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SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS OF SCHEDULED TRIBES IN TELANGANA STATE**RAMESH AJMEERA****LECTURER****UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF COMMERCE & BUSINESS MANAGEMENT****KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY****WARANGAL****ABSTRACT**

The Constitution of India ensures all citizens of social and economic justice, equality of status and opportunities and cultural and educational status and also enriches the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. The central and state governments have devised and implemented various policies aimed at increasing the social and economic conditions of societies such as Scheduled Tribes (STs) which have traditionally been left behind for historical reasons. Scheduled tribe communities live in various ecological and geo-climatic conditions ranging from plains to forest, hills and inaccessible areas in the country. These Scheduled tribe groups are at different stages of socio, economic and educational development. The lack of reliable data on the working and living conditions of scheduled tribal communities poses a major obstacle to the creation of appropriate welfare schemes for these communities. The Government of India is constitutionally responsible for protecting the interests of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes and uplifting them socially and economically. The present study slots in the socio-economic conditions and associated problems of the tribal villagers of Telangana State. This study tries to highlight various aspects of socio-economic structure and attempts to explore the problems faced by tribal villagers like low income, lack of drinking water, low rate of literacy, transportation problem, etc. The study aims at suggesting ways how to overcome their social constraints in receiving proper facilities.

KEYWORDS

Telangana state, social & economic activities, tribal people.

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INTRODUCTION

Tribal people constitute 8.6 percent of the total population of India, with 104 million according to the 2011 census. It is the largest population of tribal people in the world. The extent to which a state's population is tribal varies considerably. In the northeastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Nagaland, upward of 90 percent of the population is tribal. However, in the remaining northeast states of Assam, Manipur, Sikkim, and Tripura, tribal peoples form between 20 and 30 percent of the population. The largest tribes are found in central India, although the tribal population accounts for only around 10 percent of the region's total population. Major concentrations of tribal people live in Maharashtra, Orissa, and West Bengal. In the south, about 1 percent of the populations of Kerala and Tamil Nadu are tribal, whereas about 6 percent in Andhrapradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka are members of tribes. There are some 573 communities recognized by the government as Scheduled Tribes and therefore eligible to receive special benefits and to compete for reserved seats in legislatures and schools. They range in size from the Gonds (roughly 7.4 million) and the Santals (approximately 4.2 million) to only eighteen Chaimals in the Andaman Islands. Central Indian states have the country's largest tribes, and, taken as a whole, roughly 75 percent of the total tribal population eats in legislatures and live there.

In the 1950s a policy of protection was adopted towards all the tribal peoples in India. Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru once wrote: "There is no point in trying to make them a second rate copy of ourselves... they are people who sing and dance and try to enjoy life; not people who sit in stock exchanges, shout at each other, and think themselves civilized."

ORIGIN OF TRIBAL PEOPLE OF INDIA

Tribals, black aborigines similar to those found in New Guinea and Australia, are believed to be the original inhabitants of much of southern India. DNA evidence from the Negrito tribes of the Andaman Islands spans back 70,000 years and suggests they originated from people from Africa who migrated to India, Southeast Asia, and Indonesia. DNA evidence also indicates that they are direct descendants of the first modern humans to leave Africa but lack a distinctive feature of Australian aborigines, another early group to leave Africa.

The Onge from the Andaman Islands carries some of the oldest genetic markers found outside Africa. The tribes of the Andaman Islands are believed to be related to the Negritos of Southeast Asia and the Philippines (See Malaysia and the Philippines). Some scholars theorize that they arrived in the Andaman Islands from Burma or Malaysia at some time in the distant past by sea, or perhaps arrived from Sumatra by way of the Nicobar Islands. However, there is no firm evidence to back this up and is regarded mostly as speculation.

The Bhil tribe is regarded by some as "the oldest of the aboriginal tribes comprising India's original inhabitants. They are regarded as the original inhabitants of the forest of central India and were driven into their current homelands by Muslim invaders. Their name is believed to be derived from a word in Dravidian languages for "bow," which until fairly recent times they always were seen carrying."

Some anthropologists hypothesize that the region was settled by multiple human migrations over tens of millennia, which makes it even harder to select certain groups as being truly aboriginal. One narrative, largely based on genetic research, describes Negritos, similar to the Andamanese Adivasis of today, as the first humans to colonize India, likely 30–65 thousand years ago. Sixty percent of all Indians share the mtDNA haplogroup M, which is universal among Andamanese islander Adivasis and might be a genetic legacy of the postulated first Indians.

