

Executive Summary of the Work Done

U.G.C. Sponsored Minor Research Project

MRP/15-16/KLMG026/UGC-SWRO Dated 31 March 2016

Dr. Anila Skariah, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics

INTRA HOUSEHOLD INEQUALITY: EXPLORING THE GENDER DYNAMICS OF CARE ECONOMY IN KERALA

SNA work, Extended SNA work and personal activities contribute to human well-being and socio-economic development of a nation. But the GDP estimates and work force estimates are based only on SNA work and government continues to set social and economic policy using such incomplete information. As women concentrate in extended SNA activities (unpaid care work) more than men; it leads to economic invisibility and statistical underestimation of their work. This project makes a disaggregated analysis of time allocation pattern of men and women and reveals the gender disparity in time allocation pattern. The study reveals the unequal sharing of unpaid care work between men and women; that women spend an average of 9.5746 hours and men spend only 0.5238 hours per day. The analysis shows that the unpaid care work is highly skewed towards women that, 73 percent of men do not spend any time for unpaid care work while 95.87 per cent of women spend more than four hours a day only for the house work component of the unpaid care work. Tobit Model estimates that gender, age of the care providers, employment status, income of the households, availability of home technology, fuel and water facility, social community and number of elderly members in the household are significant determinants of unpaid care work. Surprisingly, number and age of children do not affect the magnitude of unpaid care work. The regular collection of time-use data can be of tremendous value for government agencies for gender sensitive programmes, schemes and prioritizing allocation of resources from a gender perspective. This can be achieved only by proper gender budgeting.