Time Use Surveys: Concept, Classification and Related
Issues
Lessons From the Indian Pilot Time Use Survey

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**Introduction**

Historically speaking, the time use survey method is not a new survey method. Time Use Surveys were first used in the early years of the twentieth century as a means of understanding lifestyle of people, including their social life, on the basis of the pattern of time use by them. These surveys were thus designed to understand that part of life of people for which no information was available from conventional data sources, such as, national income statistics, labour and employment statistics, population statistics etc. In the second part of twentieth century, and particularly during the last few decades of the century, however, a need was felt to measure the “invisible” unpaid work of men and women to estimate the contribution of unpaid work to human welfare. Since the need was first expressed by some feminist groups in industrialized countries in the North, several of these countries depended on time use surveys to estimate the time and value of unpaid work of women. Canada and Great Britain conducted such surveys in the 1960s, and were followed by Norway, Bulgaria, Japan, Finland, Hungary, Austria and others in the 1970s and 1980s (Goldschmidt Clermont and Pagnossin – Aligisakis 1995, Ironmonger 1999, Niemi 1983 and others). These countries gradually evolved their concepts and methodology to measure and analyse unpaid work of men and women in their respective societies.

With the emergence of developing countries on the scene, time use surveys have acquired a new focus. These countries have seen several additional uses of these surveys, such as netting economic work of the poor (men and women both) and improving thereby the work force/labour force statistics; improving estimates of national income by getting better data on SNA activities, including additional activities into the national accounts system incorporated in the 1993 SNA; and drawing useful policy guidelines for poverty reduction, employment generation and welfare promotion. These countries are gradually evolving suitable concepts, survey methodology, classification of activities and valuation techniques.

In the light of the two different focuses of time use surveys emerging in developed and developing countries, it is necessary that a bridge is built between the two with a view to arriving at some global consensus with regard to concepts, methods and related matters of time use surveys. It is also necessary that more and more developing countries undertake

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such surveys and cull out careful lessons from the experiences about concepts and methods.

The present paper discusses the recently conducted Indian Time Use Survey with a view to answering these two questions. That is, the paper attempts to learn lessons from the Indian case with regard to the validity of the concepts and methods used in the survey as well as attempts to make observations for bridging the gap between the developed and developing countries in the process of reaching global consensus for generating internationally comparable data on time use patterns.

**Conceptual Framework For Time Use Studies**

Though developed and developing countries have developed their respective focuses pertaining to time use surveys, there is a realization that an important contribution of a time use survey is that it gives a complete picture of the society by providing detailed information about how people spend their days (all 24 hours) on different economic and non-economic activities. In fact, it can be said that time use survey is the only survey technique available to us at present that provides a comprehensive information on how individuals spend their time, on a daily or weekly basis, and “reveals the details of an individual’s daily life with a combination of specificity and comprehensiveness not achieved in any other social survey (Gershuny 1992).

Conceptually speaking, time use studies contribute in three major areas, and in that sense this survey method is standing on three main pillars:

1. Time use studies provide complete picture of the society by making those areas visible which are not visible in the present statistical system,

2. Time use studies throw light on the paid and unpaid work of men and women, (and estimate the contribution of unpaid work to human well being) which may help in integrating paid and unpaid work in national policies, and

3. Time use surveys provide better estimates of work and workers as well as of national income, and thereby contribute significantly towards improvement in the conventional economic statistics.

**Complete Picture of the Society**

Conventional statistics which are used as the basis for formulating all macro policies that touch the entire society, cover only a part of the society. For example, labour force statistics, national income statistics, statistics of prices and finance etc. cover only that part of the society which is connected with economic activities. Since the market is viewed as the core of economic activities, participation of labour force as well as production of goods and services included in conventional statistics refers only those goods and services which are exchanged in the market. Unremunerated work that is not
entering the market is not counted in official statistics. In other words, though both remunerated and unremunerated work or marketed and non-marketed activities contribute to human welfare, the conventional economic data cover only remunerated part of activities. As Kuznets pointed out years ago, the three major activities, namely housewife’s services, household goods for self consumption and voluntary work contribute to improved level of living of people, these are outside the preview of economic activities.

This leads to several distortions in measurement of welfare and in macro policy formulation:

- Though unremunerated work within and even outside the household contributes to human welfare, it is nowhere reflected in the data on standards of living, consumption expenditure of welfare. The available data do not therefore give proper estimates of the welfare levels enjoyed by human beings.

- Non inclusion of unremunerated work over which considerable time is spent by men, and particularly women may lead to faulty employment and labour policy. Such policies may go against the interest and welfare of women. As has been pointed out by Goldschmidt Clermont and Pagnossin – Aligisakis, conventional labour statistics are misleading as they do not provide complete information about the efforts that go behind maintaining and improving human consumption of goods and services (1995).

- Exclusion of unremunerated activities also may lead to incomplete and partial assessment of impacts of various policies like development policies, social policies and welfare policies. This may lead to faulty policy responses from authorities.

- This is particularly observed in the case of economic crisis during which households respond by adopting various survival or coping strategies that fall in the unremunerated part of activities. For example, men and women may take up extra activities like growing vegetables in the backyard or collecting free goods from surroundings to feed the family. In the absence of inclusion of these activities, neither policies nor policy assessments by authorities will be fully relevant or effective.

- In the context of the globalization in the recent decades, it is important to know its impact on life of people, which is likely to be there on their remunerated as well as unremunerated activities. For example, women’s increased participation in the labour market, reduction in subsidies and public expenditure etc. are likely to have considerably impact on life of people. Understanding these through conventional statistics and basing policies on the conventional statistics can prove to be wrong.
In short, the first major pillar of time use surveys is that it provides a sound basis for understanding, measuring and monitoring the society over which macro policies can be formulated, assessed and modified.

**Paid and Unpaid Work**

The second major contribution of time use studies is that they throw light on paid as well as unpaid activities in a society. This can have useful implications for poverty, gender equity and human development.

Unpaid activities are primarily of two types, those which need to be included in economic activities (as per the SNA 1993) and those which fall outside the Production Boundary of the SNA, but fall within the General Production Boundary. Though it is usually believed that the first kind of unpaid activities are more relevant in developing economies where the conventional data collection methods are not able to collect full information on SNA activities, it is now realized that such work is existing and is on the increase in developed countries also.

We shall, however, discuss the second type of activities to start with. Unpaid work is also known by different terms like unremunerated work, non-market work, social reproduction, domestic work or “care” activities. These activities can be defined as those activities which contribute to human well being, but which are not exchanged in the market and are not therefore included in national income statistics. These activities exclude personal services, the activities which are done for personal welfare and which cannot be delegated to others (For example, resting, sleeping, eating etc.)

Unpaid activities basically include

- household management: cooking, cleaning washing, sleeping etc.
- “care” activities: taking care of children, elderly people, sick and disabled,
- production of goods for self consumption such as stitching cloths, making mats, jams and pickles etc.
- collection of free goods, such as fuel, fodder, water, fruits, fish, etc.
- other services such as, transporting children etc. as well as servicing and repair house and household durables, vehicles etc.
- social work – voluntary work for the community.

Though men are observed to be participating in these activities, it is women who are primarily responsible for performing these activities.

These activities contribute to human welfare in several ways. To start with, these activities are essential for human survival as the basic physiological and psychological needs of human beings are met with through his domestic unpaid work. Secondly, these activities contribute to the production of human capital by improving health, nutrition and education of family members. Thirdly, these activities contribute to human development
by improving human capabilities in other areas like physiological and psychological care and good nurturing. Fourthly, some of these activities provide social security to the old, sick and disabled persons. And lastly these activities contribute to physical well being of people by improving their consumption of goods and services.

In spite of this contribution, however, these activities do not appear in any conventional statistics of national economies. The work is not recognized and therefore the workers also are not recognized in policy making. Those engaged in unpaid work suffer from several disadvantages:

- Since this work is neither quantified nor recognized, it is considered unimportant. Those involved with this work do not get any direct remuneration, and therefore the contribution of unpaid work is assumed to be insignificant. As a result, those engaged in this work, mainly women, are considered inferior to others, mainly men, whose contribution is visible in official data.

- Unpaid workers who work mostly at home are deprived of exposure to outside world and outside opportunities. Since unpaid work is usually boring and repetitive hard work, without any scope for upward mobility or higher remuneration or higher status, unpaid workers have limited life chances in the society.

- When unpaid workers, women, participate in the formal economy, they suffer from several disadvantages, such as, carrying extra burden of domestic responsibilities, poor human capital for the formal labour market, inferior status and poor prospects of getting good jobs in the core sector as well as poor upward mobility also due to the burden of domestic responsibilities.

In short, the distribution of paid and unpaid work between men and women determine the hierarchy within the household. The roots of gender equity are to be found in this division of labour between men and women.

It is important therefore to give visibility to unpaid work in formal statistics, to understand the linkages between paid and unpaid work, and to integrate paid and unpaid work in national policies is a way that gender equity is not sacrificed. Time use surveys can perform the first two tasks and can help in the third task. It needs to be kept in mind, however, that these data and valuation of unpaid work cannot reflect the emotional energy and the sense of responsibility underlying unpaid domestic work. Unpaid work is much more than their statistical recognition.

The Platform For Action (PFA) adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 has therefore called for developing “suitable statistical means to recognize and make visible the full extent of the work of women and all their contribution to the national economy including their contribution in the unremunerated and domestic sectors, and to examine the relationship of women’s unremunerated work to the incidence of their vulnerability to poverty.” The PFA has also stressed the need “to
develop a more comprehensive knowledge of work and employment though, inter alia, efforts to measure and better understand the type, extent and distribution of unremunerated work, particularly, the work in caring for dependents…” (UN, Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action 1995).

