and Fishing Communities of Puducherry Municipality

Priyabrata Sau

Assistant Professor of Indian Institute of Education

Laylee Chakraborty

Assistant Professor of Swami Vivekananda College of Education For Women

Abstract:

Household survey was conducted on some selected wards (no.4,12,20,39) of Pondicherry municipality on the basis of 100 respondent local people surveyed in Pondicherry, we are trying to gather information about how the space is shared among the local people in Pondicherry. All the figures are drawn from the Primary survey, 2024. Here, we have specially dealt with family status, educational status, duration of living, occupational status, house type, house ownership, types of facilities received, income status, sources of drinking water, people affected by hazards, hazard preparedness, migration status, number of household those who have received government/NGO help, modes of getting alert, types of precautions before hazards, precautionary measures before and recovery measures after natural hazards, problems faced by the local people in their daily lives and their perception about their local surrounding.

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Keywords: *Socio-Economic Condition, Natural Calamities, Coastal Residents, Fishing Communities, Puducherry Municipality.*

Introduction:

Puducherry is a social and economically high profile region whose coastal environment is directly relied upon by a big portion of local population. Fishing communities are also an essential occupational group among the local residents whose daily life, income pattern, residence status, and social structure are strongly associated with the sea. Nevertheless, the area is very susceptible to diverse natural disasters like cyclones, storm surge, coastal flooding, and catastrophic effects of tsunami incidents which are as a result of its location along the coastline.

Such natural hazards do not just produce the physical landscape of the location, but produce drastic disturbances of socio-economic state of the people of the place, particularly of the fishing folk. Some of the key impacts that the communities have been exposed to are damage of houses, loss of boats and fishing gears, livelihood interruption, health complications and psychological insecurity.

The current research is based on perceiving the socio-economic state of the native inhabitants and fishing communities in the Puducherry Municipality and how various natural disasters have affected their livelihood, preparedness, and the recovery process. The research is further founded on the data of the field survey conducted in the chosen wards and tries to bring the real image of the living state, vulnerability, and the resilience of people.

"Concept of space is founded in experience. It is more elementary form, this experience is entirely visual and tactile. But there is a transition from such primary experience of space to the development of intuitive spatial concepts and, ultimately, to the full formalization of such spatial concepts." (Cassirer, 1957) (pg-192, EXPLANATION IN GEOGRAPHY, HARVEY D).

Thus space according to Jammer M. (1954), is a relative view in which space consist of a system of relation among substance"

The 1.5 km long Promenade beach is used by the fishing folk very early in the morning for fishing which is indeed an economic use of that space.

Significance of the Study-

The research is important since it brings to the fore the practical issues of the communities residing along the coastal regions that are exposed to hazardous conditions. As a coastal municipality, Puducherry has been exposed to recurrent natural disasters and this directly impacts the locals, especially the fishing community.

The significance of the research is the ability to realize the impact of natural hazards on the socio-economic organization of the population, their profession, income, dwellings, access to the basic infrastructure, and quality of life in general. It is also useful to determine the degree of realization and readiness of local individuals towards disaster management.

In addition the study holds very important information to the planners, policymakers, the local administration, and the disaster management authorities to come up with effective policies in curbing the risk, and rehabilitation, and the development of the coastal areas in a sustainable manner. It can also be a contribution to the prospective geographical and social science studies on the vulnerability of hazards and the resilience of coastal community.

Statement of The Problem -

Natural hazards commonly experienced in Puducherry Municipality, specifically the coastal wards are cyclones, heavy rainfall, coastal flooding and tsunami effects. Although this region in this country is important as a source of livelihood to fishermen and other community members, there has been minimal targeted research on the impacts of these hazards on the socio-economic status and the livelihood of these people.Thus, the present investigation was conducted under the title-"The Socio-Economic Condition and the impact of various natural Calamities on Coastal Local Residents and Fishing Communities of Puducherry Municipality".

Objectives of the study-

1. To find out the Socio-Economic Condition of the Local Residentsand Fishing Communities.
2. To find out the impact of Various natural Calamitieson the Local Residents and Fishing Communities.
3. To find out the Precautionary Measures taken by the local People and Fishing Communities for Natural Hazard.

4. To Evaluate Local residents Perception on Puducherry Municipality.

Hypothesis

The Hypothesis of the study is that Various Natural Calamities such as Tsunami has adverse impacts on the Socio-Economic condition of the Local Residents and Fishing Communities in Puducherry Municipality, affecting their livelihood, income, Housing condition and Everyday life.

Methodology

Pre field

1. **Literature review**: A thorough study of previous literatures available on Pondicherry was done based on which the theme of the work was selected,
2. **Preparation of questionnaire**: Questionnaire to survey for Local Residents and Fishing Communitiesalong the Coastal area of Puducherry Municipality.
3. **Secondary data collection**: Secondary datawere collected from available District Census handbook and other previous reports on Pondicherry.

Field work

1. **Primary surveys** were done in groups, and socio-economic data were collected from the local people.
2. **Antique mapswere** collected from museum,
3. **Careful preparation** of master table was done based on the collected data.

Post field work

1. This included analysis and interpretation of primary and secondary data towards the successful completion of the said field report,
2. Ms Excel was used in the said analysis and preparation of the diagrams.

Study Area-

The union territory of Pondicherry is located between 11°46’ and 12° 3’ North latitude and between79°36’ to 79°53’ east longitude. It consists of 4 coastal regions viz- Pondicherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. Pondicherry and Karaikal are situated on the east coast of Tamilnadu while Yanam in Andhra pradesh while Mahe on the west coast of Kerela. However our study area is concerned over only Pondicherry unit which is the capital of this union territory located on the Coromondal coast of bay of Bengal, about 162 km south of Chennai.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE LOCAL RESIDENTS AND FISHING COMMUNITIES`

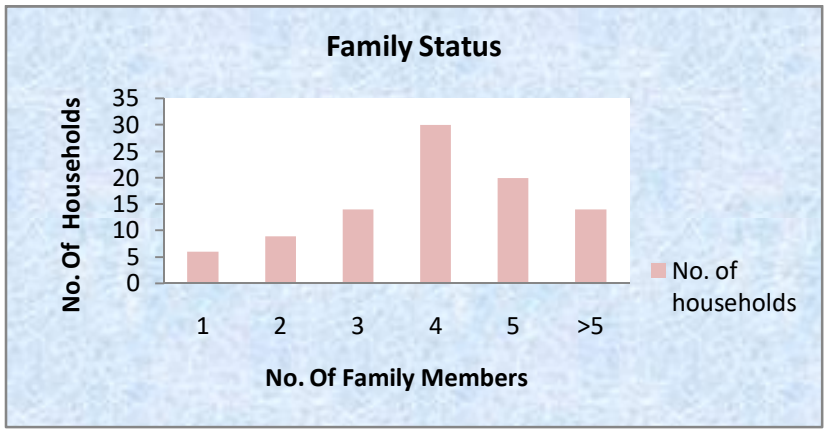


Fig no. 1- Family status

Family status:

The family status of the respondents is represented by simple bar graphs(Fig no. 1). The length of each bar represents the family size, how many people belong to a family. The horizontal axis shows the family size whereas the vertical axis shows the number of people. The families are divided into 6 groups, they are one member, two members, three members, four members, five members and more than five members. About 30% of the family has 4 members. 20% of the family has 5 members, 14% has more than 5 members as well as 14% has 3 members, 9% family has two members and 6% has only 1 members. If we compare the family status with the income we can see that the families which have more than 5 members belong to low income group. The persons who have migrated from another places form a family to his/her own. The other respondents who have small or nuclear family wanted to have better educational prospect for the children, and better opportunity and better standard of living.