Some anthropologists theorize that these settlers were displaced by invading Austro-Asiatic-speaking Australoid people (who largely shared skin pigmentation and physiognomy with the Negritos, but had straight rather than curly hair), and Adivasi tribes such as the Irulas trace their origins to that displacement. The Oraon Adivasi tribe of eastern India and the Korku tribe of western India are considered to be examples of groups of Australoid origin. After the Australoids, most anthropologists and geneticists agree that Caucasoids (including both Dravidians and Indo-Aryans) and Mongoloids (Sino-Tibetans) immigrated into India: the Dravidians possibly from Iran, the Indo-Aryans possibly from the Central Asian steppes and the Tibeto-Burmans possibly from the Himalayan and north-eastern borders of the subcontinent. None of these hypotheses is free from debate and disagreement.

Ethnic origins and linguistic affiliations in India match only inexactly, however: while the Oraon Adivasis are classified as an Australoid group, their language, called Kurukh, is Dravidian. Khasis and Nicobarese are considered to be Mongoloid groups and the Munda and Santals are Australoid groups, but all four speak Austro-Asiatic languages. The Bhils and Gonds are frequently classified as Australoid groups, yet Bhil languages are Indo-European and the Gondi language is Dravidian.

INDIAN TRIBAL LIFE

Many Tribals live in widely dispersed villages, with families living on farms surrounded by fields. A temple or public platform under a large tree is the central place where males from upper and middle castes meet and spend their time.

Tribals have traditionally hunted and collected food in the forest. Many Tribals believe that if someone is ill it is because they were attacked by an evil spirit of been cursed by a witch. Many regions where tribals live are off-limits to outsiders. This is so their cultures are not disrupted and the tribals are not exploited or harmed.

Alcoholism is a problem among some tribes. Many tribes make their home-brewed beers or spirits. Most are derived from rice or some other grain. Additionally, opium use is common among some tribes. The government often provides opium rations to the tribes but illegal cultivation also occurs. Some tribe members have been awarded opium for catching convicts.

Most tribes are concentrated in heavily forested areas that combine inaccessibility with limited political or economic significance. Historically, the economy of most tribes was subsistence agriculture or hunting and gathering. Land, if seen in terms of ownership at all, was viewed as a communal resource, free to whoever needed it.

Tribal members traded with outsiders for the few necessities they lacked, such as salt and iron. A few local Hindu craftsmen might provide such items as cooking utensils. The twentieth century, however, has seen far-reaching changes in the relationship between tribals and the larger society and, by extension, traditional tribal economies. In previous generations, families might have purchased silver jewelry as a form of security; contemporary tribal people are more likely to buy minor consumer goods.

EDUCATION OF TRIBAL PEOPLE IN INDIA

Extending the system of primary education into tribal areas and reserving places for tribal children in middle and high schools and higher education institutions are central to government policy, but efforts to improve a tribe's educational status have had mixed results. Recruitment of qualified teachers and determination of the appropriate language of instruction also remain troublesome. Commission after commission on the "language question" has called for instruction, at least at the primary level, in the students' native tongue. In some regions, tribal children entering the school must begin by learning the official regional language, often one completely unrelated to their tribal tongue. The experiences of the Gonds of Andhra Pradesh provide an example. Primary schooling began there in the 1940s and 1950s. The government selected a group of Gonds who had managed to become semiliterate in Telugu and taught them the basics of written script. These individuals became teachers who taught in Gondi, and their efforts enjoyed a measure of success until the 1970s when state policy demanded instruction in Telugu. The switch in the language of instruction both made the Gond teachers superfluous because they could not teach in Telugu and also presented the government with the problem of finding reasonably qualified teachers willing to teach in outlying tribal schools.

The commitment of tribes to acquiring a formal education for their children varies considerably. Tribes differ in the extent to which they view education positively. Gonds and Pardhans, two groups in the central hill region, are a case in point. The Gonds are cultivators, and they frequently are reluctant to send their children to school, needing them, they say, to work in the fields. The Pradhans were traditionally bards and ritual specialists, and they have taken to education with enthusiasm. The effectiveness of educational policy likewise varies by region. In those parts of the northeast where tribes have generally been spared the wholesale onslaught of outsiders, schooling has helped tribal people to secure political and economic benefits. The education system there has provided a corps of highly trained tribal members in the professions and high-ranking administrative posts.

Many tribal schools are plagued by high dropout rates. Children attend for the first three to four years of primary school and gain a smattering of knowledge, only to lapse into illiteracy later. Few who enter continue up to the tenth grade; of those who do, few manage to finish high school. Therefore, very few are eligible to attend institutions of higher education, where the high rate of attrition continues.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This study presents a review of the literature to make more relevant and strength to the study.

A.M. Elizabeth & K.N. Saraswathy (2004), in their book, Thoti tribe of Andhra Pradesh, has dealt both Genetic disorders related to abnormal hemoglobin especially sickle cell anemia and GCPD enzyme deficiency and demographic variables prevalent among the Thoti tribe. The thoti is a primitive tribal population inhabiting the Adilabad district of Andhra Pradesh, this tribe was recognized as primitive tribal population by Government of India.