Netting Better Statistics on Economic Work and Workers, and on National Income

The third major rationale of time use studies is that they improve even the conventional data, particularly on work and workers, and thereby improve the existing national income data.

It has been observed that statistics on market oriented work and workers are grossly underestimated, particularly in developing countries because of the inadequacy of the prevalent concepts and methods used in capturing these data. In the case of India, for example, it has been observed that in spite of the efforts of the national statistical machinery, the data on the work of the poor, and particularly of poor women, are not satisfactory (Hirway 1999). This is because the work of women as well as that of the poor is frequently seasonal, intermittent and uncertain, with the result that it is not demarcated clearly from the unpaid household work that is non-SNA in character. Investigators find it difficult to net this work in statistics. Secondly, under the prevailing socio-cultural values, (a) women are not expected to involve themselves in paid employment, and working women are frequently held in low esteem in the society; (b) women do not consider their economic work as “work” as they perceive their work as non-work of low status in the economy and (c) even investigators also frequently do not perceive women’s economic work as work and report it as domestic work.

These conceptual and definitional as well as methodological problems of capturing economic work and workers can be overcome by a well designed time use survey. Since time use surveys collect data on how human beings spend their time on different activities in a comprehensive way as well as without any bias, these data can be used for estimating labour force/ work force data correctly with the help of a well designed activity classification. Time use data can be particularly useful in getting realistic estimates of work and workers engaged in subsistence sector and informal sector including home based work (Hirway 1999).

Better estimates of work and workers would also contribute to better estimates of national income or Gross Domestic Product in the economy. This will happen largely by improved workforce participation rates of men and women (and also children some times) in different sectors the output of which is estimated by multiplying average productivity (arrive at by primary surveys) and the total number of workers.

It is important to note at this stage that with economic growth there is a tendency to transfer unpaid household work to paid economic activities. For example, a lot of food processing activities like husking, grinding or cleaning activities like laundering, or child
care, care of the sick etc. are transferred from “domestic work” to “economic work” as the economy grows. Since different countries are at different levels in this process of transferring domestic work to economic work, estimating national production and national work force/labour force only in terms of economic work will not present internationally comparable data on human consumption / welfare levels. Time use surveys can help in bridging the gap and can explain the inter country variations in a better way.

In short, one can conclude that time use surveys have a very important contribution to make to understanding the society and to policy formulation and monitoring of human well being.

Considering the fact that this is the only survey technique that can make these contributions, it is important that the efforts and costs that go behind conducting such surveys are viewed in the right perspective. In other words, these surveys need not be seen as costly surveys in the light of their contributions.

Objectives of the Indian Time Use Survey

The objectives of the Indian time use survey were determined by the Technical Committee, keeping in mind the points made above.

Following the demand from the women’s movement in India on the one hand and appreciating the value of time use surveys on the other hand, the Government of India in the Department of Statistics decided to organize a pilot time use study at the national level. A Technical Committee was set up to undertake the following tasks.

• To advise the Government on designing, planning and related matters leading to conducting a time use survey,

• To suggest appropriate definitions and concepts, schedule of inquiry and a suitable reference period for the purpose of data collection through a survey,

• To suggest an appropriate methodology for building up the annual estimates of time disposition based on the survey data, and

• To advise on any other matter referred to the Technical Committee by the Department of Statistics in respect of time use survey.

Keeping in mind these Terms of Reference, the Technical Committee laid down the following as the objectives of the pilot time use survey:

• On the statistical side, the objective was to develop a conceptual framework and a suitable methodology for designing and conducting time use studies in India on a regular basis. Also, to evolve a methodology to estimate labour force / work force
in the country and to estimate value of unpaid work in the economy in the satellite account.

- To collect and analyze the time use pattern of people is the selected states in India in order to have a comprehensive information about the time spent by people on marketed and non-marketed economic activities covered under the UN-SNA 1993, non-marketed non-SNA activities covered under the General Production Boundary and on personal care and related activities that cannot be delegated to others.

- To use the data in generating more reliable estimates on work force and national income as per the SNA 1993, and in computing the value of unpaid work through separate satellite account,

- To infer policy / programme implications from the analysis of the data on (a) distribution of paid and unpaid work among men and women in rural and urban areas, (b) nature of unpaid work of women including the drudgery of their work and (c) sharing of household work by men and women for gender equity

- To analyze the time use pattern of the poor to understand the nature of their work so as to draw inference for employment and welfare programmes for them.

- To analyze the data of the time use pattern of the weaker sections including the poor, the child and women to draw inferences for welfare policies for them.

In view of the First Report of the Results of the Time Use Survey, a few additional objectives also are emerging as important objectives:

Time Use as a Social Indicator: Time is an important asset for everybody and its use can be analysed to develop indicators of welfare of human beings. Some of the social indicators could be:

- Personal time available to people in hours-minutes as well as a ratio of personal time to total time would reflect the free time available to people for their own selves. There is a need, however, to make a clear distinction between the available leisure time and the forced leisure generated out of un/underemployment. Broadly, one can say that the higher is the personal time, the larger will be the welfare.

- Total work time (SNA work + non-SNA work – excluding personal services) per person could be another indicator of welfare, as it would measure the burden of work on human beings.

- Ratio of unpaid to paid work will done by a person could reveal his status. The larger the ratio the larger will be the relative burden of unpaid work on a person.
For example, women usually would have a higher ratio which would indicate their inferior status.

- Time stress and Multiple work which can be measured by the hours spent by men and women on multiple activities falling in SNA and non-SNA areas (excluding personal services), can indicate the stress experienced. The higher the time spent on multiple activities, the greater will be the time stress experienced by people.

These indicators developed for different socio-economic groups will reveal the relative welfare status of these groups in terms of their time use patterns.

- Since the time use data provide comprehensive information about the patterns of time use by the different sections of population, they open up immense possibilities of their use. Some additional uses could be (a) understanding the time use pattern in relation to some important household characteristics like female/male headed households, income/consumption level of the household, Caste (Scheduled Caste and tribes) of the household, occupation of the household etc. (b) relating time use patterns to individual characteristics, such as, age, gender, marital status, education etc., and (c) using leisure time data in designing TV/radio programmes; designing tax and incentives policy; welfare policies for children, women etc.

**Survey Methods, Data Collection and Related Matters**

Since the proposed time use survey was a methodological survey, the government decided to organize it in a way that would allow inputs from academics, activists as well as the national statistical bodies. The Technical Committee at the apex level consisted of all the three categories of people. The survey work, however, was carried out by the official statistical bodies at the state level, under the guidance and supervision of the State Level Expert Committees as well as the national level Technical Committees as to assure that the future surveys become a part of the statistical system in the country.

In view of the different set of objectives of the Indian time use survey as well as the specific constraints and needs of the India population, it was necessary to develop appropriate survey methods and data collection methods for the Indian Survey. To start with, the design of the schedules, the activity classification and the valuation methods were designed keeping in mind the specific objectives of the survey.

As far as the methodology of conducting the survey is concerned, India has several constraints: (a) the level of literacy is low in India the urban, rural and total literacy rates being 73.1 percent, 44.7 percent and 52.2 percent as per the 1991 Census of Population (These rates are expected to be much higher in the 2001 Census of Population). As a result, we could not use the diary method which is commonly used in industrialised counties. Moreover, time pieces and clocks are not followed religiously by people in rural parts of India, though they have a fair sense of time while going about their daily chores.
and activities. It was difficult therefore to use 10 minutes slots for data collection on time use. Investigators were therefore trained to ask questions carefully about chronology of activities, and help respondents in reporting his time use. As it was also not possible to use 10 minutes time slot in data collection, it was decided to use one hour time slot, implying careful investigation of the time use by the hour.

There were two options left to us when the dairy approach was discarded: Either use the Observation Method, under which the investigator observes respondents to collect information about how they spend time, or use the One Day Recall Method, under which the interviewer establishes rapport with the community by staying in the village for 9 days or so, informs respondents in advance about the day for which time use investigation would be made, and visits respondents the day after the fixed day to collect informations about how they spent the day. Since the observation method did not give proper response as respondents became conscious in the constant presence of the interviewer, it was decided to use the One Day Recall Method for investigation.

Again, it was not always possible for male interviewers to get the right response from women respondents due to social customs which frequently do not allow women to communicate freely with strangers (men). Sometimes men of the household offered to reply for women which was rejected by investigators due to the likely male bias. In some regions therefore women investigators were specially hired and trained to undertake investigations.

As agriculture happens to be the main occupation of people in India, agricultural seasons have a significant impact on the pattern of time use in India, particularly in rural areas. In the busy agricultural season, there is a good demand for labours on farms, but the demand declines considerably in the lean season, particularly when irrigation facilities are not available. It was decided therefore to organize the time use survey in four rounds to capture the seasonal variations in time use patterns.

Men and women in developing countries frequently take up multiple jobs or perform multiple economic activities to make the two ends meet. Since many of these activities are in the informal sector, it is not easy to get the right response from respondents. Also, many times men and women perform more than one activity simultaneously. For example, women frequently do cooking or cleaning while looking after kids, or men graze animals while smoking or resting. Investigators were trained to get the right response about such multiple activities.

India being a large and highly heterogeneous country it was important to select the sample for the pilot study carefully. On the one hand it was important to select the states in a way that they would broadly represent the heterogeneity of the country (so as to test the pilot schedule in different socio-economic situations), while on the other hand it was also necessary to select that the sample which would provide a scope for compiling satellite accounts on unpaid work that could be related to the official estimates of national income (or state incomes). It was decided therefore to select six major states from the six different regions of the country. Gujarat (West), Tamil Nadu (South), Orissa (East),
Madhya Pradesh (Central India), Haryana (North) and Meghalaya (North East) were therefore selected for the study. This provided a scope for comparing satellite accounts of unpaid work with respective SDPs (State Domestic Products). The sample also represented the time use behaviour of the country as the selected states broadly represented the major regions of the country.