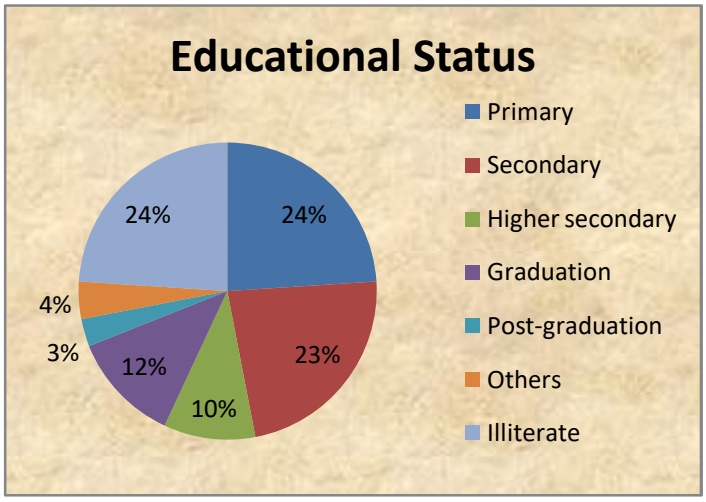


Fig no. 2-Educational Status

Educational status:

The educational status of respondents is represented by a pie diagram(Figno. 2). The educational qualification of respondents are divided into seven categories viz. primary, secondary, higher secondary, graduation, post-graduation, others and illiterates. In this diagram each sector of the pie represents % of total

respondents in a particular category of educational qualification. It is observed that 24% of total respondents have primary education while 23% have secondary education while 3% are graduates and 4% have higher degrees, the rest of 24% are illiterate. Since the survey is conducted in fisherman dominated villages lying within 200 meters from the shore line, it can be analyzed that the literacy status is quite satisfactory. During primary survey it was observed that though in some families the parents are illiterate but they encourage their children's education which indicates a positive aspect and the male-female biasness in case of getting education is also low here.

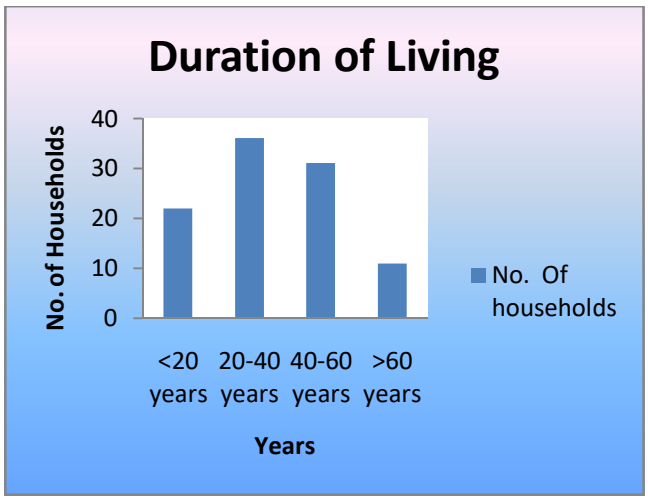


Fig no. 3-Duration of living

Duration of living:

Duration of living of respondents is represented by bar diagram (Fig no. 3),where the horizontal axis shows the duration of living whereas the vertical axis shows no. of households. The duration of living is shown in four categories viz. <20 years, 20-40 years, 40-60 years and 60 years. It is observed from the diagram that about 22 families out of a total of 100 have been living in Puducherry for less than 20 years while about 36 families have been living here for 20 to40 years. On the other hand, 31families have been inhabiting here for a time span of 40-60 years and the rest of the families are reported to live here for more than 60 years. So, it can be concluded that the families who have been living here for more than 60 years are permanent inhabitants of the place while on the contrary the families who have been living here for less than 20 years have migrated from other places mainly from adjoining areas of Tamil Nadu (for e.g. From Katlore, Tamil Nadu) for employment or children's education purpose. So, a trend of rural to urban migration is noticed here.

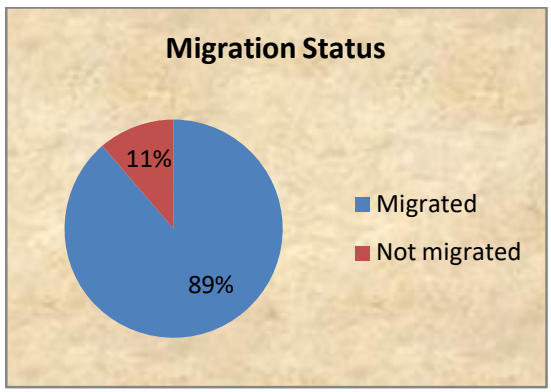


Fig no. 4-Migration status

Migration status:

The migration status of respondents is shown by a bar graph(Fig no. 4), where the horizontal axis represents the migration status and the vertical axis represents the no. of households. In Puducherry, it is observed that about 11 respondent households out of 100 are migrated from another places mainly from adjoining places of Tamil Nadu (like Katlore) because of employment purpose, children's education purpose. Since Puducherry is an Union territory that's why there we see many opportunities of employment and higher education. So people are attracted and take this opportunity for getting better employment and education. Auroville ashram also gives opportunity to obtain different types of education and they encourage students for other extra curriculums. So, some people come here for their children's education. Maximum people come here from rural areas of Tamil Nadu. So we can say that in Puducherry, rural to urban internal migration is prominent. But maximum number of households are local inhabitants (about 86%), because of the fact that the people here get many facilities from govt. and ashram out migration is not prominent here. So they do not want to go anywhere, in Puducherry, govt. policies are too much favourable for local people especially for fishermen.

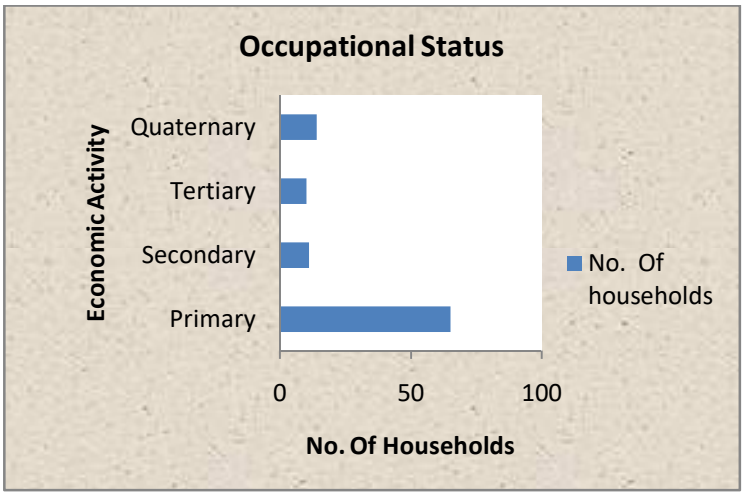


Fig no. 5-Occupational status

Occupational status:

Occupational status of respondent households is represented by bar diagram(Fig no. 5),where the horizontal axis shows different types of economic activities and the vertical axis shows the no. of households. The length of each bar represents the no. of households in a particular type of economic activity. It is observed from the diagram that most of the households (about 65 %) are engaged in primary activities, especially in fishing. Since the surveyed village is located along the shore of Bay of Bengal and as the survey was done within 200 metres from the shore line most of the households were found to be engaged in primary activities especially in fishing. About 11% of the households are engaged in secondary activities, either they are plumber or vegetable seller while 10% are found to be engaged in tertiary activities like business or dress designing and driving activities and the rest of the 14% were found to be engaged in quaternary activities like govt. service or banking etc. So, it can be concluded that maximum number of respondents are found to be engaged in fishing while the rests are engaged in either secondary or tertiary activities. It can be concluded that there is a close relationship between occupational status, educational qualification and family status. Most of the households those who are dependent on primary activities have less educational qualification and the no. of family members is in most cases 5 or >5 while on the contrary, people who are engaged in tertiary or particularly in quaternary activities are highly qualified mostly are graduates and the no. of family members is low.

