

No. of Sample households and % of households in category and DC of all households in Rural & Urban Areas

Category	Rural	Urban
Dalit Muslims	93 (0.11)	59 (0.13)
Dalit Christians	155 (0.19)	123 (0.23)
No. of Sample households	79,235	45,352

Number of samples for each of these two categories is not even one per cent of the total number of households covered in 61st round of NSSO. Further, NSSO does not tabulate data for those groups where total number of sample households in a sector is less than 300 because of unreliability of estimates. (NSS Report no. 527 para in 1.17 for survey conducted during 63rd Round has not presented the data for States and sector where sample size of household was less than 300). Therefore, estimation of number of DMs and DCs based on such small sample is not reliable.

(ii) Distribution of the households belonging to DMs and DCs across States/Districts has not been analyzed. This could have shown lack of representativeness of sample.

(iii) Estimates have been obtained by further classification of households by various expenditure classes (seven) and occupational classes (5 in rural areas and 4 in urban areas). This would have resulted in still smaller number of sample households in each class and hence even lower reliability of estimates.

3.3 Any analysis based on unreliable estimates can hardly be reliable. Therefore, findings of the study may at best be indicative and not conclusive.
