



SOCIO – ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE SCHEDULED TRIBES IN TELANGANA

(With Special reference to BhadradriKothagudem District)

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ABSTRACT

Tribes are one of the many divergent groups that make up the Indian population. They continue to be disadvantaged primarily because they have been considered the smallest segment of Indian society since olden history. Cultural and geographic exclusion, a lack of appropriate healthcare facilities, an inability to meet basic needs, a loss of control over resources and assets, a lack of skills and education, poor nutrition, a lack of affordable housing, poor clean water and sanitation, insecurity to shocks, violence and crime, a denial of available to proper infrastructure facilities and technologies, and a lack of political freedom and voice are all factors that continue to disadvantage tribes. All of these obstacles can make life difficult for them. In light of these issues, the government is attempting to assist the tribes through various welfare schemes.

The purpose of the study was to learn about the socioeconomic status of tribal people in the Bhadradri kothagudem district. To learn about their socio-cultural status, primary data were collected through a series of structured questionnaires. Discussions were held with tribal elders who were wise and insightful, and secondary data was gathered by reading tribal magazine articles and background. According to the findings of this study, the tribal's socioeconomic situation has improved day by day. Though there are some issues in the area, such as poor communication, joblessness, power generation, social security, and clean drinking water, the primary education and health commonly known as "to be adequate, and the socio-cultural bonding between tribes is also very powerful.

KEYWORDS: Scheduled Tribes, Socio – Economic Status, Koya, Lambada, Bhadradri District.

INTRODUCTION

Development of the tribal's should be according to the "lines of their own thinking"

Jawaharlal Nehru

Article 366 (25) of the Constitution of India refers to Scheduled Tribes (ST) as those communities, who are scheduled in accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution¹. Our country's aboriginal inhabitants are identified as the tribal population. For centuries, they have lived a simple life based on the natural atmosphere, developing cultural characteristics that are compatible with their physical and social environments. The Telangana State constitutes highest tribal population in Southern India. The BhadradriKothagudem is a tribal belt with maximum number of tribal populations in the State².

Economic development is facilitated by social development. Tribes have always experienced challenges in their economic growth due to a variety of factors such as geographical and social alienation, a lack of proper health facilities, an inability to meet basic needs, a lack of control over resources and assets, a

lack of skills and education, malnutrition, a lack of shelter, a lack of access to water and sanitation, insecurity to disruptions, victimization, a lack of access to necessary infrastructure facilities and technologies, and a lack of entrepreneurship. The social sector, which includes sub-sectors such as access to education, medical and health care, housing, and water supply, is critical to their economic development.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In this field, few studies were conducted in India. The researcher reviewed many researchers conducted in India and abroad to find out the correct area to carry out the research work, which will be fruitful for the professionals and country.

Kumar (2021) In his study, the skill development programs are helping the tribes to get employment and entrepreneurship opportunities and to improve their socioeconomic conditions. The skill development schemes have a positive impact on the socioeconomic status of the tribal beneficiaries, and they have expressed satisfaction as there is significant social advancement in their lives.



Raju (2020) in his study, Tribe population is the most backward and disadvantaged group in the State of Telangana and in the entire world, faced with severe economic exclusion. Although certain constitutional protections are provided for, these societies do not have economic, social and political mobility. Parallel to Scheduled Castes and other Backward Castes, the Scheduled Tribes also reside on harsh grounds, which have seen certain degrees of advancement in terms of the protection of government unfair policies.