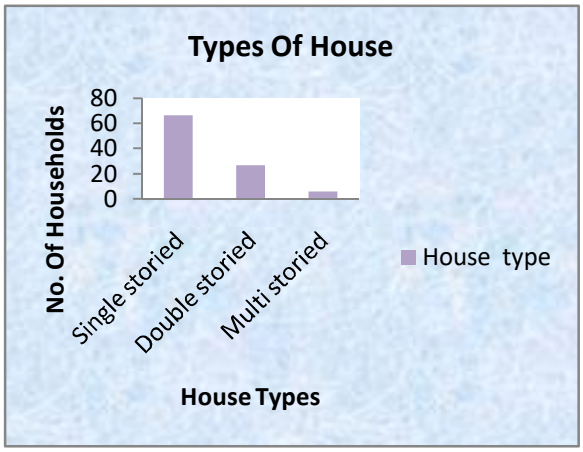


Fig no. 6- Types of House

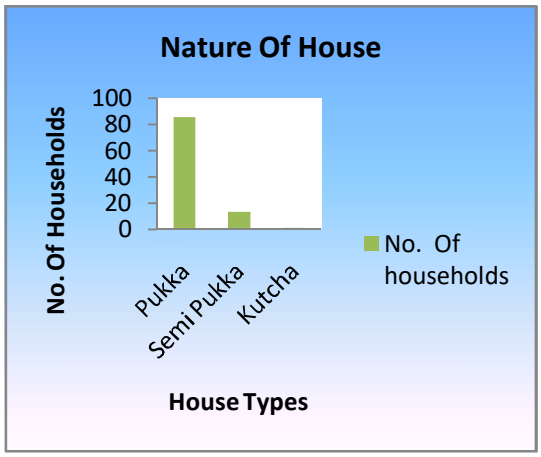


Fig no. 7-Nature of House

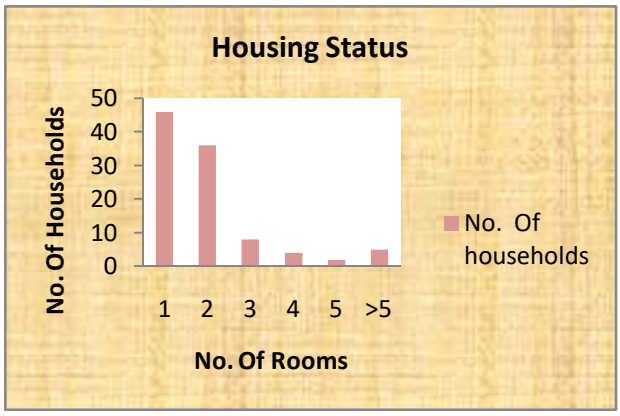


Fig no. 8-Housing Status

House type:

House type whether the houses are single-storied, double or multi-storied is represented by a bar diagram(Fig no. 6) where the horizontal axis represents the house type and the vertical axis represents the no. of households. The proportion of kutcha, semi-kutcha and pukka houses is shown by Bar diagram(Fig no. 7). The no. of rooms in houses is represented by a bar graph(Fig no. 8) where the horizontal axis represents the no. of rooms and the no. of households is shown along the vertical axis. It is observed that most of the houses occupied by respondents, are single storied (about 67 %) while only 6% of the houses are multi-storied and the rest of the houses are double storied. It is also observed that 86% of the houses are pukka while a very small proportion of houses (only 1 %) is kutcha. So, the large proportion of pukka houses and a medium proportion of double storied indicate a medium to good economic condition of the households. Moreover, single and double room houses are most commonly found here about 47% and 36% of the household are found to have either single room or double rooms while only 5% of the houses have more than 5 rooms(Fig no. 8). It is also observed that about 88% of the respondents have either their own houses while the rest of them are staying in rented houses. The condition of most of the houses is good, most of the houses have concrete roof and the walls are made of brick while a very small portion of the houses aremade of mud with asbestos roof. There is a close relationship between house type and occupational status and family income. In most cases where the respondents are involved with tertiary and quaternary activities like business or teaching profession and family income is greater than 30,000 the condition of the houses is good while low income group families mainly live in kutcha and semi kutcha houses and mostly they have single room in their houses.

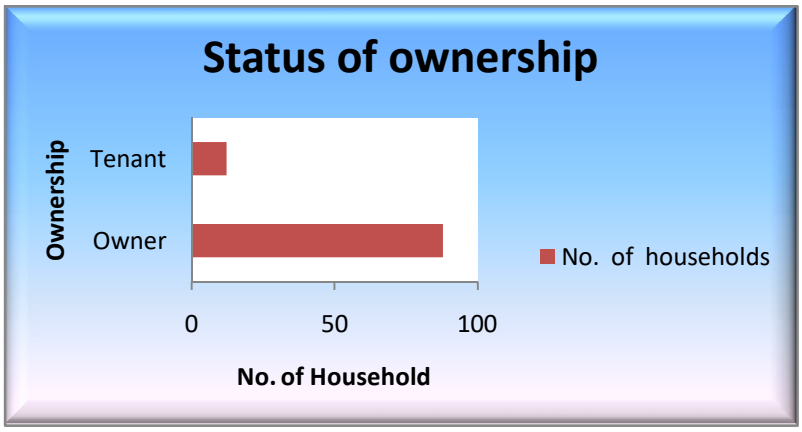
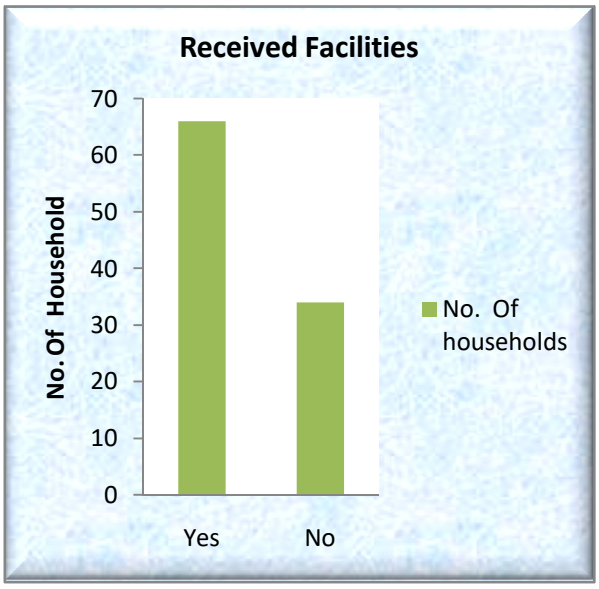


Fig no. 9-Status of ownership

House ownership:

The ownership status of the respondent is represented through horizontal bars(Fig no. 9). A bar diagram present qualitative data with rectangular bars with length proportional to the values they represent. Here the horizontal axis shows the number of household while the vertical axis shows the ownership status; whether it is own or rented. Here in this diagram we can see that maximum people of Puducherry are living in their own houses. 88% of the respondents live in their own houses whereas only 12% of them live in rented houses. The people living their own houses are the permanent citizens of Puducherry and haven't migrated from any other places, they live here since a very long time. Besides after the Tsunami affected the fishermen village government had sanctioned a home loan of Rs 2, 80000. So, the people who lost their houses can built a new one and in the case of the people who live in rented house, they are migrated from another places for increasing family income, for education etc. So, here we can conclude that maximum number of respondents have the security of a house i.e. one of the three primary needs of human life.