**Classification of Activities**

Statistical classification can be defined as “a set of discrete values which can be assigned to specific variables which are to be measured in a statistical survey, or registered in administrative files which will be used as basis for the production of statistics”(Hoffmann 1997). Classification thus plays an important role in determining the utility of statistical data. In the case of time use studies also, the classification of time use activities should relate the data to the objectives of the survey in a way that the classified data reveal the details of time use patterns which help in using the data to achieve the objectives of the survey.

**Principles of Classification :**

The major principles which should govern classification of time use activities can be listed as follows:

- Classification of time use activities should be comprehensive in the sense that it should cover all the activities performed by people so as to ensure the full measurement of all paid and unpaid work of men and women in the society.

- Classification of time use studies should be related to the present systems of classification of economic statistics so that paid and unpaid activities can be integrated while formulating macro policies. To start with, time use classification should be related to the existing labour / employment classifications, such as ISCO (International Standard Classification of Occupation), ISIC (International Standard Industrial Classification) and ICSE (International Classification of Status of Employment). It should also be related to the SNA (System of National Accounts) framework so as to distinguish activities falling under (SNA) Production Boundary, General Production Boundary and non-SNA personal activities.

- Time use classification should be related to the present established time use classifications developed by different (industrialized) countries. This is for enhancing international comparability of time use data. It will also allow for temporal studies on changing the time use patterns of people.

- Time use classification should provide the information about major types of unpaid activities so that the data could reveal the major dimensions of unpaid work in a way that this work is understood and analysed better and can be
integrated with paid work easily. For example, the unpaid world should be broadly divided into (a) household management, (b) care of children, elderly, sick and disabled persons, (c) repairs and maintenance of house, equipments etc. (d) production for self consumption and (e) voluntary work.

- Time use classification should reveal the details of non-SNA work in a way that components reveal the major characteristics of non-SNA activities. For example, the major components could be (a) rest and sleep (b) personal hygiene and care, (c) TV, audio, and sports, (d) education and self development and (e) leisure time. It is important, however, to define leisure time accurately and to distinguish it clearly from forced leisure or unemployment.

- Time use classification should facilitate the valuation of unpaid work, and compilation of satellite accounts ultimately. That is, the classifications should help in putting value/price to different activities so as to facilitative valuation of different activities.

- Time use classification should be broad based enough to incorporate major activities carried out in both developed and developing countries.

- Time use classification should be simple, easy to understand, easy to operate and subjected to easy coding. The number of broad groups and sub groups should be large enough to reveal the major characteristics of activities, but should not be too large or too unwieldy.

- The classification should be hierarchical or multiphase/multi digit, with each digit related to the levels of details of the classification.

- And lastly, the classification should have contextual variables to provide extra details about the activities that would throw useful light on the way the activities are carried out. These variables thus could prove extremely useful in understanding the activities better.

**Historically Speaking:**

Historically speaking, the early classifications of time use activities were simple and provided details mainly about non-economic activities of people. For example, Strumlin divided activities into wage earning activities, household work and free work, while dividing daily activities into work, sleep and rest (UNSD 1997). Similarly early classifications in industrialized countries also focused mainly on non-economic activities of people. For example, the classifications of time use activities adopted by Australia, Eurostat, Canada and other developed countries focus largely on the details of non-economic activities: The Australian time use surveys divide time use activities into (1) Necessary Time (personal care activities), (2) Contracted Time (employment and educational activities), (3) Committed Time (domestic and other unpaid work) and (4) Free Time. While economic activities constitute one sub group of Contracted Time and 7
activities, non-economic activities have 8 sub groups and 55 activities (Appendix 1). Similarly, in the case of Canada, economic activities constitute only one of the 10 major groups of time use activities, and only three of the total 24 sub groups (Appendix 2). In the case of USA only one group, with 4 sub groups are devoted to economic activities while 9 groups and 35 sub groups are devoted to describing non-economic activities (Appendix 3, and Appendices 5, 6 and 7).

Harvey and Niemi (1993) have proposed and International Standard Activity Classification (ISAC) for the use of, presumably both developed and developing countries. Unfortunately this classification also focuses primarily on non-economic activities. Of the 10 major groups of time use activities, only one is related to economic activities, and of the 47 sub groups of the classification, only 2 are related to paid work (Appendix 4). Though this classification may be justified in industrialized countries (however, the role of home based informal work is increasing gradually in these countries also), it does not help developing countries in analyzing time use data as developing countries want detailed information on both economic and non-economic activities.

In the case of India therefore two sets of time use classifications were available to choose from, namely, the Expert Group Classification and the Alternatives Time Use Activity Classification. While the former was evolved by the Expert Group (UNSD 1997) the latter was developed by the International Labour Organisation (Hoffmann and Mata 1997).

The Expert Group Classification emerged from the Expert Group Meeting organized by UNSD in 1997 (Appendix 9). The Expert Group discussed the Trial Classification of the UNSD as well as the Alternative Classification of the ILO (Appendix 8) and came out with the third set of classification, which is known as Expert Group Classification. The main rationale of trial classifications was the growing interest to have a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the use of time in different societies. This classification therefore differed from the classification of the industrialized countries in three ways: (1) The trial classification used the SNA as the basic framework for determining the economic nature of activities, (2) Activities of non-marketed production, which are an important part of production in developing countries, were assigned one major group with detailed specifications at two and three digit levels, and (3) on the job activities which are normally not specified in details, are included in the classification with same details (Appendix 6). This classification thus divides time use activities in 4 major groups, namely, SNA Activities (divided into market oriented and non-market oriented activities), Non-SNA Activities (domestic work divided into 4 sub groups), Personal (non-productive) Activities (divided into 3 sub groups) and Travel (of all kinds). The 10 sub groups are further divided into 84 two digit activities.

The major advantages of the classification are that (a) it attempts to ensure correspondence with the existing standard classifications of labour and economic statistics as well as integration of time use statistics within the field of social and economic statistics (the categories are to the extend possible linked with the definitions and categories used in ISIC, ISCO and ISCE); (b) the classification has also put more
emphasis on economic activities than most other classifications used in industrialized
countries and (c) it also takes into account the different cultural and geographic contexts
in which activities are generally carried out.

The trial classification, however, had too many activities as, instead of using contextual
variables, it added to the number of activities which resulted in duplication of activities
leading to confusion. The ILO’s Alternative Classification tried to remove some of the
problems of the Trial Classification by adding contextual variables. The ILO
classification also had the clear advantage that it matched very well with the existing
economic data sets including labour statistics. However, the Expert Group felt that the
ILO classification had limited comparability with the existing time use classifications.

The Expert Group therefore arrived at a new classification which was designed to provide
the basis on which data from time use surveys could be coded and presented in categories
that would be meaningful in the assessment of national labour inputs into production of
all goods and all types of services, in the compilation of household satellite accounts, and
in examining trends in the broad uses of time. The two main principles underlying the
classification are: (1) to provide a structure which is consistent with the conceptual
framework of SNA and which allows for creating satellite accounts, and (2) to ensure
comparability with other time use classifications.

This Expert Group Classification divided the activities into the following major groups:
(Appendix 9)
1. Employment for Establishments
2. Primary production activities (not for establishments)
3. Services for income and other production of goods (not for establishments)
4. Household maintenance, management and shopping for own household
5. Care for children, the sick, elderly and disabled for own household
6. Community services and help to other households
7. Learning
8. Social and cultural activities
9. Mass media use
10. Personal care and self maintenance

It is clear that 1 to 3 major groups are within the SNA Production Boundary, 4 to 6
outside the SNA boundary but within the General Production Boundary and 7 to 9 and 0
are in non-production activities.

This classification has certain advantages:

- It has the SNA framework
- It has comparability with the standard time use classification used in Europe,
  America and Australia
- It avoids duplications, both internal and external
- It attempts to meet the specific needs of developed and developing economies,
  and
• It provides a classification that can be used at the global level.

In spite of these positive points, however, we found several problems with it at the conceptual and operational level.

To start with, the first group on Employment For Establishments is vague as the definition of establishment as “fixed structure and large holdings irrespective of industrial sector of the activity is not only confusing but also not relevant and valid for developing economies. The term “large holding” is again a vague term. If the intention is to catch those holdings which sell their products, this concept will not help because several small holdings – even very small holdings sell their crops if they are growing cash crops or marketable crops. “Seeking employment” which is included in this group essentially refers to employment status and not to an economic activity. In developing countries where unemployment is defined as persons “seeking or available for work” and these persons do not necessary look for work (as it is not available). In short, the term “establishment” is very confusing and it does not seem to be relevant to the developing countries. It neither includes all SNA activities nor includes all formal activities.

Another major problem with the Expert Group classification is that it fails to describe comprehensively all the activities – SNA and Non – SNA of developing countries. For example, peasant farms and subsistence farms are not one and the same thing as peasant farms can have a surplus to sell while the subsistence farms will not. Also, there are varieties of services carried out in developing economies which need to be divided into public and private services and traditional petty services. It is necessary therefore to replace the first three groups by primary, secondary and tertiary sector activities.