Deshmukh (2003), in his article, found that the existing welfare strategies did not overcome the tribal from inferiority and atrocities on them. It is now recognized that the welfare needs of tribal consists of purposive efforts by tribal, self-motivation and self-determination course of action which will enable the tribal to achieve the quality of lifestyle they aspire.

Gare (1982), He has written in his article about some realities of tribal life. He found that the phenomenon of land alienation, exploitation against indebtedness, bonded labor practice continue till today. The developmental measures promoted by the State Government through Education, Agricultural Development, Public works, and Co-operative Labour Organization didn't bring satisfactory improvement in Tribal life till the end of the fourth five-year plan. The problem of welfare measures faced by the tribals in India varies from one region to another. Hence, the Government decided to implement a new strategy, i.e., 'Tribal Sub Plan' during the Fifth Five Year Plan to concentrate on their needs in tribal regions.

I.P. Vidhyarthi & Binay Kumar Rai (1976), in their book, The Tribal Culture of India, have given a critical appraisal of the Indian social scientists in general and social anthropologists in particulars. The book aims at highlighting some of the basic factors in the genesis and stages of development in social, cultural researches in India.

Mohan Rao (1993), The Kolams- a primitive tribe in transition gives insight in to analyse the genesis and affinity of the core aspects of the culture of Kolams and other neighboring dominant tribe on one hand and total cultural heritage of local tribes and its affinity with culture of caste groups of this area on the other.

Ramaiah P (1980), a particular geographically contiguous area with a long common history and a similar economic organization inhabited by a single dominant tribe i.e., the Koyas. Secondly, the tribal life in a blending of myth and reality. He cuts across many fields-cultural, ecology and physiographic. He was chosen on the aspect of tribal life i.e., the economic aspect, though he has always kept the other aspects also in his mind throughout. His study is confined to the tribal enumerated in the 1971 census.

S G Deogaonkar and Leena Deogaonkar Baxi (2003), in his book The Kolam tribals, attempts to depict an ethnographic profile of the tribe and also to discuss some of their socio-cultural as well as economic problems. Even their traditional methods of the dispensation of justice have been studied.

Sirsalkar (1985) has given some suggestions based on his study 'Evaluation of Ashram Schools in Maharashtra State'. The scheme of Ashram schools complex is being implemented in this state from the year 1971-72. It has been envisaged that the scheme will result in the social and educational advancement of tribal people. This study has revealed various lacunas in implementing this scheme in true spirit. Various suggestions like building and library, common room for teachers, separate urinals and bathroom for boys and girls, availability of electricity, provision of annual maintenance to overcome infrastructure problems, arrangement of parent meetings, medical and physical checking organisation of educational tour, competitions of folk songs and folk dances, availability of playgrounds and sports material, special coaching, debates, periodicals and lectures etc. has to be arranged to improve existing conditions.

Somasekhar (1983), economic conditions of tribal with specific reference to koyas in Bhadrachalam taluk of Khammam district. He emphasized on economic conditions of tribal, the social and cultural factors are not neglected. He deals with the tribal economy such as agriculture, forests, exploitation besides the profile of Godavari Valley in which the majority of Koyas inhabits and ekes out their livelihood.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The literature used to write and analyze the socio-economic conditions of tribes in Telangana state. The present study is based on secondary data is collected from various sources like research books, research articles, government reports, and websites.

TELANGANA STATE PROFILE

Telangana became the 29th state of India on 2nd June 2014. The State is richly endowed with natural and human resources with competitive socio-economic advantages. It's the geographical spread of 1, 14,840 Sq Km makes it the 12th largest State in the country. A projected population of 3.52 Crores as per the 2011 census makes it the 12th most populous State.

It consists of the ten north-western districts of Andhra Pradesh with Hyderabad as its capital. It has an area of 114,840 km² and is the twelfth largest state in India. Most of it was part of the princely state of Hyderabad (Medak and Warangal Divisions), which was ruled by the Nizams during the British Raj until 1947, and later until 1948, when it joined the Union of India. In 1956, Hyderabad state was dissolved and Andhra State was merged with the Telangana region of the state of Hyderabad to form the state of Andhra Pradesh. The city of Hyderabad will continue to serve as the joint capital for Andhra Pradesh and the successor state of Telangana for ten years. Hyderabad, Warangal, Karimnagar, and Nizamabad are the major cities in the state. The commonly spoken languages are Telugu, Hindi, Urdu, and English.

ECONOMY

The Economy of Telangana is mainly driven by agriculture. Two important rivers of India, the Godavari, and Krishna, flow through the state, providing irrigation. Rice, cotton, mango, and tobacco are the local crops. Recently, crops used for vegetable oil production such as sunflowers and peanuts have gained favor. There are many multi-state irrigation projects in development, including Godavari River Basin Irrigation Projects and Nagarjuna Sagar Dam, the world's highest masonry dam.