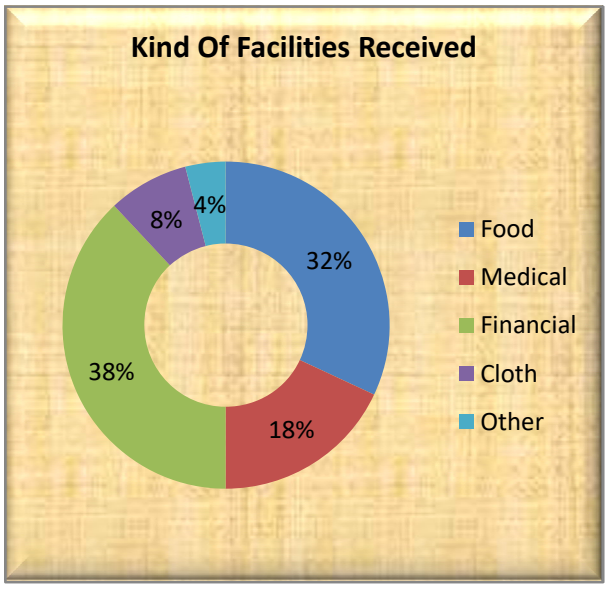


Fig no. 10-Received Facilities

Fig no. 11-Kind of Facilities Received

Types of facilities received:

The facilities received by respondent are represented by a simple bar diagram(Fig no. 10). The length of the bar represents the quantity of the data, i.e. how many of them received facilities from government and NGO.

The horizontal axis shows whether any kind of facility is received or not whereas the vertical axis shows the number of the people. The graph shows that about 66% respondents got facilities from either Government or NGOs whereas 34% respondents do not get any kind of facilities. The people who get facilities from the Government or the NGOs are facing some financial, educational, and medical problems, besides when Tsunami and the cyclones affected the area the Government and the other French NGOs help them with medical attention, clothing, food, and finance, during the survey many of them confessed that they were not facing any kind of problem so they did not need any help or facility. But many of them also confessed that inspite of the medical problems and financial problem they did not receive any means of help. The Government is less-attentive to them. The NGOs are also very inactive.So we can conclude that the Government and The NGOs have to be more attentive to people's need.

The Different kind of facilities received by the respondent's is represented through pie chart or pie diagrams(Fig no. 11). The pie charts are 3 dimensional diagrams in which a circle is divided into sectors that represent a proportion of a whole. Here in the diagram we can see that the circle represent five different facilities i.e. food, medical, financial, cloth and other. Maximum part of respondents (38%) received financial facilities followed by food (32%), medical facilities (18%), clothing (8%) and other. Tsunami and the cyclone caused severe damages to the area, the houses.

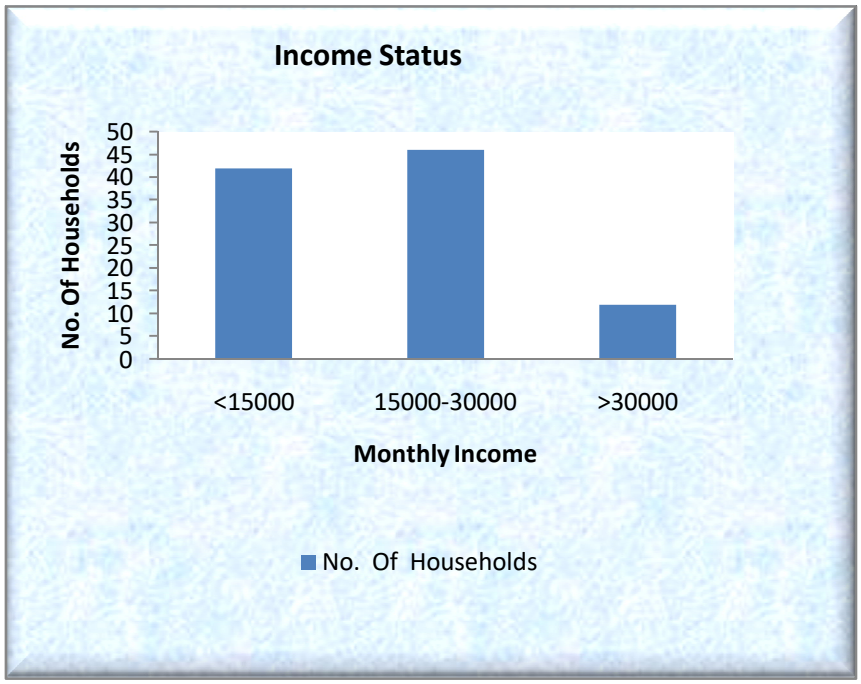


Fig no. 12-Income Status

Income status:

The income status of the respondents is represented by bar graph(Fig no. 12). The length of the bar represents the number of households who belongs to a specific income group. The horizontal axis shows the income groups whereas the vertical axis shows the number of households. The respondents are divided into three income groups i.e. below 15000, 15000-30000, and above 30000. About 42% respondents belong to 1st income group., 46% respondents are in the 2ndincome group and 12% belongs to the 3rd income group. Very less part of the respondents' income is above than 30000. So, their standard of living is little better than other two groups. The people who belong to the lower income group suffer from financial and medical crisis many of them also need Government or any other help.

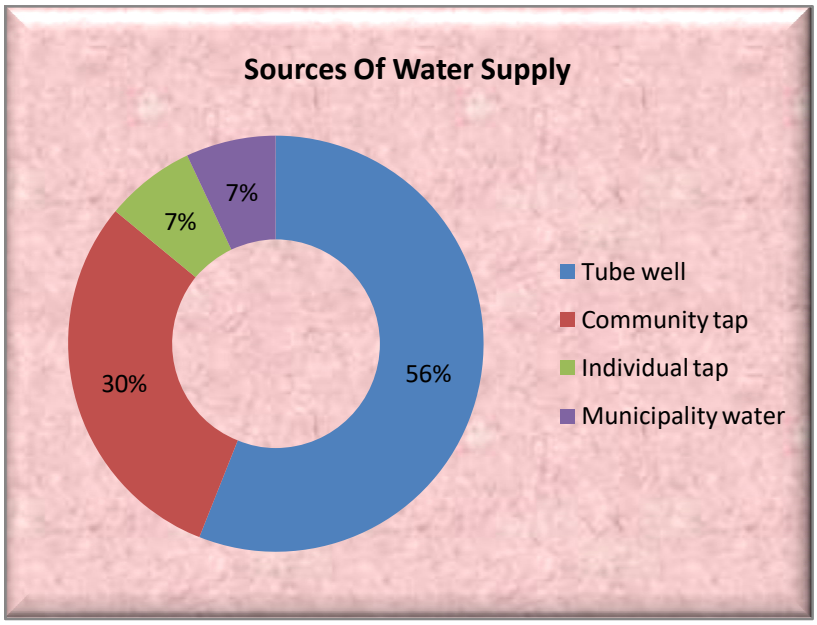


Fig no. 13-Sources Of Water Supply

Sources of drinking water:

Sources of drinking water are represented by a pie diagram(Fig no. 13),where each sector of the pie represents the % of households using a particular source of water supply. Mainly four type of sources are found viz. tube well, community tap, individual tap and municipality water. In Puducherry, maximum source of water supply is community tap, another sources of water are, for example tube well, time tap and individual tap, Only about 7% households depends on municipality water and 7% households use tube well and 30% households use individual tap. A close relationship is found between water supply and income status. The families with handsome income mainly have individual tap in their houses while the low income groups mainly use community taps.