The Indian Classification of Time Use Activities

Using the available literature on time use classifications on the one hand and considering the specific needs of India (and of developing countries) on the others hand, we developed our own classification of time use activities (Appendix 10): The classification has been developed keeping in mind the 10 principles discussed above. The Indian classification has divided activities into the following major groups:

1. Primary Production Activities
2. Secondary Sector Activities
3. Tertiary Sector Activities (Trade, Business and Services)
4. Household Maintenance, Management and Shopping for own households
5. Care of children, elderly, disabled for own household
6. Community services
7. Learning
8. Social and Cultural Activities
9. Personal care and self maintenance
It is clear that the first three activities refer to SNA activities falling under the Production Boundary; the next three activities are non-SNA activities falling in the General Production Boundary; while the last three activities are personal activities which are non-delegable activities.

These activities are further divided into 2 digit classification that covers the major dimensions of the first digit activities. For example, Activity One relating to Primary Production Activities, is divided into six 2 digit groups, namely (1) crop farming, animal husbandry, (3) fishing, forestry, horticulture gardening, (4) fetching fuel, fodder, water, fruits etc, (5) processing and storage and (6) mining and quarrying, digging, cutting etc. Secondary Sector Activity were sub divided into (1) construction activities and (2) manufacturing activities; while Tertiary Sector Activities were sub divided into (1) trade and business, and (2) services. The 3 digit classification describes specific activities falling in the 2 digit subgroup in details. The description of these activities may change in different countries depending on the specific situation of countries. The third digit of classification, thus, provides flexibility to the classification.

One can see that in the Indian Classification, economic activities have occupied three major groups. These activities are described in 2 digits as well as 3 digit activities. To capture the paid and unpaid nature of economic work we have used a contextual variable, namely paid/unpaid work in the entire classification, and to capture whether the work is done within or outside home, we have used another contextual variable, namely within or outside home.

The Expert Group classification as well as the Alternative Classification use several contextual variables, such as, with whom, for whom or for what purpose, where etc. We have not used all these contextual variables for the simple reason that (a) it becomes too unwieldy if there are too many contextual variables, and (b) some of these contexts are taken care of in the earlier schedules that collect household level and individual level information. We have therefore used only two contextual variables, namely, paid/unpaid activities and inside/outside activities (i.e. whether the activity is done inside or outside home). The second contextual variable is expected to provide information about work done at home (or outside) which is a very important component of informal work in a large number of countries.

Some Related Issues

Along with the classification system of time use activities, it was necessary for us to take some related decisions. These are discussed below.

Pre-coded and Post coded Time Use Schedules: Time use schedules can be of two types: (1) where activities are pre-coded, and (2) where respondents are given free hand about describing their activities and the activities are coded later on. A post coded activity schedule has some advantages in that it puts no restriction on respondents about describing their activities. Such a schedule also allows for new activities (which are not thought of earlier by schedule makers) to enter the list of time use activities. However, a
pre coded schedule has several advantages: It helps people (who are not very expressive) to respond to the time use schedule. It also makes investigation and coding easy. Post coding can be very unwieldly and unmanageable.

We therefore decided to pre code our schedule. However, we took several measures to get the required details from the field.

a. We prepared a detailed three digit schedule describing all the possible activities that people can undertake. Each state tested this schedule in a village/urban centre to see whether changes are needed in the activity schedule.

b. At the end of the first round, a stock was taken (in addition to continuous monitoring of the field survey) about the field experience to see whether any additions/changes were needed in the schedule or in the methodology. A few changes were made in the activities at this stage. For example, collecting flowers/leaves for pooja (meditation), resting due to sickness, forced leisure etc. were some of the additions made during the first round.

c. In order that respondents do not forget any activity done by them, investigators were asked to check the entire list of the activities with respondents. This checking was for reminding respondents about all their activities done in the previous day.

d. One code “others” was added in each sub group as a three digit activity. This gave a chance to respondents to add any new activity (not included in the list) that they have performed. This gave some kind of openness to the list without any serious post-coding problems in the schedule.

Multiple Activities: People frequently perform more than one activity simultaneously. For example, watching TV and chopping vegetables, or cooking and taking care of a baby etc. It is important to note such activities separately as these indicate time stress on people. Special instructions were given to investigators to note such activities carefully.

The question, however, was regarding distributing the time among these activities to keep the total time spent at 24 hours. The approach adopted in India was

a. Investigators were asked to determine the main and secondary activity/activities from among the multiple activities, and distribute the total time spent on these as per their relative importance.

b. If these activities were observed as having equal importance, demanding equal time, the approach was to distribute the total time equally between them.
Special tables are expected to be compiled of such multiple activities to understand the types of such activities and their links with gender.

**Travel Time:** The time use schedule in India collected information about the time spent on traveling for each activity. In fact, the last 3 digit code in each sub group collected data on the time spent on travelling.

Travel time in the time use literature is either classified separately or is included in the time of the activity for which travelling has taken place. While the second approach appears to be logically correct, it tends to overestimate the time spent on the activity. The first approach of combining all the travel time, however, does not relate travel time to the activities for which travelling has taken place.

We therefore treated travel time as a separate activity code which can be seen separately as well as can be linked with the activities for which traveling has taken place. Unfortunately, we have not collected information on the mode of the travel or distance of travel as the time use schedule did not have any scope for incorporating such questions.

**Time Spent on the Job:** Conventional statistics do not provide any information about the different activities, related unrelated to the job, performed while being on the job. For example, these data do not give any information about tea/coffee/lunch breaks on the job, telephone calls made, outings done or conversations made with colleagues etc while being on the job. It is important to collect this information as “the black box” of time spent on employment can reveal useful details about the conventional employment data (Hussmanns 1999).

It is not easy, however, to collect this information as people are not always likely to respond correctly, particularly about private jobs done while being on the job. Though several industrialized countries collect these data through their respective time use surveys, the Indian survey decided not to collect such data.

**Leisure and Unemployment:** Leisure is considered as an indicator of welfare. However, in the context of developing countries (or even developed countries some times) it may not indicate welfare if it is forced. The unemployed or underemployed in developing countries do not always look for jobs as jobs are not available and remain idle while being “available for work” and “willing to take up work”. It is important therefore to distinguish between free leisure and forced leisure in a country like India.

We therefore added a special activity “forced leisure” or “unemployed time” in the activity classification. Since “leisure time” or “free time” was observed fairly frequently, investigators were instructed to investigate it carefully before coding ti in the activity classification.

**Waiting:** Waiting is a common activity performed by men and women for a variety of reasons in developed as well as developing countries, and forms a particularly significant component of some types of activity. For example travel, searching for employment, waiting in the queue for kerosene or other essential goods etc are commonly observed
phenomena. The Expert Group therefore suggested that this activity should be included in the activity list.

Somehow, this activity has not been included in the Indian classification. The waiting (for a bus or a vehicle) while travelling has been included in the time for traveling. Waiting for other purposes is not included under the assumption that it is included in the activity time itself for which waiting has taken place.

**Contextual Variables:** Contextual variables are important in any activity classification as (a) they provide critical information across all the categories of activities and (b) they reduce the number of total activities to make the number manageable. The Expert Group Classification as well as the Alternative Classification have suggested several contextual variable like (a) for whom or for what purpose, (b) with whom and (c) where. The number or contextual variables cannot be very large as the respondents may not give correct response if the number is too large. As discussed earlier, the Indian classification uses two contextual variables, namely, where (location within or outside home) and whether the activity is paid or unpaid. The second contextual variable is particularly important as it makes a distinction between paid and unpaid activities. The first contextual variable presents information about whether the work is home based or not. Both these variables together can throw useful light on paid and unpaid home based economic work. No contextual variable has been used to distinguish between formal and informal economic work. Though it was possible to add an additional contextual variable “whether the unit for which you work is registered or not”, it was not done largely because we were not sure about the quality of response to this question and because we did not want to add too many contextual variables. We tried to make up for this loss by adding extra categories on employment status in the previous schedules.

**Lessons From the Indian Experience of the Activity Classification**

The Indian time use survey was a pilot survey. It is important therefore that careful lessons are learnt from this experience about activity classification. This could also help in moving towards a standard international activity classification.

To start with, it seems to us that the Indian activity classification has several distinct advantages over other classifications:

**Serves the Major Objectives:** The Indian classification seems to serve the major objectives of time use surveys, for developed and developing countries. That is, it presents time use data in a way that the presentation reveals the major time use patterns, which, in turn, helps in policy formulation and policy monitoring. The classification can also be used in compiling satellite accounts measuring the value of unpaid work. The classification can thus take care of the objectives of the time use survey.

**Weightage to SNA Activities:** The Indian classification gives due weightage to both, SNA and non-SNA activities. Economic activities which are usually neglected in the classifications of industrialized countries, including the ISAC (International Standard
Activity Classification) presented by Harvey and Niemi (1993), get their due importance in the Indian Classification. With the two contextual variable, namely, paid/unpaid work and location of work (within and outside home), the classification of economic activities provides the required information on paid and unpaid SNA work conducted within and outside homes.

The Expert Group Classification does include economic activities, but the classification is confusing and does not throw the required light on economic activities. The first three categories of this classification, namely, (1) Employment For Establishments, (2) Primary Production Activities and (3) Services For Income and Other Production of Goods are neither clearly defined and demarcated nor to they provide information on paid – unpaid SNA work or homebased work.

Comparability with the Exiting Classifications: Another advantage of the Indian Classification is that it is comparable with the existing standard classification of SNA activities as well as non-SNA activities. It is within the SNA framework distinguishing clearly the paid and unpaid SNA activities, non-SNA (excluding personal services) activities and personal services. It also is in line with the existing workforce/labour force statistics as it provides information on persons (and the time spent by persons) engaged in paid and unpaid economic activities as well as on forced leisure time. The classification also is comparable with the established classifications of non-SNA activities.

The third digit classification, of course, provides the specific details of activities performed by people in developing countries.