The state has also started to focus on the fields of information technology and biotechnology. Telangana is one of the top IT exporting states in India. There are 68 Special Economic Zones in the state. Mines and minerals, Textiles and apparel, IT industry, Bulk drugs and pharmaceutical, horticulture, poultry farming are the main industries in Telangana.

The State Government is in the process of developing Industrial Parks at different places, for specific groups of industries. The existing parks are Software Park at Hyderabad, Hitec city for software units, Apparel Park at Gundlapochampalli, Export Promotion Park at Pashamylaram, Biotechnology park at Turkapally.

Telangana is a mineral-rich state, with coal reserves at Singaeni Collieries. There are extensive coal deposits, which are excavated by the Singareni Collieries Company, for power generation and industrial purposes. There are limestone deposits in the area, which are used by cement factories. Telangana also has deposits of bauxite and mica. Kothagudem, Jammikunta, Palwancha are amongst the industrial towns in the state. There are extensive coal deposits, which are excavated by the Singareni Collieries Company, for power generation and industrial purposes. There are limestone deposits in the area, which are used by cement factories. Telangana also has deposits of bauxite and mica. Kothagudem, Jammikunta, Palwancha are amongst the industrial towns in the state.

Between 2004-05 and 2012-13, the average annual GSDP growth of Telangana was 17.87% and India was 15.58%. The growth in Telangana was mainly driven by the industry and services sectors.

In 2012-13, the services sector at Rs. 1,14,046 crores, contributed 58.1% to the GSDP (at constant prices). It is followed by the industry sector, contributing 27.9% (Rs. 54,687 crores) and the agriculture sector's contribution of 14% (Rs. 27,450 crores).

The services sector had the fastest growth of 11.31% followed by industry sector (10.04%) and agriculture sector (6.89%) between 2004-05 and 2012-13.

POLITICAL

The Assembly is consisting of 119 Members of the Legislative Assembly and 40 Member of the Legislative Council. The main players in the regional politics are the Telangana Rashtra Samithi, Telugu Desam Party, and Indian National Congress. Following the Telangana Legislative Assembly Election in 2018, the Telangana Rashtra Samithi under Kalvakuntla Chandrashekar Rao was elected to power.

TRIBAL PROFILE OF TELANGANA

Numerically dominant Tribal Groups

Lambada: The Lambadas are the major dominant tribal group inhabiting through the Telangana State. They are also known as Banjara. Their population according to 2011 census is 20,46,117

Koya: The Koyas are mainly inhabiting the hilly areas of Khammam and Warangal districts and are sparsely found in Adilabad and Karimnagar districts. Their population as per the 2011 Census is 4,86,391.

Gond: Gonds are one of the dominant tribal groups found in Adilabad District. The Naikpod is mentioned along with Raj Gonds in the approved list of STs. But in tribal areas of Adilabad District, Naikpod is a separate tribe. The population of Gonds including Naikpods in Telangana as per the 2011 census is 2,97,846.

Yerukala: Yerukala tribe is also found throughout Telangana State. They call themselves 'Kurru'. They are called 'Yerukula' after their women's traditional profession of fortune-telling Eruka chepputa. Their population according to the 2011 census is 1,44,128.

Pradhan: Pardhans are inhabiting the tribal areas of Adilabad district. They are traditional bards to Gonds and recite mythologies, folk tales and songs of their gods and goddesses at various festivals, ceremonies, and fairs for which service they are paid in cash or kind. Their population according to the 2011 census is 24,776.

PRIMITIVE TRIBAL GROUPS

Kolam: Kolams are predominantly found in tribal areas of Adilabad district. They live in exclusive settlements in interior forests and mountainous tracts. Their population according to the 2011 census is 44,805. They speak their dialect called 'Kolami'.

Chenchus: The food gathering and hunting tribe of Telangana constitute their traditional habitat the foothills of Nallamalai spread in Mahabubnagar and Nalgonda Districts and also found in few villages of Ranga Reddy District. Their population according to the 2011 census is 16,912 and recognized as PVTGs (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups) by Govt. of India in the year 1975-76.

Konda Reddi: Konda Reddis inhabit the banks situated on either side of the Godavari river and in the hilly/forest tracts Khammam district. Their population as per the 2011 Census is 7,997. They are recognized as PVTGs by Gol in the year 1980.

Thoti: Thotis are living in the districts of Adilabad, Karimnagar, and Nizamabad. According to the 2001 census, their population is 4,811. Thotis are recognized as Primitive Tribal Group. They are recognized as PVTGs by Gol in the year 1983.

