CHAPTER 4

SOURCE OF INCOME AND LEVEL OF LIVING STANDARD
India is a homeland of more than 400 tribal communities who live in different ecological set up with different socio-cultural and techno-economic behavior. Almost 80 percent of the tribal communities live in forest environment. It has been noted by many that tribal communities living in forest ecosystem, have over all better health status than the communities living in the forest free areas. It is true that in the food gathering societies, when compared of men and women collect more food items which are having high nutritious value. Health status of an individual community depends on several factors viz.; ecological condition, house type, sanitary habits, way of life style, economic status and food & nutrition etc. (Sahani, 2003).

Living standard of any community or society is depend on the source of income, because living standard depend on awareness, literacy and communication etc. It's correlated to living standard, source of income affecting to living standard and living standard affecting of health status and reproductive and child health care practices. Source of income and living standard are determinants of reproductive and child health care practices.

In case of Hill Korwas community source of income is mainly forest products and agriculture, but living standard is not satisfactory. It's contradictory, because this community is not to be well mannered and aware to living standard.

On the related aspects a number of studies have made by various investigators viz., Caprihan, (1982), Dwivedi, (1993), Sharma, (1994), Dwivedi (2003), Sharma & Jain (2004), Jain & Sharma (2006), Tiwari & Sharma (2006) etc. The objective of the present chapter is to study the source of income and living standard among the Hill Korwas of Sarguja district. The results of the relevant aspects are presented in the following tables:
Table 4.2, shows information regarding land-holding capacity, it may be observed from the table that the most of them have less than 3 acres of land (64.00), rather than 4-6 acres (36.00) respectively. It shows that there is low land holding capacity among the Hill Korwas.

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Table 4.1, shows information regarding occupation situation of Hill Korwas, it may be observed from the table that the main occupation of Hill Korwas is agriculture. The maximum individuals engaged in agriculture (90.00) and only 10.00 per cents respondents are engaged as agricultural labor or labor, on the other hand secondary occupation of the Hill Korwas is wood collection (100.00). It could be concluded from the table that the main occupation of the Hill Korwas is Agriculture and side occupation is wood collection.

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Table 4.3, shows information regarding irrigation situation of the land, it may be observed from the table that the maximum number of respondents occupied in non irrigated land (70.00) and 30.00 per cent household owned irrigated land.
Table 4.4, shows information regarding type of domestic animals owned. It may be seen from the table that maximum households owned cow, ox, buffalos, goat and others (hens, pigs etc.). It may be seen from the table that 64.29 per cent households owned cow, rather than 88.57 per cent households owned ox, only 03.43 per cent respondent owned buffalo and 98.57 per cents respondents owned others animals (hens, pigs etc.). It could be concluded from the table that cent percent Hill Korwas owned domestic animals.

Table 4.5, exhibits information regarding monthly income of households, it may be seen from the table that the maximum households earn Rs. 501-1000 (40.00), rather than Rs. 1001-1500 (28.00), Rs. less than 500 (24.00) and Rs. 1501-2000 (08.00). It indicates that cent percent household, of Hill Korwas is living below poverty line.

Table 4.6, exhibits information regarding debt situation of households, it may be seen from the table that the maximum respondents are in debt (72.00) and 28.00 per cents respondents are free from debt. That situation shows low level of economic situation.

Table 4.7, exhibits information regarding housing situation of the respondents, it could be seen from the table that maximum households lived in Kaccha type of house (84.00) rather than pakka house (16.00).

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Table 4.8, reveals information regarding type of bathroom used in daily life. It could be observed from the table that majority of Hill Korwas used open type of bathroom (93.14). It shows low level of living standard.

Table 4.9, Shows information regarding type of latrine used in daily life. It could be observed from the table that 100.00 per cent Hill Korwas used open filed. There is not a single household, who owned flush and service/dry type of latrine.

Table 4.10; exhibits information regarding type of fuel used in daily life. It could be seen from the table that 100.00 per cents Hill Korwas used wood as a fuel material.
Table 4.11: Shows information regarding source of lighting. It could be observed from the table that maximum Hill Korwas used lamps and chimney (88.00) and 12.00 per cent households used electricity for lighting purpose.

On the basis of above cited finding and discussion, it may be concluded that:

1. The main occupation of Hill Korwas is agriculture and secondary occupation collection of wood.

2. Most of them have less than 3 acres of land (64.00).

3. The maximum household posses non irrigated land (70.00).

4. The maximum households owned cow, ox, buffalos, got and other animals (hens, pigs etc.).

5. The 64.29 per cents households owned cow, rather than 88.57 ox, and buffalo (03.43). The 98.57 per cents house holds owned others animals viz. hens, pigs etc.

6. The maximum households earn monthly income Rs. 501-1000 (40.00).

7. The maximum respondents are in debt (72.00).

8. The maximum households owned Kaccha type of house (84.00).

9. The majority of Hill Korwas used open type of bathroom (93.14).
10. The hundred per cent Hill Korwas used open filed for the defecation purpose.

11. The hundred per cents Hill Korwas used wood as fuel.

12. The maximum Hill Korwas used lamps and chimney (88.00) for lighting purpose.

The annual income and living conditions such as type of fuel used, source of lighting, reflect their economic condition and living standard. The economic condition is not good, and living standard is also not satisfactory. Keeping in mind the above sited facts, it may be suggested that there is an urgent need to launch some income generating porogrammes to uplift economic status of the Hill Korwas by government and non-government organizations. The programmes should be launched according to their aspirations, needs and resources.