IMPACT OF VARIOUS NATURAL CALAMITIES ON THE LOCAL RESIDENTS AND FISHING COMMUNITIES.

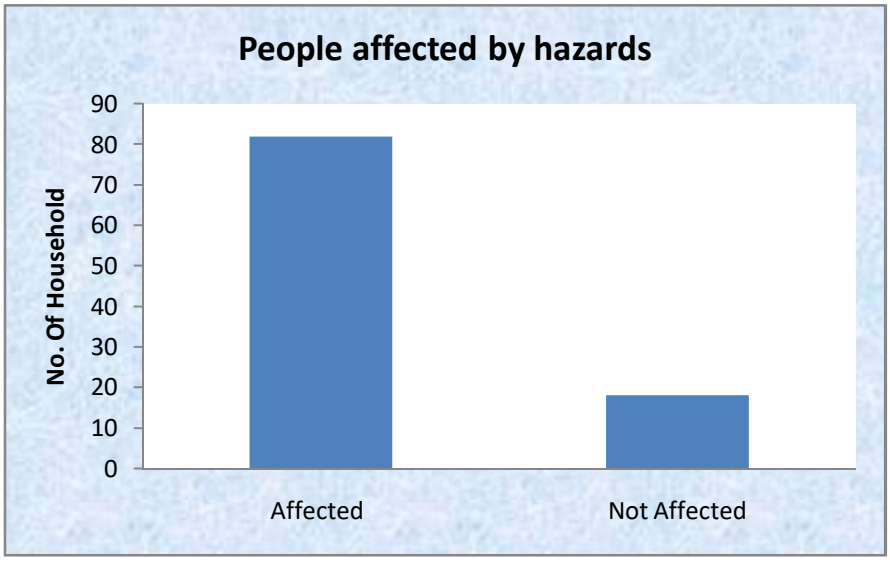


Fig no. 14-People affected by hazards

People affected by hazards:

Number of people affected by hazards are represented by a bar diagram(Fig no. 14) , where the horizontal axis represents people affected by hazard or not and the vertical axis represents the no. of households. In Puducherry, 82 households out of 100 are affected by hazards directly. Tsunami attacked Puducherry in 2004, and a lot of people were badly affected by Tsunami in 2004. They have lost their property mostly, houses and especially fisherman lost their boats, nets and large number of assets. So, they were mainly financially affected by hazards. Study shows that they left their house during the time of Tsunami and moved to the Indira stadium; they also arranged their shelter in their friend's or relative's houses etc. But after some days, they (Rs 2, 80,000) got monetary help as home loan to recover their houses from government. Sometimes cyclone also affects and disturbs daily life of people. Though maximum people affected by hazard but favourable govt. policy, local awareness, developed forecasting methods help the local people for preventing any kind of hazard.

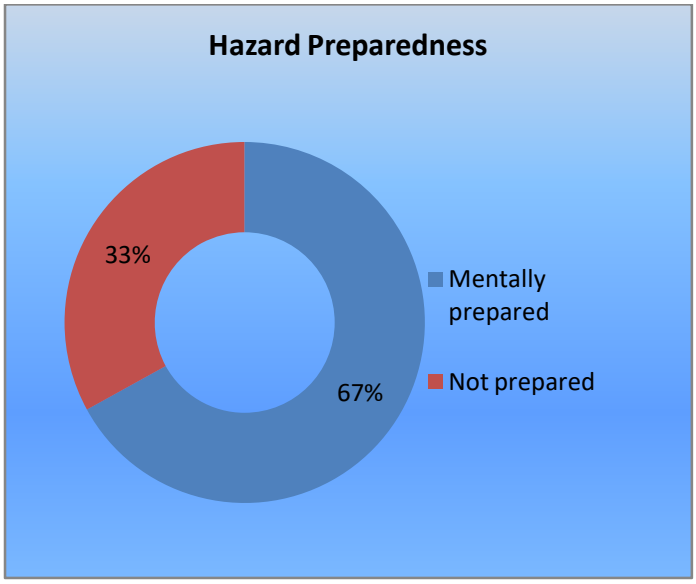


Fig no. 15-Hazard Preparedness

Hazard preparedness:

Hazard preparedness is represented by a donut diagram(Fig no. 15). In Puducherry, it is found that about 67%people are mentally prepared for any kind of hazard. Government always forecast the weather condition and alert local people about the upcoming hazards. Government provides different types of facilities to local people for preventing hazard. So, people are always aware and take different types of measures against hazards. Especially when tsunami attacked Puducherry in 2004 then govt. forecasted the weather condition and alerted local people specially fishermen.

Govt. also took action and rescued people during tsunami, after tsunami they gave many facilities e.g. shelter, food, medicine etc. to affected people during tsunami, they moved to other safety places. So, there were minimum loss of life during tsunami. So we can say that people and govt. are careful and aware about upcoming hazard, but it is also found that only about 33% households are not mentally prepared for any kind of upcoming hazard because as they do not get any information from any sources. So they are not mentally prepared for hazard. So, we can say that govt. is very helpful and always ready there to protect the people from any kind of hazard.

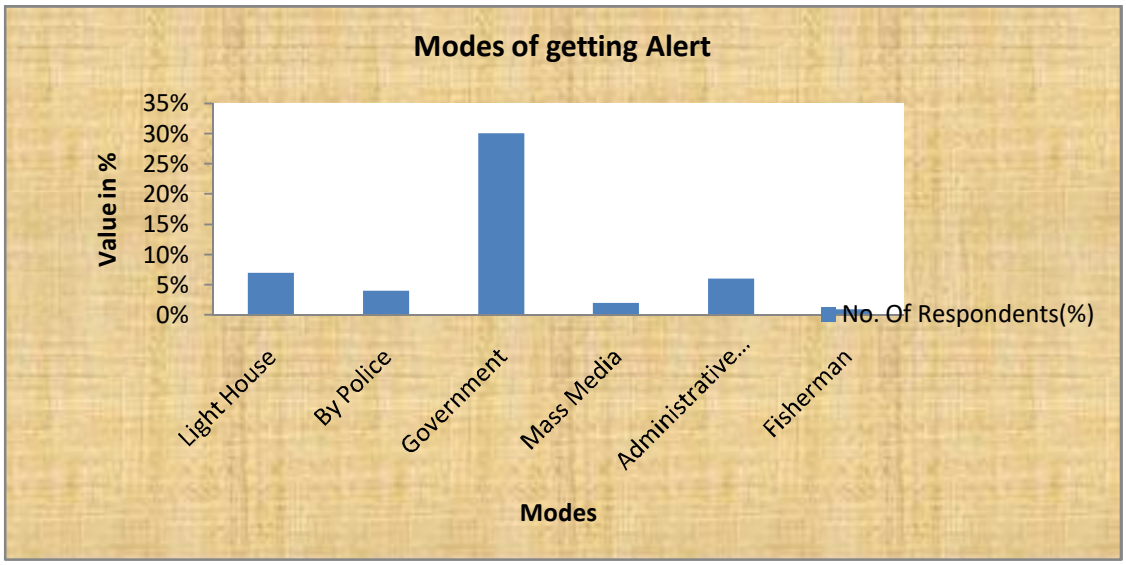


Fig no. 16-Modes of getting Alert

Modes of getting Alert:

Modes of getting alert is represented by Bar diagram(Fig no. 16). The conferred data from local people, it exposes that half of the respondent households (50%) have not taken any precautionary measures which indicates that they are fully unaware about natural hazards. Light house authority give alerts by giving red signals from both the light houses. So, we can say light house authority also plays an important role in making local people aware, 7% respondents were being make alerted through this. Police were also engaged in spreading awareness to 4% respondents, government also contributes a significant percentage in making people aware of this natural hazards 30%, besides this 2% of respondents were given alert through mass media like T.V,Radio although which is very common and 6% of respondents were given alert from the administrative department through announcement in roads or public places, fisherman also play an important role to make people alert, 1% of respondents were based on this source. So after the observation it is clear that though 50% are unaware about getting alert but the rest 50% has very cautiously faced the hazards by getting alert from government., police or any other sources which may prevent huge amount of loss.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES TAKEN BY THE LOCAL PEOPLE AND FISHING COMMUNITIES FOR NATURAL HAZARD.