SCHEDULED TRIBES POSITION IN TELANGANA

The Scheduled Tribe (ST) population, which accounts for 9.07 percent of the state, is on raise from 27,49,706 in 2001, to 31,77,940 in 2011, a rise of 15.6 percent. Ranga Reddy district topped the list with a 49.8 percent growth rate in the ST population in 2011 from 2001. Hyderabad recorded a similar growth rate of 41.6 percent. Mahabubnagar, Medak and Adilabad districts also recorded high growth in ST populations in the state.

DISTRIBUTION OF SCHEDULED TRIBE POPULATION ACROSS DISTRICTS OF TELANGANA STATE

TABLE 1

District	ST population 2001	Percent	ST population 2011	Percent	Percent Change
Adilabad	416511	15.1	495794	15.6	0.5
Nizamabad	165735	6	192941	6.1	0
Karimnagar	90636	3.3	106745	3.4	0.1
Medak	134533	4.9	168985	5.3	0.4
Hyderabad	34560	1.3	48937	1.5	0.3
Ranga Reddy	146057	5.3	218757	6.9	1.6
Mahabubnagar	278702	10.1	364269	11.5	1.3
Nalgonda	342676	12.5	394279	12.4	-0.1
Warangal	457679	16.6	530656	16.7	0.1
khammam	682617	24.8	656577	20.7	-4.2
Total	2749706	100	3177940	100	0

Source: Census of India, 2001 & 2011

Human society plays a major role in the world in which we live, despite other parts and its nature not being understood. Come what may people think of them as spaced out from the rest of the natural world. Human societies are unique either way or other, still, however, they are found to share many vital characteristics. Hence at the onset, it is necessary to establish the societies in order and to bring out the consequences of his relationship.

Earlier ages before men lived in a society that survived on fierce hunting society and they purely depended on the existed natural sources within the survival limits. The incredibly increasing human and animal population, the pressured environment, the consumer markets and economics, the industrial development and other several related factors have resulted in the exploitation of natural resources. This has resulted in the degradation of forests, several environmental problems and has consequently led to the fall off of the homeland of native tribal. The primitive methods of farming, agriculture, shifting cultivation and exploitation of the forest produce by the millions of people living within and out of the forest have led to major forest loss.

Though India has bequeathed unique flora and fauna by nature, the Indian tradition and its heritage seem to be an amalgamation of a wide variety of colorful cultures. Urban, rural, folk, archaic and modern cultures are devised into the aboriginal civilization of India. Similarly, the varied ethnicities, multi linguistics, and different religion have been synchronized in Indian traditions. The Indian civilization is hence a plural society with a potpourri of traditions.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To understand the social and economic condition of the tribal people in Telangana
2. To evaluate tribes livelihood patterns
3. To study the educational facility available for tribal people
4. To explore the myriad problems and prospects
5. To identify the resources available in Telangana for tribes

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE TRIBAL COMMUNITIES OF TELANGANA

Study results on the socio-economic development of tribes in the erstwhile Warangal district of Telangana showed that the majority of the respondents of the study area were illiterates, adopted the nuclear family system and had own houses. The majority of the respondents were farmers, followed by agricultural laborers.

As they had no skills in modern agricultural practices, they practiced a mono-cropping pattern. The respondents acquired modern inputs and financial assistance from the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (I.T.D.A.). The majority (87%) earned income less than 1500 rupees per month and they spend the money mostly on food. The results showed that there is a significant relationship between the government policies and schemes and the standard of living of the tribes. A case study on the Socio-Economic conditions of Scheduled Tribes in selected villages in Warangal District of Telangana State revealed that the literacy rate in the study area is 72 percent. The Lambada community recorded the highest literacy rate, whereas the chenchu community recorded the lowest. Regarding the income levels, the Lambada community recorded the highest and the Chenchu community recorded the lowest. Among all the five sub-caste communities in the study area, the Lambada community was very well developed. The recommendations given in the study were to provide more welfare schemes and employment opportunities to improve the well-being of the tribal communities.

The results analysis of the tribal diversity in Telangana districts depicted that the Warangal district of Telangana was dominated by Lambdas (46%). In Warangal district, 82 percent were seasonal wage earners. In both areas, people were aware of government programs, and the percentage of people who availed these programs increased drastically from 2012.

A study aimed to find out the socio-economic status of scheduled tribes in the Warangal District of Telangana state found that the majority of the sample households were male-headed and worked as farmers and agricultural laborers. The income range of farmers was Rs. 6000 to Rs. 10000 rupees per annum and laborers earned lesser than that.

There was a decline in the sex ratio in this community, and families had a preference for a son. As they had no other sources of income, they tried to take loans and the institutions took advantage of this and charged higher interest rates (3 percent). The researchers recommended that the government should take measures to promote financial stability among the scheduled tribes by offering better banking services and the transfer of technology.