Flexibility in the Classification: As mentioned earlier, the Indian time use classification is flexible enough to allow for the inclusion of specific activities conducted in different developed and developing countries. The three digit classification is largely meant for allowing this flexibility.

It is to be noted, however, that the first and second digit classification are fixed and could be used for international comparability without any problem.

In spite of these advantages, however, we believe that the following lessons can be learnt from the experiences with the classification:

To start with, there is a need to add a few more activities to the list of activities:

(a) Waiting: though this is an important activity, it appears nowhere in the list. There is a need to put this in the list as people, and particularly the poor, have to wait for long in queues for essential services and goods, (b) Travel: It would have been better if the “mode of travel” and the “distance traveled” were included in the schedule. This information would have thrown useful light on the time lost in travel by people. Increasing community to work in urban and near-urban areas also needs to be recorded, and (c) Computer Training: Though a lot of information is collected on training and education of persons, it would have been desirable to give a special code to computer related training. Since computer training is spreading fast in the country, this detail would have been useful in estimating the spread of this specific activity.
The survey experience also suggests reformulation of the classification of activities, particularly at the two digit level. Though the activity list of the Indian time use study includes 2 digit classification in the first three major groups, the rest of the groups do not have two digit classification (it is implied in someways). It is necessary therefore to make this 2 digit classification explicit by modifying the present classification. The modified classification is presented below:

**Modified Indian Classification of Time Use Activities**

1. **Primary Production Activities**
   - 11 Crop farming, kitchen gardening, etc.
   - 12 Animal Husbandry
   - 13 Fishing, Forestry, Horticulture, Gardening
   - 14 Fetching of fruits, water, plants etc. storing and hunting
   - 15 Processing and Storage
   - 16 Mining quarrying, digging, cutting, etc.

2. **Secondary Activities**
   - 21 Construction Activities
   - 22 Manufacturing Activities

3. **Trade, Business and Services**
   - 31 Trade and Business
   - 32 Services

4. **Household Maintenance, Management and shopping for own Household**
   - 41 grinding, flour, husking, making spices, cooking food items, beverages and serving
   - 42 Cleaning and upkeep of dwelling and surroundings, washing and ironing cloths, cleaning utensils.
   - 43 Care of textiles: sorting, mending and ordering clothes and linen
   - 44 Shopping for goods and non-personal services: capital goods, household appliances, equipment, food and various household supplies
   - 45 Household management: planning, supervising, paying bills etc.
   - 46 Do-it-yourself home improvements and maintenance, thatching roofs, mud flooring, installation, servicing and repair of personal and household goods
   - 47 Care or pets
   - 48 Travel related to household maintenance, management and shopping
   - 49 Household maintenance, management and shopping not elsewhere classified

5. **Care for Children, the sick, elderly and disabled for own household**
   - 51 Physical care of children: washing, dressing, and feeding, putting them to sleep,
52 Teaching, training and instruction of own children
53 Accompanying children to places: school, sports, dance classes, craft lessons, meditation lessons, PHC, doctor etc.
54 Physical care of the sick, disabled, elderly household members: washing, dressing, feeding, and helping
55 Accompanying adults to receive personal care services: such as hairdresser’s, therapy sessions, temples and religious places, visit friends and relatives etc.
56 Supervising children and adults needing care – with or without other activities
58 Travel related to care of children, the sick, elderly and disabled in the household
59 Taking care of guests/ visitors

6. Community services and Help to other households

61 Community organised construction and repairs: buildings, roads, dams, wells, ponds, temples, etc. and community assets
62 Community organised work: cooking for collective celebrations, etc.
63 Volunteering with for an organisation (which does not involve working directly for individuals)
64 Volunteer work through organisations extended directly to individuals and groups
65 Participation in meetings of local and informal groups/ caste, tribes, professional associations, unions, fraternal and political organisations
66 Involvement in civic and related responsibilities: voting, rallies, attending meetings etc.
67 Informal help to other households
68 Travel related to community services
69 Community services not else where classified

7. Learning

71 General education: school/ college/ technical institutes/ university attendance
72 Studies, homework and course review related to general education
73 Additional study, non- formal education under adult education programmes, night schools,
74 Non formal education for children
75 Work-related training
76 Training under government programmes such as TRYSEM, DWCRA and others
77 Other training/ education
78 Travel related to learning
79 Learning not elsewhere classified

8. Social and Cultural Activities

81 Participating in social events: wedding, funeral, births and other celebrations
82 Participating in religious activities: religious ceremonies, practices and processions, walking to temples barefooted, attending religious meetings, etc.
83 Socialising at home and outside the home
84 Participating in community functions in music, dance etc.
85 Arts, making music, hobbies and related courses
86 Indoor and outside sports participation and related courses
87 Games and other pass-time activities, cards, video games
88 Spectator to sports, exhibitions/ museums, cinema/ theater/concerts/dances and other performances and events
89 Travel related to social, cultural and recreational activities

9. **Mass media use**

91 Reading
92 Watching television and video
93 Listening to music/ radio
94 Accessing information by computing
95 Visiting library
96 Reading newspapers, magazines etc
98 Travel related to mass media use and entertainment
99 Mass media use and entertainment not elsewhere classified

0. **Personal care and self-maintenance**

01 Sleep and related activities
02 Eating and drinking
03 Personal hygiene and health
04 Receiving medical and personal care from professionals and household members
05 Doing nothing, rest and relaxation
06 Individual religious practices and meditation
07 Seeking work
08 Enjoying forced leisure
09 Travel related to personal care and self-maintenance

This modified classification attempts to classify time use activities at three levels: At the one digit level, the classification provides broad division of activities which is in line with the main conceptual framework of the survey. That is, this classification is in the SNA framework as also in line with the existing time use classification of unpaid work. The second digit classification provides broad sub divisions of the main groups, while the third digit classification refers to the specific activities carried out by men and women at the micro level.

It is worth noting that the modified classification differs from the Expert Group Classification in two ways: firstly, the first three economic activity groups are designed differently, and secondly, several changes are made at the 2 digit level classification keeping in mind the types of activities carried out in developing countries.
In addition to the lessons learnt regarding the activity classification, the Indian experience also leads to learning some lessons:

- As far as the survey method is concerned, our experience indicates that there were some problems with regard to getting the proper response from people. Some lessons which could be learnt from these problems are discussed below:

- Urban people were very reluctant to spare time for the interviewer. They were busy throughout the day and were not always willing to spare time in the evening. We had to use other contacts, including contacts of influential persons, to catch them for the survey. We had also to visit the same household several times to get the response. In some cases it became necessary even to substitute the sampled household with other households. It seems that we should have tried the dairy method with these people. In fact, it would have been a good idea to try out the dairy method even on an experimental basis.

- Getting the correct response from women was not always easy, particularly when they belonged certain castes in rural areas where women are not allowed to talk freely with strangers. We hired women investigator for such areas. However, in many cases women investigators were not easily available and frequently they came late on the scene, which disturbed the work schedule very badly. The lesson learnt here is that women investigators should hired right in the beginning.

- One day recall does not always work very well. The role of investigator becomes critical in this context as a well trained investigator can only get the right response. The details of the time use were not reported properly when the investigator was less than efficient. Supervision, field visits by experts, and frequent meetings of investigators as well as retraining etc were organized to correct this drawback. It is clear that such efforts have to be an essential component of a time use survey, at least in the initial stages.

- There were some problems in getting the right response from less literate people, mainly living in remote and backward regions. This is because the sense of time was little less in these regions. The level of response largely depended on the investigators. Once again, training, supervision and follow up played an important role in achieving the desired results.

In short, the experience with the survey clearly showed that this is a difficult survey, and it calls for large efforts on the part of the official machinery and the concerned organizations.

Need for Additional Data Collection: Another lesson learnt from the Indian time use survey is that we need some additional data for compiling satellite accounts of unpaid work. Some data sets which could have proved useful here are (a) data on household
assets, (b) data on prevailing wages and (c) data on prices of home made goods in village/town for different activities. The former data could have helped in compiling household accounts with input-output tables while the latter two data sets would have provided prevailing wage rates of the different services (whenever possible) as well as prevalent prices of home made goods for self consumption in the local market. These would have helped in compiling money value of unpaid goods and services produced by households.

We did collect data on the different kind of wage rates prevailing at the district level for purpose of valuation.

**Skepticism About Time Use Surveys**

Several scholars have expressed doubts regarding the utility of time use surveys for policy making.

**Limitation of the Results:** To start with, it is argued that the results of surveys have several limitations.

- These surveys do not consider the efforts and efficiency of activities. No distinction is made, for example, between slow and fast workers, such as, a slow woman spending hours on cooking and a fast woman cooking very fast. However, the same argument can be made about labour statistics also where the time is the unit of counting the participation in work.

- It is also argued that time use surveys do not consider the technology used or the hazards of a job. For example, cooking on a smoky stove is very much different from cooking on a cooking range. However, again these aspects of work are not considered even in conventional statistics. For example, work time on a traditional farm is not distinguished from work time on a modern farm. Time use surveys measure the time spent on activities just as work force data present information on the time spent on economic activities. It is important to keep in mind that time use data give information on time use and not on productivity. The productivity aspect needs to be taken care of at the stage of valuation.

- It is not easy to get the right response from people on their time use, in both developed and developing countries, for several reasons. However, it must be noted that similar argument is made by senior scholars with respect to established census and sample survey data also. Experts from India, for example, have argued vehemently that the Census of Population in India do not give reliable data even on the population and basic characteristics of the population (Visaria 1998). It seems to us that though time use surveys are difficult to conduct, the survey technique is very new, its efficiency and reliability will gradually improve in the coming years.
**Time Use Surveys are Too Costly:** It is frequently argued that time use surveys are too costly compared to their advantages.