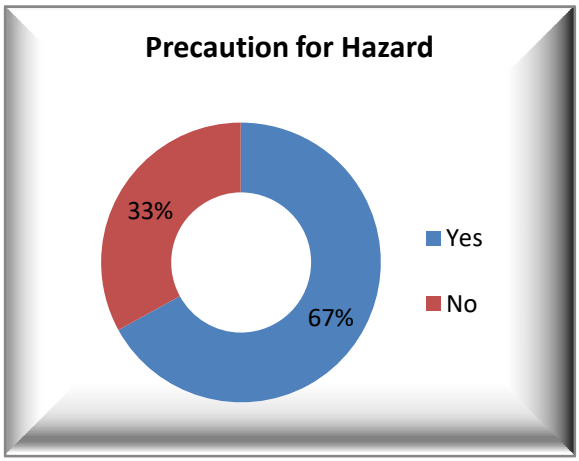


Fig no. 17-Precaution for Hazard

Taking precautionary measures before the natural hazards:

Taking precaution before natural hazards is represented by Pie diagram(Fig no. 17).where the vertical axis shows the number of respondents and the horizontal axis shows the positive and negative responses of local people. From our observed data, collected from our study area we got different views on different categories based on our questions, it reveals that maximum respondents (67%) take precautionary measures before hazards, on the other hand almost one third (33%) respondent households don't take any precaution, they feel that they have enough safety shelter and ability to overcome the severity of the hazards. The respondents who take precautionary measures they try to protect their family, wealth, property from the severity of sudden natural calamities as they feel they haven't sufficient ability to overcome the consequences after hazards. So we can conclude that the all respondent local people are not aware about the damage after hazards. On the other hand the majority who take precautionary measures have idea about the consequences of hazards and they are actively handle the situation after hazards.

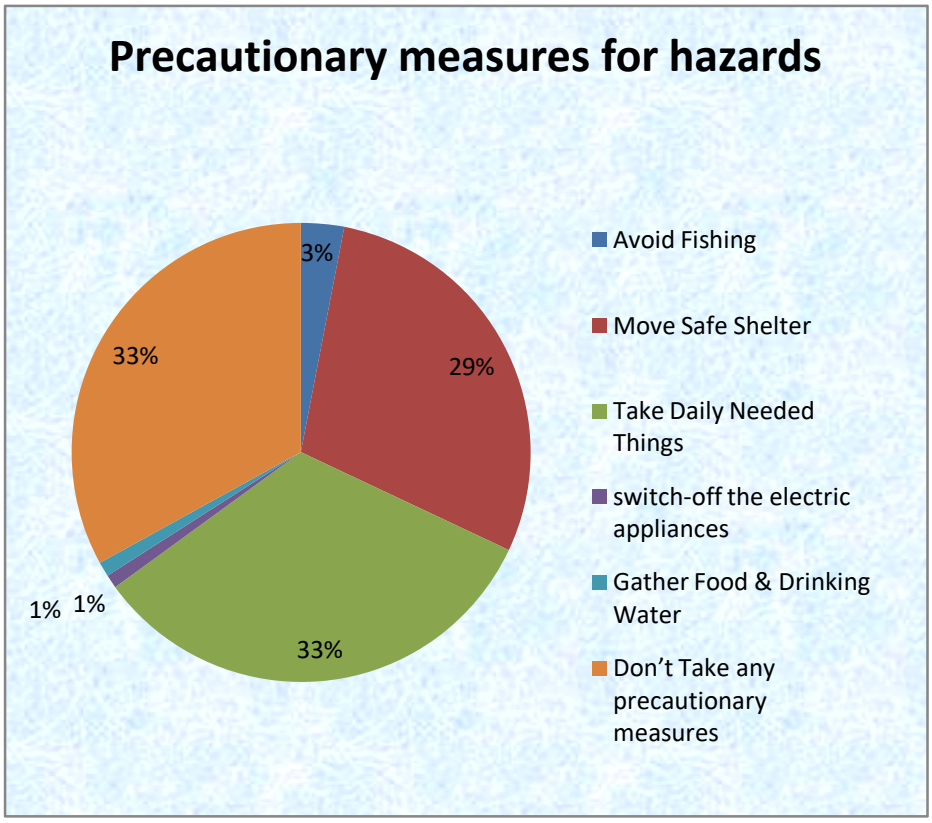


Fig no. 18-Precautionary measures for hazards

Precautionary measures for hazards:

Precautionary measures for hazards is represented by Pie Diagram(Fig no. 18), where the vertical axis shows the number of respondents and the horizontal axis shows different precautionary measures taken by local people for hazards. The fisherman among the total respondents 3% avoid to go to the sea for fishing because if they face storm or tsunami in the mid sea they won't be able to float back, there is a chance of sinking of the boat, 29% of respondents left their houses and move to another safe shelter after getting hazard alert to protect themselves, as their houses are at closer proximity from the sea they have a risk of severe destruction, so they move, the one third respondents 33% only take daily needed things such as medicines, id card, dry foods, etc for their daily sustenance, they avoid to go to outside. As the electricity may cause inconvenience during storm or heavy rainfall 1% respondents just switch-off the electric

appliances and some time they used to power off the main supply of electricity to prevent the damage of the electric appliances and to avoid the interruption of power supply after the end of the storm, 1% respondent gather only food items and fresh drinking water. Surprisingly, one third respondents 33% don't take any precautionary measures perhaps due to the unawareness about the causalities after the approaching hazard and they may not be alerted before the hazard. So they don't feel the need to take any precautionary measures. After the discussion about precautionary measures taken during and before hazards it can be concluded that people in our study area are very much

active in taking measures to prevent their loss and try to save their property and life. It can only be possible when there will be a better awareness program on this.