Deepak Kumar, et al. (2020) in their research, Tribal are uplift in the sanitation, primary education, health awareness, social security and cosmopolitans etc. Women of tribal are very secular in taking decisions and equal participation in families working. Women of tribal are worked in cropping field with men there is no social hesitation and impede. Garos are Christianity in religion. They are spontaneously participation in religious festival. Christmas day is a great day of Garos. Before time they were Hindus. Some are stay still Hinduism. Hajogs are Hinduism in religion. They are enjoying religious festival as much as Hinduism like Durga puja, Mansha puja, Sharashathi puja etc. Both tribes are very much simple, honest, royal, industrious and sacrificing in mind.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

BhadradiKothagudem district, a newly emerged district of the infant state Telangana, is a symbol of diversity as it is one of the highly industrialized areas in the state and similarly with the tribal population. Most of the mandals of the district are dominated by the backward tribal population and a few areas are covered with basic industries like coal extraction, thermal power production, paper production, etc., Well-educated employees on one side, agency illiteracy on the other side show the extremes of this region. The present study is an attempt to study and analyze the Socio-Economic status of the Scheduled Tribes in BhadradiKothagudem District.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the socio-economic condition of tribal people at BhadradiKothagudem District.
2. To examine the educational facility available for tribal people in the selected area of the study.
3. To identify the resources available in the selected area of the study.
4. To propose various measures to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the tribal population in the study area.

METHODOLOGY OF STUDY

1) Data collection

To undertake this study the data collected from two sources

- **Primary source:** The tribal chosen for the study are urban and rural area tribes of the BhadradiKothagudem District of Tealangana State. Data collected through structured interview schedule, using questionnaire.
 - **Secondary Source:** Data for this study has been collected from various sources such as Journals, books, magazines and articles.
- 2) **Sample size:** The Tribes are including the Lambada and Koyas, who are agricultural cultivators by occupation and employees of various sectors and Labourers. Two tribal villages are covered in the study area, namely Jagannadapuram of Mulakalapallymanadal and VeerunaikThanda of Palonchamandal. In these two selected villages 120(60+60), respondents have been selected in simple random sampling method.
 - 3) **Statistical Tools Used:** The Data is analyzed with simple Mathematical tools, like averages and percentages.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Demographic Features of Tribal Community

This section contains demographic information of the respondents in the study area. It is concerned with Gender, Age, Marital Status, Occupation, Monthly Income, Monthly expenditure and Monthly savings.

Table-1 Given below analyzed the gender-wise distribution of the sample in the study area.

TABLE-1
GENDER-WISE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

PARTICUALRS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Male	64	53
Female	56	47
Total	120	100

The above table shows that, majority of the respondents (53%) are male, and 47 percent of the respondents are Female.



TABLE-2
AGE-WISE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Below 20 years	30	25
20-30	22	18
30-40	50	42
40-50	13	11
Above 50 years	5	4
Total	120	100

The above table reveals that, Because of differences in religion, custom, values, dietary habits, social structure, and other factors, the types of respondents are a key consideration for the tribe. The age of the respondents is a significant aspect in any study because it has to do with their earning potential and experience. The tribal of this area's responses range in age from under 20 to over 50 years old. It reveals that 25% of respondents

are under the age of 20, 18% are between the ages of 20 and 30, 42% are between the ages of 30 and 40, 11% are between the ages of 40 and 50, and 4% are beyond 50. Middle-aged people in this area stay at home to take care of their business, such as agriculture, jobs, and other responsibilities. For education, garments work, and other functions, the majority of young people remain outside of the home.

TABLE-3
EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF THE RESPONDENTS

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Illiterate	10	8
Primary	23	19
Secondary	25	21
Higher Secondary	14	12
Graduation	36	30
Post-Graduation	12	10
Total	120	100

The above table shows that, Education allows a person to become more knowledgeable about current facts and technologies. The educational status of tribal families was separated into five groups to study the educational state of tribal people. Those who cannot read and write considered as illiterate.

From table-3, 8% tribal people are illiterate. Primary and secondary level are 19 and 21 percent which is indicate the low level of Primary and Secondary education. Higher secondary and graduate level are 12 and 30 percent which is indicate greater part of the people of tribal in this level.