- Time Use Surveys need a careful detailed investigation about how people spend their 24 hours. The surveys therefore need a lot of time of investigators.

- In order to ensure the right response from people, it is expected that investigators stay in the place of investigation around 7-9 days or so. This will enable them to establish rapport with the respondents.

- Since the survey requires that each person has to respond himself/herself (without any proxy), investigators are required to visit one household several times, which again raises the cost of investigation.

- Several countries have to give financial incentives to respondents to ensure their proper response (Shon 1999) with the result that they have to spend significant amount of money on respondents.

In short, these surveys tend to be much costlier than other conventional surveys. However, these costs should also be viewed in the light of the advantages. It should be kept in mind that the utility of these surveys is not only in measuring unpaid work, or in improving labour force estimates. These surveys present a comprehensive and detailed picture of the society which no other survey is capable of doing. The results of these surveys therefore can provide a sound basis for formulating and monitoring a large number of macro policies (such as, labour and employment policy, development policy, welfare policy etc.) and micro policies. The argument about its too high costs does not hold good the moment it is realized that it is the only survey technique which makes several aspects of our society visible.

**Problems of Valuation:** Another argument against time use surveys is that there are no reliable methods of valuation of time use activities, such as household services. For example, it is argued that a generalist method may give a lower estimate, while a specialist method may give a higher estimate. The opportunity cost approach may give widely variable estimates. This argument is valid to the extent that the relevant wage data on different household services are not available. However, giving visibility to invisible work by providing approximate value is much more important than not providing any estimate due to the lack of a perfect set of data.

**Small Time Use Samples and High Sampling Errors:** Time use surveys being time consuming and difficult these cannot be undertaken with a large sample. Time use surveys are therefore usually small sample surveys. This tends to raise sampling errors on the one hand and limits the possibility for a detailed break down of data on the other hand. Both these tend to reduce the utility of the results. One can reply to this criticism, however, by stating that one has to improve the sampling technique to reduce the sampling error. It has been observed in the literature that systematic stratified sampling, methodologies, carefully applied while selecting a sample can keep sampling errors
within limits. The utility of the results will also improve the moment sampling techniques are improved.

To sum up, we would like to emphasize two points: Firstly, the time use surveys technique is a relatively new technique, particularly in more than half of the countries in the world. The technique is still in its infancy as far as the validity and international comparability of the data are concerned. One has to wait before these surveys acquire maturity and stability. And secondly, time use surveys have a much larger role to play than what is usually made out to be (for measuring unpaid work or for improving labour force estimates). This survey technique therefore should be assessed and developed in this wider perspective.

**Conclusive Observations:**

The pilot time use survey in India is a methodological survey. Since it is one of the first major surveys in developing economies, the Technical Committee had to evolve a suitable conceptual framework, sampling design, schedules, methodology of data collection, activity classification, tabulation and valuation methods. The discussions in this paper shows that India has been successful in all these tasks.

The field level experience of the survey has thrown useful light on the constraints and problems that a developing country like India is likely to face while conducting a time use survey. It is also important to note that appropriate measures were taken to face these problems. In the process several lessons have been learnt with regard to survey methodology, data collection, classification of activities etc to be utilized in future time use survey. These lessons would contribute significantly in improving these surveys in future.

We also believe that the Indian experience has contributed towards reaching global consensus with regard to concepts, survey methods and classification of activities. The survey has also contributed in developing valuation method of unpaid work.

While concluding, we would like to observe that time use surveys need to be appreciated in a much broader framework than is usually done. Efforts should be made therefore to strengthen and stabilize the survey methodology at the global level.
## APPENDIX 1

### ACTIVITY CLASSIFICATION IN AUSTRALIAN TIME USE SURVEY, 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
<th>CODING ADVICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 NO ACTIVITY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00 No activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>001 No recorded activity between episode</td>
<td>Used where information was missing between episodes in the diary and could not be imputed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>002 No further recorded activity</td>
<td>Used where the diary day was incomplete.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1. PERSONAL CARE ACTIVITIES

10 Personal care activities n.f.d.
12 Sleeplessness
13 Personal hygiene
14 Health care
15 Eating/drinking

### 2. EMPLOYMENT RELATED ACTIVITIES

20 Employment related activities n.f.d.
21 Main job
22 Other job
23 Unpaid work in family business or farm
24 Work breaks
25 Job Search
27 Associated communication
28 Associated travel
29 Employment related activities n.e.c.

### 3. EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

30 Education activities n.f.d.
31 Attendance at educational courses
32 Job related training
33 Homework /study/research
34 Breaks at place of education
37 Associated communication
38 Associated travel
39 Education activities n.e.c.

4. DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES

40 Domestic activities n.f.d.
41 Food and drink preparation/cleanup
42 Laundry and clothes care
43 Other housework
44 Grounds/animal care
45 Home maintenance
46 Household management
47 Associated communication
48 Associated travel
49 Domestic activities n.e.c.

5. CHILD CARE ACTIVITIES

50 Child care activities n.f.d.
51 Care of children
52 Teaching/helping/reprimanding children
53 Playing/reading/talking with child
54 Minding children
55 Visiting child care establishment/school
57 Associated communication
58 Associated travel
59 Child care activities n.e.c.

6. PURCHASING GOODS AND SERVICES

60 Purchasing goods and services n.f.d.
61 Purchasing goods
62 Purchasing services
67 Associated communication
68 Associated travel
69 Purchasing goods and services n.e.c.
7. VOLUNTARY WORK AND CARE ACTIVITIES

70 Voluntary work and care n.f.d.
71 Caring for adults
71 Caring for adults continued
72 Helping/doing favours
73 Unpaid voluntary work
77 Associated communication
78 Associated Travel
79 Voluntary work and care n.e.c.

8. SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY INTERACTION

81 Socializing
82 Visiting entertainment and cultural Venues
83 Attendance at sports event
84 Religious activities/ritual ceremonies
85 Community participation
86 Negative social activities
87 Associated communication
88 Associated travel
89 Social and community interaction n.e.c.

9. RECREATION AND LEISURE

90 Recreation and leisure n.f.d.
91 Sport and outdoor activities
92 Games /hobbies/arts crafts
93 Reading
94 Audio/visual media
95 Attendance at recreational courses
96 Other free time
97 Associated communication
98 Associated travel
99 Recreation and leisure n.e.c.

Appendix 2

ACTIVITY CLASSIFICATION - CANADA

1. EMPLOYED WORK
   (with 12 sub groups)

2. DOMESTIC WORK
   (with 22 sub groups)
3. CARE OF CHILDREN
   (with 15 sub groups)

4. SHOPPING AND SERVICES
   (with 14 sub groups)

5. PERSONAL CARE
   (with 12 sub groups)

6. SCHOOL AND EDUCATION
   (with 10 sub groups)

7. ORGANIZATIONAL, VOLUNTARY AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY
   (with 21 sub groups)

8. ENTERTAINMENT (Attending)
   (with 20 sub groups)

9. SPORTS AND HOBBIES (PARTICIPATION)
   (with 36 sub groups)

10. MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION
    (with 14 sub groups)

11. RESIDUAL CODES
    (with 2 sub groups)

Appendix 3

STUDY OF AMERICA’S USE OF TIME-1981, SRC, ISR ANN ARBOR

0. Work & other income producing activities
  01. Paid work
  02. Job search
  05. Second job
  09. Travel to/fro work
1. Household activities
   1.1 Indoor
   1.2 Outdoor
   1.3 Miscellaneous household chores
2. Child care
   2.1 Child care for children in hh
   2.2 Other child care
3. Obtaining goods and services
   3.1. Goods
   3.2. Services
4. **Personal needs and care**
   4.1 Care to self
   4.2 Help and care to others
   4.3 Other personal and helping

5. **Education and professional training**
   5.1 Fulltime studies
   5.2 Other education

6. **Organizational activities**
   6.1 Volunteer, helping organizations
   6.2 Religious practice
   6.3 Religious groups
   6.4 Professional/union organizations
   6.5 Child/youth/family organizations
   6.6 Fraternal organizations
   6.7 Political party and civic participation
   6.8 Special interest/identity organizations
   6.9 Other miscellaneous organizations
   6.10 Travel related to organizational activities

7. **Entertainment/social events**
   7.1 attending spectacles, events
   7.2 Socializing

8. **Sports and active leisure**
   8.1 Classes/lessons for active leisure
   8.2 Competitive sports--children only
   8.3 Active sports
   8.4 Out of door sports
   8.5 Walking, biking
   8.6 Hobbies
   8.7 Domestic crafts
   8.8 Arts and literature
   8.9 Music/theatre/dance
   8.10 Games

9. **Passive leisure**

Appendix 4

PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR ISAC, 1993-HARVEY & NIEMI

1. **Personal needs**
   1.1 Sleep
   1.2 Eat
   1.3 Toilet
   1.4 Wash, dress
   1.5 Rest, relaxation

2. **Paid work**
   2.1 Primary
   2.2 Non-primary

3. **Study**
   3.1 Attend classes/homework/study
   3.2 Library/lab work
3.3 Travel

4 Household and family care
   4.1 Household production
   4.2 Household upkeep
   4.3 Maintenance and repairs
   4.4 Child care
   4.5 Adult care
   4.6 Pet care
   4.7 Shopping
   4.8 Other household

5 Voluntary, organizational and community participation
   5.1 Religious ceremonies and practice
   5.2 Meetings
   5.3 Voluntary community work

6 Socializing
   6.1 Entertaining visitors
   6.2 Visit
   6.3 Make or receive phone call
   6.4 Talk with someone
   6.5 Write or read correspondence
   6.6 Communicate electronically, ie. Via computer, ham radio
   6.7 Playing sports