The socio-economic status of the scheduled tribes in the Warangal district of Telangana State was studied. In the sample population, the majority of the households belonged to lambada tribes and more than 70 percent were illiterate. Cultivation was the primary occupation for the majority and the total family income was less than Rs. 10,000 per annum. Food expenditure lied top on the annual expenditure pattern, followed by expenditure on payment of interests on loans and health concerns.

The majority of the sampled households lacked durable household assets. Around 37 percent of the land-owning sample did not have ownership rights. More than 60 percent fulfilled their credit needs from private money lenders. Therefore, there is a need to put more attention to educating the scheduled tribes, which can motivate them for their future life.

A study on socio-economic and health conditions of koya tribes and tribes inhabiting in jungles in Warangal, Khammam and Adilabad districts of Telangana found that, though there are several initiatives taken up for improving the living conditions of the tribals, the progress is not up to the mark. The reasons for this are that, forests are depleting at a faster rate and are in no way sustaining food requirements of forest dwellers through their traditional means of hunting and gathering. Mostly, they are dependent on agriculture, either as cultivators or agriculture laborers. They are malnourished, poor, and largely illiterate and rank miserably low in all sorts of health indicators despite their wealth of traditional knowledge of keeping healthy. Forests play a vital role in the economic development of the forest-dwelling tribes of Telangana as they provide them with food in the form of tubers, roots, leaves, fruits, the flesh of animals and birds and cures illnesses by supplying medicinal herbs. Skins, hides, horns of wild animals and minor forest produce are exploited for commercial purposes. But, this agro-forest based economy is subject to the behavior of nature. The rocky terrain, infertile soil, freak nature, extreme seasonal conditions, lack of perennial sources of water, predatory birds and animals and the parasitic hold of money lenders and plains show cars force them to live in perpetual poverty.

MAJOR WELFARE SCHEMES FOR THE BENEFIT OF TRIBAL POPULATION BY THE TELANGANA GOVERNMENT

EDUCATION SCHEMES

The major program under the Department is the maintenance of Educational Institutions. During 2015-16, Rs.138.92 Cr. is allocated under state plan while Rs.271.49 Cr. is allocated under the nonplan budget for expenditure under this scheme.

Hostels: There are 212 hostels (157 for Boys and 55 for Girls) with a total strength of (40763) boarders. Accommodation and boarding are provided to the children free of cost. Other materials required for the children and also for the institution are being provided as per the pattern prescribed under

Ashram Schools: There are 283 ashram schools (187 for Boys 96 for Girls) functioning in the tribal concentrated areas. The schools provide both school and hostel under the same roof. (8) Ashram Primary Schools, (33) Ashram Upper Primary Schools and (242) Ashram High Schools are functioning while providing schooling and hostel facility to (85843) children.

Post-Matric Hostels: 101 hostels are functioning to facilitate ST college students with free accommodation, and the utility charges are borne by the department. The students staying in these hostels receive Post-Matric scholarships at the attached hostel rates. Efforts are being put in to run these hostels like full-fledged Pre-Matric hostels by providing supporting staff and other facilities.

Tribal Welfare Primary Schools: 1513 Tribal Welfare Primary Schools (earlier known as GVVKs) are functioning in tribal areas to impart primary education to 32653 ST children.

College of Teacher Education (TW), Bhadrachalam & Utanoor: Colleges of teacher education (TW) were started at Bhadrachalam and Utanoor to provide B.Ed. training to the STs. Each college has an intake capacity of 200 per year and the training is being imparted as per NCTE norms. The college at Bhadrachalam is also providing distance mode training to in-service teachers and is also functioning as a study center of IGNOU for B.Ed courses through distance mode.

Coaching and Allied: Coaching is being provided to tribal children for competitive examinations through (4) Pre-Examination Training Centers (PETCs). Part of the coaching cost is provided by the Government of India under the 'Coaching and Allied' scheme. The government has sanctioned Dr.YSR Study Circle, Pre-Examination Training Centre, to provide coaching to ST students for competitive examinations. The study circle commenced functioning with a sanctioned strength of (100) students. Students are being imparted coaching for different competitive examinations so far.

FAST (Financial assistance for students of Telangana) Post-Matric Scholarship: The objective of the scheme FAST is to provide scholarships to ST students studying post-matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education and also to provide books to ST students studying professional courses under Book Banks Scheme. The sanction and disbursement of Post-Matric scholarships to ST students are as per the procedure laid down under G.O.Ms.No.90, SW (Edn.II) Department, dated 30-07-2002. Application, sanction, disbursement of scholarships for fresh and renewal students is being done online as per G.O.Ms.No.143, Social Welfare (Edn.2) Department, dated 15-07-2008.

(FAST) Pre-Matric Scholarship: Under pre-matric scholarships, bright ST children are identified and provided the opportunity to receive a quality education through reputed private institutions.