TABLE-4
MARITAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Married	65	54
Un-Married	53	44
Divorce	1	1
Widow	1	1
Total	120	100

The above table illustrate that, the majority of the respondents were married (54%), and 44 percent of the respondents are

unmarried, and the rest of respondents are divorce and widow respectively.



**TABLE-5
OCCUPATION OF THE RESPONDENTS**

PARTICULAR	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agriculture	70	58
Govt.Employee	6	5
Business	14	12
Other	30	25
Total	120	100

The above table depicts that, Agriculture is the tribals' main source of income. Wheat, Rice, watermelon vegetables, sugarcane, citrus, cucumber and fruits are among the principal

crops farmed in this region. It shows that 58 percent of tribal people are engaged in agriculture, 5 percent are government employee and rest of the business and others occupations.

**TABLE-6
HAVING AGRICULTURAL LAND OF THE RESPONDENTS**

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Nil	40	33
Below 2 Acres	58	48
2-5 Acres	20	17
Above 5 Acres	2	2
Total	120	100

From table-6, Land ownership of Bhadradi Kothagudem is four categories. These are (1) landless having '0' acres of cultivable land without household; (2) Below 2 acres of cultivable land; (3) 2 to 5 acres of cultivable land; (4) Above 5 acres of cultivable

land. It shows that most of the respondents, 48 percent having below 2 acres of land, landless farmer that is 33 percent. 2 to 5 acres are 17 percent. This result indicates that in the area of the people are lower land owner and economically poor in nature.

**TABLE-7
MONTHLY INCOME LEVELS OF THE RESPONDENTS**

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Below 10000	62	52
10001-20000	22	18
20001-30000	5	4
30001-40000	4	3
Above 40000	27	23
Total	120	100

The table-7 shows that the monthly income is determined by income-generating activities such as larger land ownership, business activities, and job services. The area's business and job opportunities are severely limited. It shows that most of the respondent are last category of income which is 52 percent, 18

percent of respondents income level is 10001 to 20000 per month; 4 percent are 20001 to 30000 per month; 3 percent are 30001 to 40000 per month and more than 40000 per month is 23 percent.



TABLE-8
MONTHLY EXPENDITURE OF THE RESPONDENTS

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Below 10000	62	52
10001-20000	36	30
20001-30000	10	8
30001-40000	3	2
Above 40000	9	8
Total	120	100

From the above table, His or her monthly expenses are determined by his or her monthly income. Because the respondent's income is in the lowest group in this location, monthly expenditure is necessarily lower. It shows that the tribal respondent's monthly expenditure is in the lowest category. Less

than 10000 expenditure per month of 62 percent respondents. 30 and 8 percent of respondents are laid in 10001 to 20000 and 20001 to 30000 per month expenditure respectively and 30001 to 40000 and above 40000 is 2 and 8 percent.

TABLE-9
MONTHLY SAVINGS OF THE RESPONDENTS

PARTICULARS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Below 3000	90	75
3001-6000	12	10
6001-9000	8	7
Above 9000	10	8
Total	120	100

The above table reveals that, Monthly saving is also influenced by the family's income; if the family's income is large, then saving is likely to be high as well. Savings differ from person to person; some people are naturally frugal, while others are naturally miserly. It demonstrates the tribal people's saving

instinct. Because income is the lowest category, saving is often low. 75 percent of the respondent are laid in less than 3000 saving per month. 10 percent are laid in 3001 to 6000 saving per month and 7 percent are in 6001 to 9000 saving per month, and above 9000 saving is 8 percent.

