Abstract

India is among a few nations in the world noted for tribal concentration. Although they have ethnographic variations some of the problems shared by them are same. Their standard of living, judged by any measure of income position, calorie intake, nutritional norms, educational standards and physical quality of life index does not fit anywhere within the scope and ambit of normal life. Most of them are unemployed engaged in traditional occupation like agriculture but these people have no land ownership. Most of them have an income which is below subsistence level.

Even after so many decades of independence, the tribals continued to remain aloof from the general prosperity of the nation and are still in the lowest strata of society. They have been subject to various types of exploitation for generations and their life is characterized by servitude, poverty and misery.

Indian constitution speaks of special provisions for tribal welfare and protection and Indian Government has taken care of these people’s welfare under almost all Five year plans. There are so many policies and programmes for the benefit of these people and ITDP is on such programmes.

The origin of present day ITDP can be traced back to 1950. There are some efforts on the social front of tribals but the emancipation of tribal communities was a complex process with serious socio political and economic implications.

This work evaluates the impact of ITDP on tribal life taking into consideration Mysore district in Karnataka state. Improvement in tribal human development indicators in time series data has been analyzed and a sample survey was conducted in Mysore district has been conducted to know the impact of ITDP on the tribal people human development aspects.

Though the result shows lot of improvement in their over all socio economic status, these people still far behind when compared to the general population when it comes to human development aspects. So there is lot of responsibility for both Government as well as NGOs through different policies and programmes to improve the standard of living of tribals.