7 Sports participation
   7.1 Outdoor recreation and walking
   7.2 Hunting and gathering
   7.3 Organized sports
   7.4 Unorganized sports/physical exercise

8 Hobbies and crafts
   8.1 Wood/metal crafts
   8.2 Handicrafts
   8.3 Arts (music, writing, painting)
   8.4 Collection/research (stamps, historical, genealogy)
   8.5 Computer programming, analysis
   8.6 Other hobbies

9 Entertainment and culture
   9.1 Movies
   9.2 Performance events
   9.3 Historical, artistic exhibits, tours
   9.4 Library, archives
   9.5 Sports events
   9.6 Other

10 Mass media
   10.1 Reading
   10.2 Watching
   10.3 Listening
Appendix 5

**ACTIVITY CLASSIFICATION – EUROSTAT**

0 PERSONAL CARE  
(with 3 sub groups)

1 EMPLOYMENT  
(with 3 sub groups)

2 STUDY  
(with 2 sub groups)

3. HOUSEHOLD AND FAMILY CARE  
(with 9 sub groups)

4. VOLUNTEER WORK AND MEETINGS  
(with 3 sub groups)

5. SOCIAL LIFE AND ENTERTAINMENT  
(with 3 sub groups)

6. SPORTS AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES  
(with 3 sub groups)

7. HOBBIES AND GAMES  
(with 3 sub groups)

8. MASS MEDIA  
(with 3 sub groups)

9. TRAVEL AND UNSPECIFIED TIME USE  
(with 1 sub group)

Appendix 6

**ACTIVITY CLASSIFICATION – NEW ZEALAND**

2 digit classification

01 Personal care  
02 Labour Force Activity  
03 Education and Training  
04 Household Work  
05 Caregiving for Household Members
06 Purchasing Goods and Services for Own Household
07 Unpaid Work Outside of the Home
08 Religious, Cultural and Civic Participation
09 Social Entertainment
10 Sports and Hobbies
11 Mass Media and Free Time Activities
99 Residual categories

Appendix 7

ACTIVITY CLASSIFICATION – REPUBLIC OF KOREA

2 digit classification

1 PERSONAL CARE ACTIVITIES
   (with 5 sub groups)

2 EMPLOYMENT RELATED ACTIVITIES
   (with 7 sub groups)

3 EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES
   (with 3 sub groups)

4 DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES
   (with 7 sub groups)

5. FAMILY CARE
   (with 5 sub groups)

6. VOLUNTARY WORK AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION
   (with 4 sub groups)

7. SOCIAL LIFE / RECREATION AND LEISURE
   (with 9 sub groups)

8. TRAVEL (by purpose)

9. OTHERS

LOCATION
   (with 2 sub groups)

MODE OF TRAVEL
   (with 8 sub groups)
Appendix 8

AN ALTERNATIVE CLASSIFICATION OF TIME USE ACTIVITIES (ACTUAL)
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

1. Primary Production Activities
   11 Primary, Harvesting, Picking, Weeding
   12 Tending Animals
   13 Hunting, Fishing, Forestry
   14 Digging, Cutting
   15 Gardening
   16 Collecting Water

2. Craft-related Activities
   21 Laying bricks, cutting glass, plumbing, painting, engraving, carpeting, printing, packing, maintaining and repairing buildings
   22 Fitting, installing, tool setting, maintaining and repairing tools and machinery
   23 Food processing activities: butchering, baking, confectionery making, preserving, curing
   24 Textile and related trades activities: weaving, knitting, sewing, shoemaking, tanning

3. Operating plants and machines and assembling activities
   31 Operating/conducting fixed machines and assembling activities
   32 Driving vehicles and mobile plants

4. Cleaning, sweeping, ordering
   41 Cleaning
   42 Ironing
   43 Ordering, sorting

5. Trading Activities
   51 Buying
   52 Selling, soliciting markets for products

6. Food preparation and serving activities
   61 Cooking, making drinks
   62 Setting and serving tables

7. Business activities
   71 Management activities: Discussing, negotiating, representing, organising, supervising, inspecting
   72 Clerical activities: Storing, filing, sorting, classifying, calculating
   73 Collecting materials, delivering goods/services
   74 Organizing and attending meetings
8. Caring activities
   81 Teaching, guiding, Coaching, leading
   82 Giving medical care

9. Creative Activities
   01 Thinking, researching, analyzing, programming, synthesizing, designing
   02 Reading, writing
   03 Talking, socializing, hosting
   04 Drawing, painting, creating and performing music, acting, photographing, collecting objects, dancing
   05 Physical exercise, playing and walking

0. Personal care and maintenance, entertainment and passive activities
   01 Eating, drinking and personal hygiene
   02 Learning, studying
   03 Receiving care
   04 Watching, listening
   05 Relaxing, sitting, doing nothing, sleeping and $J \odot R$
   06 Attending events (museums, sports, religious)
   07 Waiting
   08 Being driven

Appendix 9

EXPERT GROUP CLASSIFICATION OF TIME USE ACTIVITIES

1. Employment for establishments
   Time used for:
   11 First Job or Employment – primary employment
   12 Second, Third and other jobs – secondary and others
   13 Working in apprenticeship, internship and related positions
   14 Short breaks and interruptions from work
   15 Seeking employment in related activities
   18 Travel to/ from work and seeking employment in establishments
   19 Employment in establishments not elsewhere classified

2. Primary production activity not for establishments
   Time used for:
   21 Crop farming and market/kitchen gardening: planting, weeding, harvesting, picking, etc.
   22 Tending animals and fish farming
   23 Hunting, fishing, gathering of wild products and forestry
   24 Digging, stone cutting, splitting and carving
   25 Collecting water
   26 Purchase of goods used for and sale of outputs arising from these activities
   28 Travel related to primary production activities (not for establishments)
   29 Primary production activities (not for establishments) not elsewhere classified
3 Services for income and other production of goods not for establishments*

Time used for:
31 Food processing and preservation activities: grain processing, butchering, preserving, curing
32 Preparing and selling food and beverage preparation, baking, confectionery and related activities
33 Making and selling textile, leather and related craft: weaving, knitting, sewing, shoe making, tanning, products of wood
34 Building and extension of dwellings: laying bricks, plastering, thatch, bamboo, roofing, maintaining and repairing buildings
35 Petty trading, street / door-to-door vending, shoe cleaning and others
36 Fitting, installing, tool setting, maintaining and repairing tools and machinery
37 Provision of services for income such as computer services, transport, hairdressing, cosmetic treatment, baby-sitting, massages, prostitution
38 Travel related to services for income and other production of goods (not for establishments)
39 Services for income and other production and other production of goods (not for establishments) not elsewhere classified

*In each activity buying of inputs and selling the products are included and may be disaggregated at the third digit level

4 Household maintenance, management and shopping for own household

Time used for:
41 Cooking food items, beverages and serving
42 Cleaning and upkeep of dwelling and surroundings
43 Care of textiles: sorting, mending, washing, ironing and ordering clothes and linen
44 Shopping for goods and non-personal services: capital goods, household appliances, equipment, food and various household supplies
45 Household management: planning, supervising, paying bills etc.
46 Do-it-yourself home improvements and maintenance, installation, servicing and repair of personal and household goods
47 Pet care
48 Travel related to household maintenance, management and shopping
49 Household maintenance, management and shopping not elsewhere classified

5 Care for children, the sick, elderly and disabled for own household

Time used for:
51 Physical care of children: washing, dressing, and feeding
52 Teaching, training and instruction of own children
53 Accompanying children to places: school, sports, lessons, PHC, doctor etc.
54 Physical care of the sick, disabled, elderly household members: washing, dressing, feeding, and helping
55 Accompanying adults to receive personal care services: such as hairdresser’s, therapy sessions, temples and religious places etc.
56 Supervising children and adults needing care – with or without other activities
58 Travel related to care of children, the sick, elderly and disabled in the household
59 Taking care of guests/ visitors
6 Community services and help to other households

Time used for:
61 Community organised construction and repairs: buildings, roads, dams, wells, ponds etc. and community assets
62 Community organised work: cooking for collective celebrations etc.
63 Volunteering with for an organisation (which does not involve working directly for individuals)
64 Volunteer work through organisations extended directly to individuals and groups
65 Participation in meetings of local and informal groups/ caste, tribes, professional associations, unions, fraternal and political organisations
66 Involvement in civic and related responsibilities: voting, rallies, attending meetings etc.
67 Informal help to other households
68 Travel related to community services
69 Community services not else where classified

7 Learning

Time used for:
71 General education: school/ university attendance
72 Studies, homework and course review related to general education
73 Additional study, non-formal education under adult education programmes
74 Non formal education for children
75 Work-related training
76 Training under government programmes such as TRYSEM, DWCRA and others
77 Other training/ education
78 Travel related to learning
79 Learning not elsewhere classified

8 Social and cultural activities

Time used for:
81 Participating in social events: wedding, funeral, births and other celebrations
82 Participating in religious activities: church services, religious ceremonies, practices, rehearsals etc.
83 Socialising at home and outside the home
84 Participating in community functions in music, dance etc.
85 Arts, making music, hobbies and related courses
86 Indoor and outside sports participation and related courses
87 Games and other pass-time activities
88 Spectator to sports, exhibitions/ museums, cinema/ theater/ concerts and other performances and events
89 Travel related to social, cultural and recreational activities
Social, Cultural and recreational activities not elsewhere classified

9 Mass media use

Time used for:
91 Reading
92 Watching television and video
93 Listening to music/ radio
94 Accessing information by computing
95 Visiting library
96 Reading newspapers, magazines etc
98 Travel related to mass media use and entertainment
99 Mass media use and entertainment not elsewhere classified

