Review of: "Weathering changes – livelihood adaptation to weather shocks in rural India by disadvantaged social groups"

Raj K. Gc[1]

1 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

I have reviewed your article and wanted to provide some feedback to help improve its clarity and overall quality. Please find my comments and suggestions below:

Authorship and Acknowledgment: I noticed that only one author is listed in the article, yet the use of the pronoun "we" is confusing. If there are other researchers involved, it would be beneficial to acknowledge them properly.

Research Design in Abstract: It would be helpful to include information about the research design, especially the models used to estimate the relationships between dryness/wetness and migration, directly in the abstract.

Key Words in Abstract: Please ensure that key words are included in the abstract. This will improve the article's searchability and accessibility.

Definition of Disadvantaged Social Groups: Given that this terminology is central to your research, consider introducing a formal definition in the Indian context to enhance clarity for your readers.

Geographic Specifics: If your study focuses on India as a whole but relies on data from specific villages or districts, it's important to clearly report this information. This aspect could be discussed more fully. Providing these specifics also improve the data section.

Consistent Citation Style: It is important to ensure consistency and adherence to a standard citation style throughout the article. For example, the citation style used in the second paragraph of the introduction (e.g., A. Mohanty 2020) can be improved.

Definition of "Poor Households": When discussing "poor households" in rural India, provide an official definition within the Indian context for better understanding.

Consistent Use of "Scheduled Castes": I advise to maintain consistency in your use of the term "Scheduled Castes" throughout the article and provide a clear definition when it is first introduced.

Examples for Migration in India: When you mention that migration is generally low in India compared to similar countries, please consider providing examples or evidence to support this claim.

Clarification of "Risk-Averse to Such Enterprises": In the statement "Poverty makes households risk-averse to such enterprises," please clarify what you mean by "such enterprises" since it hasn't been discussed previously.

Scope of Discrimination: In the section discussing discrimination faced by migrants and disadvantaged groups, it is important to specify whether this is a widespread issue throughout India, localized to certain regions, or related to specific groups.

Data Section: I advise to discuss household and village-level data in more detail. Please include information about households, their geographical distribution, as well as any socioeconomic differences.

Labeling SPEI Values: Under the "data" section, consider labeling SPEI values with table numbers for clarity and easy reference.

Model Clarity: Please clarify whether your analysis uses a "difference-in-differences" or a "difference-in-difference-in-difference" model, and ensure that this is accurately reflected in the article.

Results Tables and Annexes: Please consider referring to several results tables under the "conclusion section" as "Annexes." Some of these tables might be more appropriate in the results section and should be formatted accordingly.

Academic Language and Editing: It is advisable to strive for a more academic language style, avoiding phrases like "mentioned earlier." The paper would also benefit from thorough editing efforts.

I believe that addressing these points will enhance the quality and clarity of your article. Please let me know if you have any questions or require further clarification on any of these suggestions.