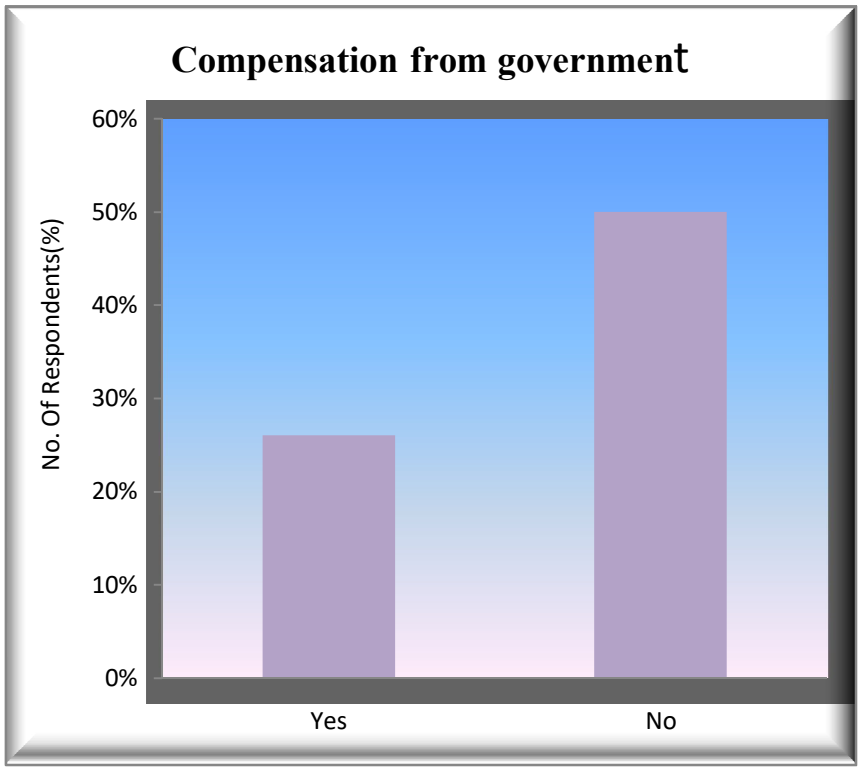


Fig no. 19-Compensation from government

Recovery measures after hazards:

Recovery measures after affecting hazard is represented by Bar diagram(Fig no. 19). Responses on recovery measures after affecting hazards expose that in our study area there is not much variability in taking recovery measures only 26% respondent households were given compensation from government, the amount of compensation is 28,000 per damaged households to repair their house and necessaries. Respondent households who have not got any compensation they left their house in search of better shelter, the compensation is given to the severely damaged household. So it can be assumed that the households who left their houses may not have faced severe damage, so they were not paid with governmental compensation. So they compelled to left their houses and after few days when the condition become stable they return again to their own houses. It is very surprising that almost half of the respondent households got nothing as compensation from Government,So we supposed that they are not severely affected, they have adapted themselves with the natural hazards and they know how to handle this.

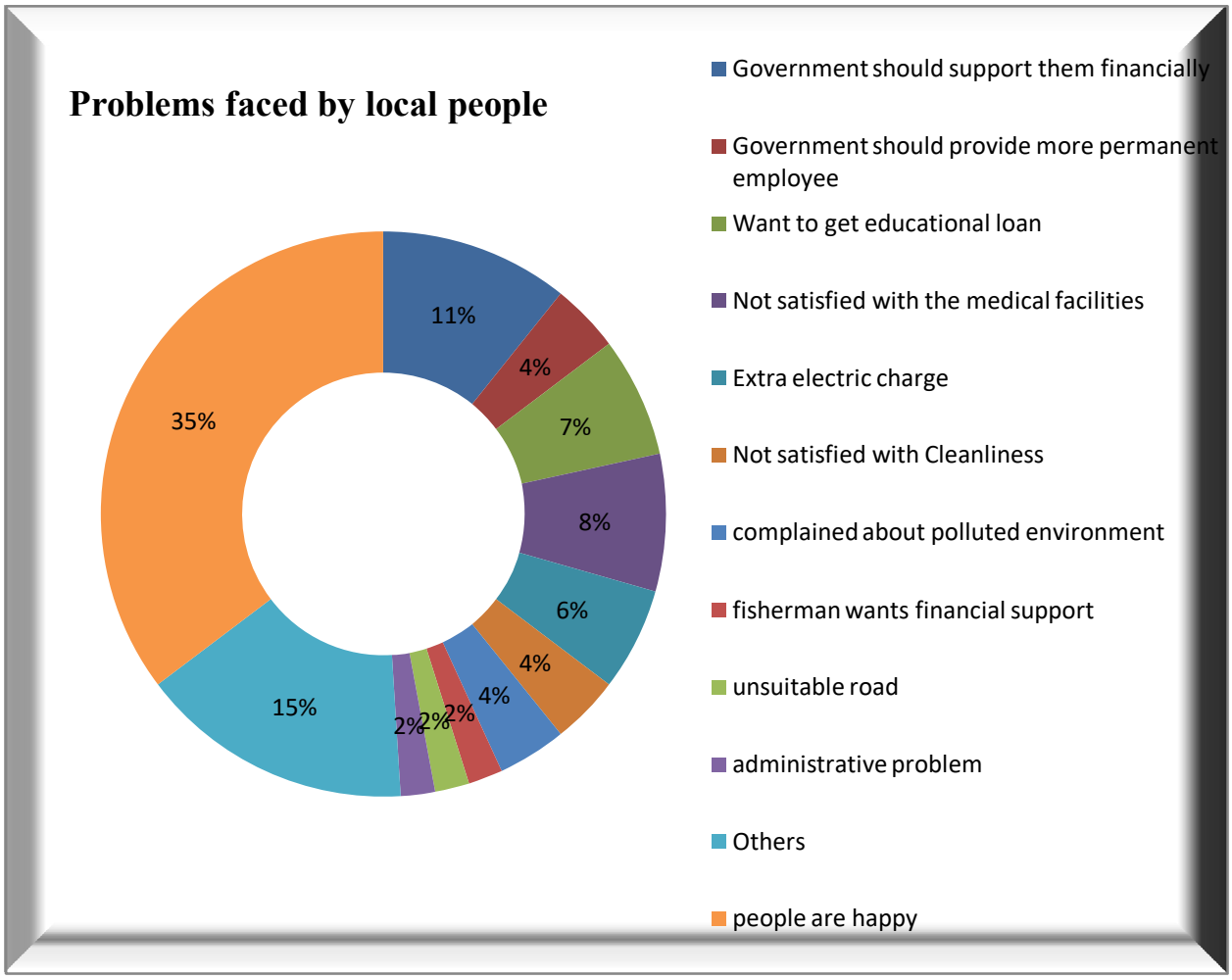


Fig no. 20-Problems faced by local people

Problems faced by local people:

Problem faced by local people is represented by a donut diagram(Fig no. 20). In our study area there are variety of problems faced by some local people on the contrary maximum 36% of local people are happy, they don't face any problem, which indicates that the study area is more or less suitable to local people, maximum number of them are satisfied with their facilities. Some problems which has been exposed from our collected data are not equally distributed to all there are various kind of problem but not in great intensity, such as 11% respondents claimed that government should support them financially for their livelihood so that they can survive happily, employment problem can also be seen in this place 4% respondents want that government should provide more permanent employee on the basis of their educational qualification they complained that there is a lack of opportunity for permanent job, though literacy rate is moderate in the area but some economically weaker people 7% want to get educational loan for their higher study so, they want educational loan from governmental sources in low interest rate, medical facilities is an important issue to the people of this area, 8% of respondents are not satisfied with the medical facilities they want to get medical treatment more cheaply and they want availability of emergency services and medical assurance. There are old meter box in a few houses 6% inefficiency of which causes extra electric charge, they have appealed for new one to prevent electricity wastage but till then they don't have new meter box, therefore from our observation we feel that cleanliness of our study area is in very good condition but 4% respondents are not satisfied with this, they want daily garbage cleaning instead of weakly cleaning process only 4% of respondents complained about polluted environment in the sense of noise and

air pollution, as their houses are near to the shore they face difficulties from dust particles, as the fishermen don't have sufficient capital for their business they faced inadequate profit, 2% fisherman wants financial support and 2% suffer from inadequate profit for insufficient investment, 2% of respondents complained about unsuitable road and also 2% complained about administrative problem, due to corruption. Sometimes a few hooligans cause their inconvenience they were engaged in gambling, but police don't take proper steps, besides above, drainage problem, irregular water supply, sanitation problem is very negligible problem for 2-3%of respondents.