(a) Best Available Schools

Bright children among STs are selected by District Selection Committee under the Chairmanship of Collector in non-ITDA districts and Project Officers in ITDA districts and the selected ST children are being admitted in the Best Available Schools (Reputed Private Management Schools). During 2001-02, the Government has issued revised guidelines vide G.O.Ms.No.70, Social Welfare (TW.Edn.II) Department, dated 1-8-2001. During 2014-15, (4271) ST students studying in (63) schools identified under Best Available Schools Program.

(b) Hyderabad Public Schools

The Tribal Welfare Department is sponsoring ST children for admission into Hyderabad Public Schools, Begumpet, and Ramantapur as per Government Memo No.11345/ TW.Edn.1/2009-1, dated 16-02-2010, the Department is sanctioning Pre-Matric scholarships besides running (2) hostels for the ST day scholars studying in the Hyderabad Public Schools. During 2014-15, (233) ST students are continuing their studies.

Residential Schools for Tribals: A separate Society in the name of Telangana TW Residential Educational Institutions Society (Gurukulam) was established by bifurcating APTWREIS for managing tribal residential institutions in Telangana. To impart quality education to ST students, the Government is maintaining (150) residential institutions with a strength of (42,395) Out of (150) institutions, (34) Residential schools, (28) Residential Jr. Colleges, (29) Mini Gurukulams, (59) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are functioning, which include (1) School of Excellence and (2) Jr. Colleges of Excellence to provide intensive coaching for selected tribal students studying from 8th class onwards, and (7) Eklavya Model Residential Schools which were sanctioned by Ministry of Tribal Affairs, GOI which are also managed by Gurukulam.

Residential Schools for Tribal Girls in RIAD Areas: The Scheme is intended to provide Quality Education for Tribal girls in RIAD Areas. Under this program, (2) colleges are functioning one at Uttoor and another at Eturunagaram with (620) students.

Upgradation of Residential Schools into Junior Colleges of Excellence: The scheme is intended to upgrade the existing TW Residential schools into Junior Colleges of Excellence long term objective of equipping students to compete for national level competitive exams such as NIT, IIT, etc. (1) is functioning at Mananoor, Mahaboobnagar Dist. with a sanctioned strength of (160) students.

DEVELOPMENTAL SCHEMES

Economic Development: The economic development programs include staff cost of ITDAs and Grants-in-Aid under State Plan as well as Special Central Assistance for developmental activities. The staff programs include administrative management of certain office staff of ITDAs, Agricultural demonstration units, HNTCs in the ITDAs and monitoring units in the ITDAs. The developmental projects include:

Economic Support Schemes: Under this financial assistance is given to ST families below the poverty line for taking up economic support activities. The action plan for these programs is approved by Govt of Telangana, Tribal Welfare Department as proposed by Scheduled Tribes Cooperative Finance Corporation Limited (TRICOR), Hyderabad TRICOR reviews the implementation from time to time.

Financial Assistance to PSUs: There are (2) PSUs functioning under the control of the Tribal Welfare Department. During 2015-16 Rs. 26.62 Cr. is proposed for financial assistance to PSUs under Non-Plan. Their activities are explained briefly hereunder:

GCC: Girijan Co-operative Corporation (GCC) undertakes procurement of minor forest produce (MFP) and agriculture produce from tribals at remunerative prices, undertakes public distribution in remote tribal areas, provides seasonal agricultural credit to ST farmers. The GCC is having (381) Regular, (106) Contract & Outsourcing employees with a network of (1) regional office, (3) divisional offices & (2) New Divisions, (18) GPCMS and (4) New GPCMS (200) new DR depots.

TRICOR: The Telangana Scheduled Tribes Cooperative Finance Corporation Limited, Hyderabad (TRICOR) with headquarters at Hyderabad, and its areas of operation extend over the entire State of Telangana. In the A.P Re-Organization Act, TRICOR is included in Schedule IX and the bifurcation of TRICOR as two entities for the two States is in progress. It is monitoring all the economic support schemes implemented for the STs including the development of PvTGs under CCDP with the support from Government under State Plan and CASPS and also coordinating with other departments like Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Industries, etc., for the economic development of ST families below poverty line.

TRIPCO: A lot of potentials is available in the tribal areas, there is a need to establish Hydel/Solar/Wind Power projects to explore the feasibility of harnessing the Hydel/Solar/Bio-mass/Wind energy. Hence, Telangana State Tribal Power Company Limited (TRIPCO) is being established.

Mini Hydel power projects can be installed on natural streams, waterfalls, rivers. Canal drops and dam toes. Solar power projects feasibility in Adilabad, Karimnagar, Warangal, Mahabubnagar, Khammam, Nalgonda. The power projects are to be entrusted to the local tribal women organizations as owners for management. By Govt. Orders relating to Project committee /VO/SHGs/MMS profits from such a project will accrue to the local tribal for developing local tribal areas.

