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**(Under the Sub-Theme of the conference: Poverty, Equity and Vulnerability)**

Poverty Alleviation and NGO Intervention: Debating the Alternative Development Policy Approach in Context of Odisha

Manjushree Mishra<sup>1</sup>  
Pradeep Mishra<sup>2</sup>

**Abstract**

Key words/Phrases: poverty, development theory, development alternatives, non-governmental organizations, civil society.

Poverty eradication as a major area of concern, secures unsurpassed attention in the planning process in India. However, since 1980s with the advent of trans-nationalism and neo-liberal policy, there has been marked shift in the overall development discourses on attaining better model for alleviating poverty. In this regard civil society has played a major role. The experience of Orissa is cited as an exemplary of this kind of significant changes in policy approach. Public interest litigation cases were filed against the Government of Orissa in the Supreme Court of India in 1985 due to Government's alleged failure to prevent starvation death in Kalahandi District (Orissa). Non-Governmental Organizations as a civil society actor put forward Alternative Development Policy Approach against the State's Main Stream Development Policy Approach, which they claim to be more democratic in nature. This paper argues that though the poverty issue is pervasive in the development alternative but it has lost its core agenda of reform to the sole agenda of management. Moreover development alternative mainly focus on the structural nature of poverty rather than the ideological and analytical nature of poverty. This paper gives emphasis to the "approach" taken before formulation of a policy. Here an intermediary approach is needed to bring forth more comprehensive poverty alleviation policy.

Review of the literature conducted chronologically.

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<sup>1</sup> Research Scholar, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai

<sup>2</sup> Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, CARE INDIA, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.