0 Personal care and self-maintenance
Time used for:
01 Sleep and related activities
02 Eating and drinking
03 Personal hygiene and health
04 Receiving medical and personal care from professionals and household members
05 Doing nothing, rest and relaxation
06 Individual religious practices and meditation
07 Seeking work
08 Available for work/ more work
09 Travel related to personal care and self-maintenance

Appendix 10

TIME USE SURVEY - CLASSIFICATION USED IN THE INDIAN TIME USE SURVEY

I Primary Production Activities
11 Crop farming, kitchen gardening, etc.
   111 Ploughing, preparing land, cleaning of land
   112 Sowing, planting, transplanting
   113 Application of manure, fertilizer, pesticides and watering, preparing organic manure, harvesting, threshing, picking, winnowing
   114 Weeding
   115 Supervision of work
   116 Kitchen gardening – backyard cultivation
   117 Stocking, transporting to home, guarding or protection of crops
   118 Sale and purchase related activities
   119 Travel to the work
12 Animal Husbandry
   121 Grazing animal outside
   122 Tending animals – cleaning, washing shed, feeding, watering, preparation of feed
   123 Caring for animal : breading, shearing, medical treatment, grooming, shoeing, etc
   124 Milking and processing of milk collecting, storing of poultry products
   125 Making dung cakes
   126 Poultry rearing – feeding, cleaning
   127 Other related activities
   128 Sale and purchase related activities
   129 Travel to the work
13 Fishing, Forestry, Horticulture, Gardening
   131 Nursery – seedlings
   132 Planting, tending, processing of trees
   133 Collecting, storing & stocking of fruits, etc
134 Wood cutting, chopping & stocking firewood
135 Fish farming, cleaning sea-bed, feeding fish catching fish, gathering other aquatic life
136 Care of house plants, indoor and outdoor garden work
137 Flower gardening – landscaping, maintenance, cutting, collecting, storing
138 Sale and purchase related activities
139 Travel to the work
14 Fetching of fruits, water, plants etc. storing and hunting
141 Fetching of water
142 Fetching of fruits, vegetables, berries, mushrooms etc. edible goods
143 Fetching of minor forest produce, leaves, bamboo, etc.
144 Fetching of fuel/fuel wood/twigs
145 Fetching of raw material for crafts
146 Fetching of building materials
147 Fetching of fodder
148 Sale and purchase related activities
149 Collection of other items

15 Processing and Storage
152 Milling, husking, pounding
153 Parboiling
154 Sorting, grading
155 Grinding, crusting
156 Any other related activities
157 Sale and purchase related activities
158 Travel to the work

16 Mining quarrying, digging, cutting, etc.
161 Mining/extraction of salt
162 Mining / digging / quarrying of stone, slabs, breaking of stones for construction of building road, bridges, etc.
163 Digging out clay, gravel and sand
164 Digging out minerals – major and minor
165 Transporting in vehicles
166 Storing and stocking
167 Any other related activities
168 Sale and purchase related activities
169 Travel to the work

II Secondary Activities
21 Construction Activities
211 Building & construction of dwelling (laying bricks, plastering, thatching, bamboo work, roofing) and maintenance and repairing of dwelling.
212 Construction and repair of animal shed, shelter for poultry etc.
213 Construction of well, storage facilities, fencing, etc. for farms, irrigation work
214 Construction of public works / common infrastructure – roads, buildings, bridges, etc.
217 Any other activity related
218 Sale and purchase related activities
219 Travel to the work
Manufacturing Activities

221 Food processing and cooking for sale – making pickles, spices and other products; canning fruits, jams & jellies; banking; beverage preparation; selling readymade food, etc.

222 Butchering, curing, processing, drying, storing, etc. of meat, fish, etc.

223 Manufacturing of textiles – spinning, weaving, processing of textiles; knitting, sewing, garment making of cotton, wool and other materials

224 Making handicrafts, pottery, printing and other crafts made primarily with hands (wood based, leather based crafts, embroidery work, etc.)

225 Fitting, installing, tool setting, tool and machinery – moulding, welding, tool making

226 Assembling machines, equipment and other products

227 Production related work in large and small factories in different industries – as production workers, maintenance workers paid trainees and apprentices, sales administration and management activities

228 Sale and purchase activity

229 Travel for the work

Trade, Business and Services

Trade and Business

311 Buying and selling goods – such as capital goods, intermediate goods, consumer durable, and consumer goods – in the organized and formal sectors.

312 Petty trading, street and door to door vending, hawking shoe cleaning, etc.

313 Transporting goods in trucks, tempos and motor vehicles

314 Transporting in hand carts, animal carts, cycle rickshaws, etc. or manually

315 Transport of passengers by motorized and non-motorized vehicles

Services

321 Services in government and semi-government organizations (salaried)

322 Services in private organizations (salaried)

323 Petty services: domestic servants, sweepers, washers, priest, cobbler, gardener, massaging, prostitution, (wages) watching and guarding

324 Professional services: medical and educational services (private tuition, non-formal teaching, etc.) financial services and management and technical consultancy services

325 Professional services: computer services, xerox/photocopying services, beauty parlors, hair cutting saloons, etc.

326 Technical services: plumbing, electrical and electronic repair and maintenance and other related services

327 Others

328 Travel to work

Household maintenance, Management and shopping for own Household

A

411 Booking food items, beverages and serving
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>421</td>
<td>Cleaning and upkeep of dwelling and surroundings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>422</td>
<td>Cleaning of utensils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>431</td>
<td>Care of textiles: sorting, mending, washing, ironing and ordering clothes and linen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>441</td>
<td>Shopping for goods and non-personal services; capital goods, household appliances, equipment, food and various household supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>451</td>
<td>Household management: planning, supervising, paying bills, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>461</td>
<td>Do-it-yourself home improvements and maintenance, installation, servicing and repair of personal and household goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>471</td>
<td>Pet care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>481</td>
<td>Travel related to household maintenance, management and shopping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>491</td>
<td>Household maintenance, management and shopping not elsewhere classified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**V Care for children, the sick, elderly and disabled for own household**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>511</td>
<td>Physical care of children: washing, dressing, feeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>521</td>
<td>Teaching, training and instruction of own children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>531</td>
<td>Accompanying children to places: school, sports, lessons, etc. /PHC/doctor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>541</td>
<td>Physical care of sick, disabled, elderly household members; washing, dressing, feeding, helping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>551</td>
<td>Accompanying adults to receive personal care services such as hairdresser’s therapy sessions, temple, religious places, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>561</td>
<td>Supervising children, needing care with or without other activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>562</td>
<td>Supervising adults, needing care with or without other activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>571</td>
<td>Travel related to care of children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>572</td>
<td>Travel related to care of adults and others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>581</td>
<td>Taking care of guests / visitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>591</td>
<td>Any other activity not mentioned above</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VI Community services and Help to other Households**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>611</td>
<td>Community organized constructions and repairs; buildings, roads, dams, wells, ponds, etc. community assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>621</td>
<td>Community organized work: cooking for collective celebration, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>631</td>
<td>Volunteering with/for an organization (which does not involve working directly for individuals)</td>
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<td>641</td>
<td>Volunteering work through organizations extended directly to individuals and groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>651</td>
<td>Participation in meetings of local and informal groups / caste, tribes, professional associations, union, fraternal and political organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>661</td>
<td>Involvement in civic and related responsibilities; voting, rallies, attending meetings, panchayat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>671</td>
<td>Informal help to other households</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>681</td>
<td>Community services not elsewhere classified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>691</td>
<td>Travel related to community services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VII Learning
D
711 General education: school / university / other educational institutions attendance
721 Studies, homework and course review related to general education
731 Additional study, non-formal education under adult education programs
741 Non-formal education for children
751 Work – related training
761 Training under government program such as TRYSEM, DWCRA and others
771 Other training / education
781 Learning not elsewhere classified
791 Travel related to learning

VIII Social and Cultural Activities, Mass Media, etc.
E
811 Participating in social events: wedding, funerals, births and other celebrations
812 Participating in religious activities: Church services, religious ceremonies, practices, kirtans, singing, etc.
813 Participating in community functions in music, dance, etc.
814 Socializing at home and outside the home
821 Arts, making music hobbies and related courses;
822 Indoor and outdoor sports participation and related courses
831 Games and other past-time activities
832 Spectator to sports, exhibitions / museums, cinemas / theater / concerts and other performances and events
841 Other related activities
851 Reading other than newspaper and magazines
852 Watching televisions and video
853 Listening to music / radio
861 Accessing information by computing
862 Visiting library
863 Reading newspaper and magazine
871 Mass media use and entertainment not classified elsewhere
891 Travel related to social, cultural and recreational activities, social cultural and recreational activities not elsewhere classified, mass media use and entertainment

IX Personal Care and Self-Maintenance
F
892 Travel related in search of job
911 Sleep and related activities
921 Eating and drinking
922 Smoking, drinking, alcohol and other intoxicants
931 Personal hygiene and health
932 Walking, exercise, running, jogging, yoga, etc
941 Receiving medical and personal care from professional
942 Receiving medical and personal care from household members
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Activity Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>951</td>
<td>Talking, gossiping and quarreling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>961</td>
<td>Doing nothing, rest and relaxation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>962</td>
<td>Forced leisure of forced rest &amp; relaxation-willing and available for work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>971</td>
<td>Individual religious practices and meditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>981</td>
<td>Other activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>982</td>
<td>Resting / convalescing due to physical illness and physical unwell persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>991</td>
<td>Travel related to personal care and self-maintenance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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