TRIMCO: The company will be established to take up mining activities with the active participation of tribal mining Co-operative Societies. There is the availability of mines and minerals in Telangana State. Telangana State Tribal Mining Company Limited (TRIMCO) will make all efforts to identify new viable mineral deposits, file lease applications to mine through Tribal Mining Cooperative Societies (TMCSs). Training will also be imparted to tribals in the art of gem cutting, polishing, etc.,

Skill up-gradation for Formal and Self Employment: The government has sanctioned a Tribal Skill Sub Mission exclusively for taking up skill up-gradation training & placement (G.O Ms. No. 63, PR & RD (1) Dept. dt: 13.03.2012). The scheme is intended to provide support to take up skill up-gradation for tribal youth as one of the Sub Mission under RYK for sustainable formal and self-employment. During 2014-15, (5348) ST youth were trained & 4824 ST youth were placed.

OTHER SCHEMES

Kalyana Lakshmi: With a view to alleviate financial distress in the families of Scheduled Tribes, the Government launched an innovative scheme called "Kalyana Lakshmi" under which financial assistance of Rs.75,116/- shall be paid to every ST unmarried girl of 18 years and above age at the time of marriage which parental income shall not exceed Rs.2.00 lakhs per annum. Further, to ensure the uninterrupted release of funds, the scheme has been included under Green Channel.

Komaram Bheem memorial: In memory of the brave Gond tribal leader who fought against the Nizams under the slogan "Jal, Jameen, Jungal" the Govt. sanctioned construction of Komram Bheem Smriti Chihanam and also the development of Jodeghat village as **Tribal Cultural Hub and Tourism Center**, at an outlay of Rs.50.00 Crores.

Constructions of High schools in RIAD areas: The scheme is intended to provide infrastructural facilities to high schools in the RIAD areas.

Buildings for Schools complexes: The objective of the scheme is to provide dormitories, post-matric hostels, staff quarters in ashram schools and improvement of PMRC buildings in ITDAs.

Hostel Buildings for 8 Degree colleges in Remote Interior Area Development (RIAD) Areas: The scheme is intended to provide hostel buildings for Post – Matric ST students studying in (3) degree colleges in the RIAD areas. Each degree college will have (1) boys hostels and (1) girls hostels.

Residential Junior Colleges for Girls in Remote Interior Area Development (RIAD) Areas: This scheme is intended to provide infrastructure in RJC girl students studying in residential junior colleges in the RIAD.

Construction of Buildings for Ashram schools for STs G/B in Naxal affected Areas: The objective of the scheme is the construction of buildings (new/additional accommodation) to integrated Hostels, Post Matric Hostels and Ashram Schools which are in private accommodation.

Educational Infrastructure: The scheme is intended to provide YTCs, ATWO offices, Staff Quarter for education institutions, etc.

Constructions of Roads under NABARD Programme: The objective of the scheme is to provide road connectivity in tribal areas with financial assistance from NABARD.

Construction of buildings for Integrated Residential Schools: The objective of this scheme is to provide additional infrastructure for Ashram High School and Residential Schools in tribal areas with financial assistance from NABARD, Trench XVIII and XIX.

Construction of Godowns and Storage Points: This scheme is intended to provide Godowns /Storage Points for GCC, for the supply of daily requirement through PDs to STs living in tribal areas and supply of food provision to ST education institutions.

Works under Medaram Jathara: Under this scheme, all infrastructural works there are required for the conduct of biggest Tribal Jathara “Sammakka Saralamma Jathara” being held once in (Two) years at Medaram (v) in Warangal District will be taken up

CASPS SCHEMES

Grants under Proviso Art 275(1) (CASPS): Under Article 275 (i) of the constitution of India, the Government of India releases Grants – in – Aid to the state plan for the development of Scheduled tribes or scheduled areas. These grants are being utilized to bridge critical gaps in infrastructure by taking up infrastructure development facilities and continuation of (7) Ekalavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS). The infrastructure works include strengthening of the office complexes and staff quarters of ITDAs, Construction of GCC DR depot, Mini Cold storage construction of roads, construction of the compound wall to ST educational institutions.

CONCLUSION

The entire discussion in this study helps to give an almost complete idea about the demographic, social and economic structure of tribes of Telangana state. The tribes are facing numerous troubles like poverty, low income, female illiteracy, lack of proper sanitation, etc. These constraints can be eradicated with the help of diverse plans and programs by the government of Telangana. As an ultimate observation, therefore, it can be said that this study provides an exceptional prospect to explore the status and socio-economic condition, the myriad problems, and prospects of Telangana state tribes' development.

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