TABLE-10
Socio-Economic Scenario
Access to Socioeconomic Resources by Tribal Communities
5-point Likert scale

STATEMENTS	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
1. In the tribal region, there are sources of income-generating facilities.	13 (11%)	16 (13%)	34 (28%)	48 (40%)	9 (8%)	120 (100%)
2. There are sufficient educational facilities in tribal areas.	5 (4%)	37 (31%)	33 (27%)	36 (30%)	9 (8%)	120 (100%)
3. A variety of job opportunities are available in the area.	24 (20%)	29 (24%)	23 (19%)	22 (18.5%)	22 (18.5%)	120 (100%)
4. There is clean drinking water available in society.	13 (11%)	10 (8%)	28 (23%)	51 (43%)	18 (15%)	120 (100%)
5. There are health care facilities in tribal areas.	27 (22%)	11 (9%)	26 (22%)	37 (31%)	19 (16%)	120 (100%)
6. In the tribal region, electricity is available.	5 (4%)	5 (4%)	26 (22%)	60 (50%)	24 (20%)	120 (100%)
7. The tribal people's sanitation facilities are clean.	14 (12%)	21 (18%)	42 (35%)	27 (22%)	16 (13%)	120 (100%)



INTERPRETATION

- Opinion regarding point 1 in table-10, Majority (52%) of the respondents disagreed and strongly disagreed, while the other 48 percent of the respondents expressed their opinion as Strongly agree and agree. It implies, most of the respondents are expressed there are no sources of income generating facilities in the tribal area.
- 62 percent of the respondents are negatively responded on point 2 in table-10, as Strongly disagreed and neutral, disagreed. Just 38 percent responded as agreed and strongly agreed.
- Point 3 of table-10, indicates that 63 percent of the respondents have responded negative opinion on job opportunities, and the remaining, 37 percent of the respondents agreed and were strongly agreed.
- Opinion of the respondents on point 4 of table-10, 58 percent of the respondents agreed and strongly agreed, and the rest of 42 percent of the respondents are Disagree and neutral. It shows that most of the respondents are agreed there is clean drinking water available in society.
- Table-10 of point 5 states that the majority of the respondents (53%) have opined that health care facilities in the area are not good. While the remaining 37 percent agreed with the statement.
- Opinion about points 6, that the majority of the respondents (70%) agreed positively and the remaining 30 percent of the respondents Disagreed and neutral.
- 65 percent of the respondents are negatively responded on point 7 in table-10, as strongly disagree and neutral. Just 35 percent responded as agreed and strongly agreed.

MAJOR FINDINGS

- The majority of the respondents are 53 percent are the gender of male.
- The majority of the respondents 42 percent are in the age group of 30-40.
- The majority of the respondents 30 percent have completed Graduation.
- 54 percent of the respondents are married
- 58 percent of the respondent's occupation is agriculture
- Majority of the respondents 48 percent having below 2 acres of agricultural land
- 52 percent of the respondent's monthly house income is below 10000 only
- The majority of the respondents 52 percent monthly expenditure is below 10000
- 75 percent of the respondent's monthly savings are below 3000
- 52 percent of the respondents expressed, there is no income generating facilities in the tribal area.
- 62 percent of the respondents opined that, there is in sufficient educational facilities in the tribal area

- 65 percent of the respondents reveals that, sanitation facilities are not up to the mark.

CONCLUSION

The tribal of the Bhadradi Kothagudem Lambada and Koya are rich in their culture. Their socio-economic condition is not so good. Because agriculture is their primary occupation, they are impoverished. The tribal people's social security is insufficient. Majorities have always endangered them. Pure drinking water is scarce in the area, and finding it during the dry season is difficult. The tribal community has a limited number of job options. The area's working facilities are inadequate. Although infrastructure development and communication facilities are the first conditions for a community's development, they are limited. Electricity does not cover the entire tribal area, which is a major issue in the area. The education institutions are not as good as they may be. Tribals are benefiting from improvements in sanitation, elementary education, health awareness, social security, and cosmopolitanism, among other things. Tribal women are quite secular in their decision-making and equal involvement in family work. There is no societal reluctance or hindrance for tribal women to work in the farming field with men. They celebrate Hindu religious festivals such as Durga puja, Saraswathi puja, and others. Keep in mind that both tribes are simple, honest, royal, hardworking, and sacrificing.

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