

## IMPACT OF TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES ON ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBALS -A STUDY OF KALVARAYAN HILLS, TAMIL NADU



**P. AKILA\***

&



**DR. C. KUBENDRAN\*\***

\*Ph.D Research Scholar, Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, TN

\*\*Assistant Professor, Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, TN

### **ABSTRACT**

*The aim of the tribal development programs and tribal welfare policy in India has been defined as the progressive social and economic advancement of tribal population with a view to their complete integration with the rest of people in the country. Tribal areas need special attention, if the benefits of the new developmental programs are to be accruing to the tribal community. Thus, in order to determine the effectiveness of these programs, it is important to examine the impact and performance of these programs in the tribal areas, so that effective tribal development programs may be designed for the betterment of the tribal community. The efforts of the Government to uplift the poor masses as the state should be evaluated at micro level then at macro level. There is significant association between gender, educational qualification and their overall economical development.*

**Keywords:** Tribal Development Programs, Tribal, ST.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Our first task is to provide a definition to Tribe, which is, at least in simple parlance, often used to denote a group of people alien to the plainsmen. It is interesting to note that Indian constitution in its article 342 uses the

term 'tribal folk' instead of 'tribe' meaning "people living in a particular place, who enter into marriage relationship among themselves, who have no specific skills in any work, traditionally or ethnically ruled by adivasi leaders, who speak any special language, have own beliefs, customs and tradition". Nevertheless, how far this meaning fits to the present reality of the tribes living in many parts of India especially in a socially developed state like Tamil Nadu stands questioned, of course with the exception of some primitive tribes living in the inner part of forests. The constitutional definition of tribe itself appears to be coloring tribes as a 'species' to be preserved in a 'National Park' intentionally or unintentionally uninfluenced by the changes that happen outside, which of course has made all efforts to bring light to tribe's life futile at the very first step. Not only has constitution embraced such an 'alien' version of defining the tribe but also many researchers have fell in the same shoe. Prof. D.N.Majumdar just favored the definition provided by the Imperial Gazetteer, which follows, as "a tribe is a collection of families bearing a common name, speaking a common dialect, occupying or professing to occupy a common territory and is not usually endogamous though originally it might have been so" (Majumdar, 1973). Vidyarthi defines tribes as "a social group with definite territory, common name, common district, common culture, behavior of an endogamous group, common taboos, existence of distinctive social and political system, full faith in leaders and self-sufficiency in their distinct economy" (Vidyarthi, 1981).

These definitions undoubtedly sound much commonness, which practically cuts off tribes from the mainstream. Such commonness of features is further obvious in the words of Thomas.M.M when he stylishly bracketed tribe as "an indigenous, homogeneous unit, speaking a common language, claiming ancestry, living in a particular geographical area, backward in technology, pre-literate, loyally observing social and political customs based on kinship" (Thomas, 1965). Looking at this definition it is apparent that the writer has made tribes as most obedient and very simple, making them very meek and weak, and may be unworthy of doing those things that the plainsmen do. This notion of painting 'simplicity' upon the tribes is evident in the articulation made by K.C.Mark, too, when he observed simplicity, honesty, truthfulness, and industriousness as their key distinguishing features. Further, P.G.Krishnan describes tribes as "a social group of simple and kind, the members of which speak a common dialect, have a single government act together for a common purposes and have a common name, a contiguous territory, a relatively uniform culture or way of life and traditions of common descent" (Krishnan, 1985). The Oxford Dictionary gives the meaning of Tribe as "A race of people, now applied especially to primary aggregate of people in a primitive or barbarous condition, under a headman or a chief".

## Tribes in India

India is home to one of the largest number of tribes in the world. Although there are 537 tribal communities in India, only 258 communities have been notified as tribes. STs as a category of India's population, constituting 8 percent of her total population (Census, 2001), is "varied in terms of socio-economic and political development (Sharma, 2007). Tribes in India are not a homogeneous group as their culture and values are distinct from each other. The states of Maharashtra and Orissa share the largest number of tribes in India. There is high variation in the spatial distribution of tribes in India. Almost 82 percent of the tribes live in western and central states where only 11 percent of them are located in southern states. Regarding the growth rate of tribal population, it is obvious that the number of tribe has been growing over the years although the rate of growth of tribe population has been less than that of the general population.

## Tribal Development Policies and Programmes

A review of the tribal situation would indicate that the strategy for development would require an intensive approach to the tribal problems in terms of their geographic and demographic concentration, if the faster development of the community is to take place.

The community development efforts in the tribal areas were therefore, taken up for supplementation by stating a few special multi-purpose tribal development projects covering a few blocks in 1954. A number of commissions and committees were appointed in the recent past to look in to the problems of developments in the tribal areas in the country and they have recommended a number of measures to remove the socio-economic imbalances and also to break down their old psychological barrier, which existed in the tribal areas.

The important commission and committees appointed so far are:

- The Social Welfare Team of the Committee on plan projects 1959.
- The Verrier Elwin Committee on Tribal Development.
- The Committee on Tribal Economy in Forest Areas -1967
- The Schedules Areas and Scheduled Tribal Commission (Dhebar Committee 1961)
- The Special working Group on Cooperatives for Backward Classes – 1961 (Shri M.D. Bhargava as its Chairman)
- The Task Force on Development of Tribal Areas -1972.
- The Dube Committee -1972.