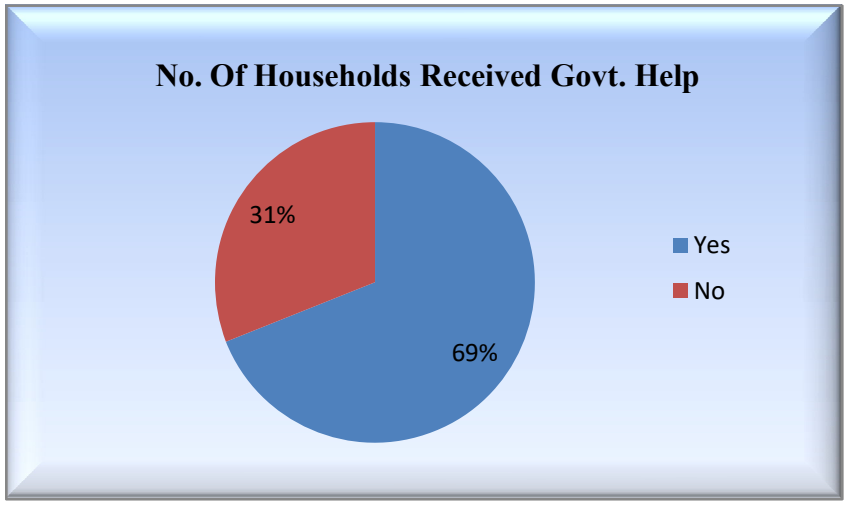


Fig no. 21-No. Of Households Received Govt. Help

Number of households received Governmental/NGO helps:

The no of people who had received govt. and N.G.O help during tsunami is represented by horizontal bar diagram(Fig no. 21) and the number of people who has received N.G.O help is shown by another bar diagram. It is observed that 69 households out of a total of 100 had received govt. help, Either in terms of food, medicine, clothes or in terms of financial help. Some of the households got a home loan of Rs. 2, 80000 with the help of which they repaired their houses. On the other hand, some of the households (about 5%) had received help from N.G.Os mainly from a French N.G.O.

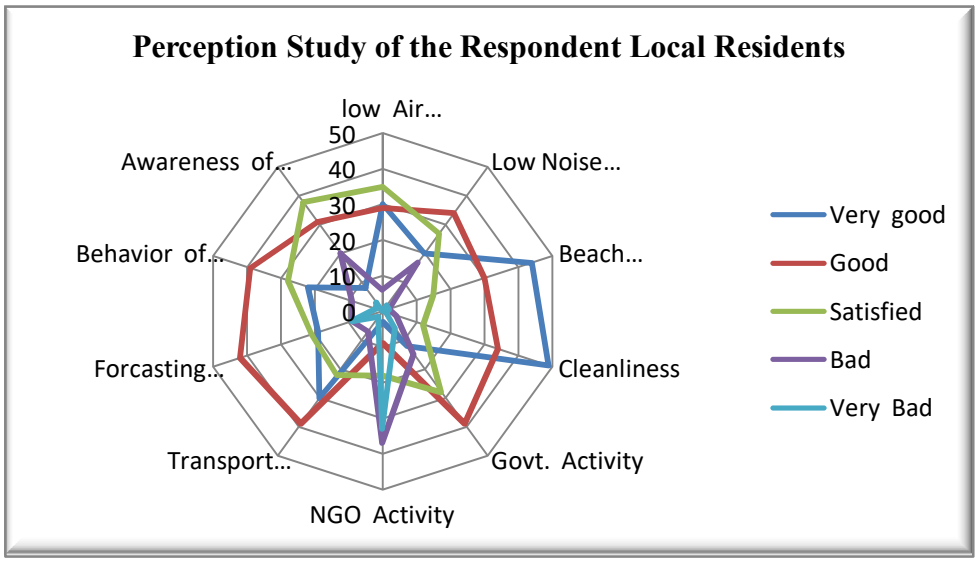


Fig no. 22-Perception Study of the Respondent Local Residents

Perception study of local people:

Perception study of local people is represented by a Radar graph (Fig no. 22). It is observed that the perception of the local people about given or asked parameters is almost similar. The parameters are ranked by five point Likert's scale which ranges from 1 to 5. In this scale 1 represent that the condition of the parameters is very bad and 5 represents that the condition is very good on thebasis of that 5 range of very good,good, satisfied,bad, very bad is represented. On the basis of these parameters and the primary data a radar graph was constructed The parameters of the diagram are low air pollution, noise pollution, beach condition, cleanliness governmental activity, NGO activity, transport network, forecasting method, behaviour of the local people, awareness of the local people for the natural disaster Most of the respondents from our study area responded that the area has less air and noise pollution, the beach condition is also good in this area, the cleanliness of the surrounding area is also commendably good according to that respondents most of the respondent local peoples don't have any idea about the governmental activities of the area. They don't know the concept of NGO in most of the cases, the transport network of the local area is very good according to respondent in most of the cases. The forecasting method and system is very good in this area. The behaviour of the local people is very good and they tried to help in our study as much as possible. The awareness of the local people for the natural disaster is satisfying.

Major Findings-

- Hinduism is the main religious of Puducherry Municipality.
- Tamil is a principal language of Puducherry Municipality.
- Literacy Rate is very high.
- Most of the respondents relying either directly or indirectly on fishing and other core activities are a large proportion of the respondents.
- The majority of the local residents live long in Puducherry, which is the indication of permanent residence and high attachment to the place.
- Natural hazards particularly the tsunami and cyclonic have impacted a significant proportion of households and ,Livelihood,
- Majority households are psychologically prepared to hazardous events and they engage in measures ahead of disasters.
- NGO support and government help have been very significant in post-disaster recovery even though not every household which had been affected enjoyed proper assistance.

Conclusion:

Thus, from the primary survey done on the local people of the Union territory of Eastern coast of Indian subcontinent, Puducherry one can easily conclude that the concept of shared space among the local residents is very much significant because it is so clear that in our day to day life we most prominently shares space with our local neighbours as well as our local residents now let us firstly considers the duration of living of the local people because based on this we can easily assume the shared space concept as the duration of living will in turn determine that from how long the local people of the area are sharing the space with each other. The people living in a close proximity share some common space with others for e.g. the pavement in front of their houses for walking or for drawing of rangolis (since it is a south Indian culture and most of the south Indians generally draw rangolis in front of their houses). Now if we consider the occupational status of the local people we can notify that the people engaged in the same type of economic activity share some

work space among themselves, the people who have stalls along the shoreline share some common space among them.Similarly the people who belongs to the same economic activity share the same work space among them. It was observed during the survey that the area used by the respondents is greater than the area of their own houses because they share some common space like the streets in front of their houses and the pavements with their neighbouring houses for walking, afternoon chatting etc. and about the ownership of the houses it can be said that maximum respondent has the security of a house i.e. one of the three primary needs of human life. Those who live in a rented house are sharing space (common staircase, main gate, toilets) with the owner as well as othertenants. Those who live in their own houses they also share the streets and the porch with the others, about the income status of the local people it can be said that the respondents those who are categorized under the same income group share the same mental space with one another, if we considers the source of drinking water among the local people it can be said that the low income group people who do not have individual taps in their houses use common taps thus share some space with others. The people who have migrated from other places share their culture, norms and values with the permanent natives. Due to the presence of the cultural hub that is the Matrimandir Puducherry have become an adobe of peace and perseverance because people across the world come here and shares their cultural believes, thoughts, norms, etc and vice versa. Thus, Puducherry can be said as a mosaic of different cultures special emphasis can be given on French culture, tracing the history it was an old French colony.

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