- The Study Team on Co-operative Structure in Tribal Development Project Areas -1976.
- The Study Group on Relief of Indebtedness Land, Alienation and Restoration in Development Agency Area -1973 (Shri P.S Appu as its Chairman)
- The team of Marketing, Credit and Cooperation in Tribal Areas -1978 (Shri K.S. Bawa Committee)
- The Working Group on Development of Scheduled Tribes during the 7<sup>th</sup> Five Years Plans (1985- 90)

## REVIEWS OF LITERATURE

Majumdar (2002), has conducted a study on the food grain stocks in just one of the consequences of the misguided macro economics policies in 1990. He observed that in euphoria of liberalization, the new economic policy largely ignored the rural economy and its development. He finally observed that since, 2000-01, there has been a new agenda of rural development adopting a comprehensive and pragmatic approach.

Pattanaik (2009), made an attempt to study “National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme: Some Preliminary findings from Hoshiapur District”. Initial findings of this study showed that the scheme has been successful in achieving the equity, while its efficiency is still a question to be effectively dealt by the implementers of the program. He finally concluded that the better nexus and coordination between the government and the panchayats enabled efficiently implementation of the scheme at the village level.

Reddy and Srinivasa (1998), made an attempt to assess poverty alleviation appraisal of IRDP. They further revealed that the effective implementation of programs required proper coordination between the official machinery, credit agencies, voluntary service organization and the people particularly poor. Finally they concluded that orientation and training must be given to the implementing staff in various activities under IRDP.

## METHODS AND MATERIALS

Impact of the tribal welfare schemes and programmes on the socio-economic development of the Kalvarayan Hills, Vellimalai block of Tamil Nadu. The administrators and planners devoted so much of time and energy for Macro and Micro level planning to achieve sustainable development of scheduled tribes. The government had spent thousands of crores rupees for various tribal welfare programmes. There is a lot of statistics, which shows the huge expenditure for Tribal development schemes. But still tribal development remains as an enigma. The condition of the primitive tribes is comparatively worse. There is Special Central Assistance from government of India for primitive tribes. An amount of, Rs.90.44 lakhs have been spend for the housing of Primitive Tribal Group’s during IX plan period using funds under article 275. As advised by

government of India a detailed project report/Action plan for the development of primitive tribes during IX plan period has been prepared. The literacy level, income and living conditions of the primitive tribes in comparison with other tribes are much discouraging. This may be due to many reasons. In order to get a clear view of this issue this study attempts to examine the present actual socio-economic conditions of the malaigoundar, one among the primitive tribes of Tamilnadu, and various tribal development schemes implemented among them. This study would provide valuable information's to planners and administrations in their future pursuit for sustainable development of primitive tribes.

## DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

### Association between gender, educational qualification and their overall economical development

Personal Profile	Overall economical development			Statistical inference
	Low	High	Total	
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	18	12	30	$X^2=9.478$ Df=1 P<0.05 Significant
Female	19	11	30	
<b>Educational Qualification</b>				
Illiterate	21	9	30	$X^2=11.721$ Df=1 P<0.05 Significant
Literate	16	14	30	
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>60</b>	

*Statistical test: Chi-square test was used the above table*

**Research hypothesis (H<sub>1</sub>):** There is significant association between gender, educational qualification and their overall economical development

## FINDINGS:

The above table reveals that there is significant association between gender, educational qualification and their overall economical development. Hence, the calculated value less than table value (P<0.05). So, the research hypothesis is accepted.

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Government agencies and NGOs may undertake financial awareness programmes among the tribal people to increase their financial literacy. That will be helpful to bring a practice of recording of incomes and

expenditures among them. Majority of the respondents are not aware with the Rural Development Schemes and there is no proper system to educate the rural people about various schemes and their importance. Meeting and seminars may also be organized with rural people at village level. The schemes were made by the government and implemented, but there was no participation of the rural people in it. Emphasis should be given on the formulation of perspective plans, which must be followed by action on the original beneficiaries and people should given their full co-operation and participation for the success of the scheme. There was absolutely absence of monitoring the implementation of the tribal developmental schemes by the officials concerned at the district level. This need to be immediately curbed as it goes a long way in the improvement of the socio-economic conditions of the tribes in the study area. Thus, it is finally concluded that if the authorities concerned evince interest on monitoring and solve the problems of the beneficiaries in the proper implementation of the tribal developmental schemes, undoubtedly it results in the improvement of income and employment aspects of the tribes. The aim of tribal development programs and tribal welfare policy in India has been defined as the progressive, social and economic advancement of tribal population with a view to their complete integration with the rest of people in the country. Tribal areas need special attention, if the benefits of the new developmental programs are to be accruing to the tribal community.

#### REFERENCES:

1. Bhasin, Veena, (1996), Transhumant of Himalayas, Kamal Raj Enterprises, Delhi.
2. Bose, Nirmal K., (1972), Some Indian Tribes, National Book Trust, India, New Delhi.
3. Eleventh Five year plan (2007-12) and Annual Tribal Sub-Plan (2009-10), tribal Development Department, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Shimal - 2.
4. Ghurye,G.S.(1959), The Scheduled Tribes, 2nd Edition, Popular Book Depot, Lamington Road, Bombay.
5. Gupta, S.K., Sharma, V.P., Sharda, N.K.(1998), Tribal Development, Appraisal and Alternatives, Indus Publishing Company, New Delhi.
6. Majumdar.N.A(2002), "Rural Development New Perceptions," Economic and Political Weekly, Sameeksha Trust Publication, p.29, September.
7. Pattanaik.B.K(2009), "National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme: Some Preliminary Findings from Hoshiarpur District", Kurukshetra, pp.35, April.
8. Reddy Indrasen and Srinivasa G Rao(1998), "Poverty Alleviation Programme-An Appraisal of IRDP", Kurukshetra, Pp.3-5, October