CHAPTER - VI

SUMMARY, FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter summarizes the results of the present study carried out among the Paniyan tribes inhabiting in the Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu. The gathered information includes Socio and Economic aspects covering Education, Family Size, Family Type, Water Source, Fuel, Occupation, Income, Wage Rate, Number of working days, Consumption, Collection of forest product, Savings Debts, Habits, Basic needs. The analysis was done using Computer facility. Besides extensive tabulations, some statistical analysis was applied to find out the structure of Paniyan tribes, their condition explained by each independent variable. The present study and its findings are presented in this chapter.

Findings

* It is observed that 69 respondents are participated from Cherangode as one of the selected revenue villages in the Gudalur Block. The respondent households are greater in this village.

* Most of the respondents are Paniyan religion, and followed by 21.43 per cent of them are Paniya-Hindu and 19.43 per cent of Paniyan tribes are Hindus. All of them are relatively follows in particulars as Hindu religion.

* Female respondents are participated higher than male respondents participated. 29.14 per cent of the respondents are in the age group of 36-45. Among the respondents 74 per cent of them are married.

* It is noted that 68 per cent of the respondents are illiteracy and remaining 32 per cent are literate. Among the respondent households, the literacy rate is observed as very
low when compared to state level. The younger generation is found going to schools, so the literacy rate is gradually found increasing in the last decade. It was also noted that only few of them are reaching to the high school level.

* It was also observed that these days majority of them are having nuclear type of family. The people feel that a nuclear household is better, that it is easy to manage and maintain the family. The management of joint households of these days is very difficult due to economic reasons, so that many are not favoring in the joint family system.

* The average of the family size is 4.89 and medium and mode of the family size is 5. From this, average, medium and mode of the family size are same, is known as a symmetrical distribution.

* More than 40 per cent of the respondent households are containing both in tiled house and concreted house. The houses are constructed the different schemes and projects of the Government with help of Non-Government Organization. The traditional houses are slowly replaced by the Asbestos sheet houses and tiled houses, which are not suitable for the cold. The ventilation facilities are not proper. Most of the houses are provided with single window made out of cement.

* It is observed that the most of their houses are electrified according to the study; unfortunately the power cut is there most of the time, very rarely power will be there. The concerned officers just give them electricity connection only to fulfill the Government records.
* It observed 87 per cent of the respondent households are drinking unprotected water from pond, well and canals. Drinking water quality is very poor and most of tribes do not have the containers to preserve the water. During summer months the tribal faces acute problems of drinking water.

* Most of the people are using firewood for cooking; which is the easily available for fuel in their own locality itself. They go and collect the firewood from surrounding estates, fields and forests. They use it for economic reasons also.

* In all village 50 per cent of the respondent households are have concrete way to reach the houses and remaining 40 per cent of them have sail path to reach the houses.

* It is observed that 77 per cent of the respondent households are go out by walk without any type of vehicle.

* It is observed that only 4 per cent of the respondents have motorcycle and 11 per cent of the respondents are rearing goats for their employment, income purpose while none of them do not have cow. Also, 65 per cent of the respondents are rearing poultry for their consumption. Many of them are very much influenced by the modern media especially television and mobile phone that had made a lot of changes in their life style.

* It is observed that the occupation of the respondent households is 34.29 per cent of the respondent households are agricultural labourer, followed by 18.86 are tree cutter and 16.86 per cent are horticulture labours. Majority of the respondent households are working as Daily wage labourers, their economic status and living conditions are
very poor and it is chief occupation. The Analysis of Variance finds that there is significance between occupation status and income level of the respondent’s household in the study area. Consequently, it was concluded that there is a significant different between two variables.

* It finds the average of monthly working days of the respondents is 8.1, medium is 7.78 days and mode is 6.94 days.

* The average wage rate of the respondents is rupees 309.28 and medium and mode of the wage rate is rupees 250. The wage rate is a direct relationship with rainy season.

* It is finds that among the respondents, maximum wage rate is rupees 500 and minimum wage rate is rupees150. There is a wage differentiate between Male and Female of labour of the respondents.

* It finds that the 90 per cent of the respondent households are collecting minor forest products. 54 per cent of the respondent households are collecting both of food and commercial products. As it collecting for self consumption purpose is 38 per cent, employment and income purpose are 19 per cent and consumption, employment and income purpose are 33 per cent, which is highest in this category. Those products are selling 38 per cent through trade system and remaining 20 per cent are selling through barter and trade system. 48 per cent are selling those products in the nearest private agency and only 4 per cent of them are selling in Scheduled Tribes Co-operative agency.

* It finds the monthly average income of the Paniyan family is rupees 2125.71, mode income of the Paniyan household is rupees 1944.98 and monthly per capita income
of the respondent households is rupees 434.70. It is observed that 50 per cent of household income is between rupees 1500-3000 per month and followed by 32.86 per cent of the respondent households income are below rupees 1500 per month and only 8 per cent of the respondent households are income between rupees 4500-6000. This reveals that 82 per cent of the respondent households have income below rupees 3000 per households. Because, one of the main reasons of their irregular job and unemployment.

- Level of income and size of the family are independent to each other.
- Level of income and type of house are dependent as it shown as positive relationship.
- Level of income and occupational status of the respondents are dependent as agriculture labourer, private service, tree cutter shows positive relationship with income and horticulture labourer and collection of forest product shows negative relationship with income of the households. So it is concluded that there is significance among the variables.
- Karl Pearson Chi-square shows that there is no significant between levels of income of the respondents among the revenue villages.
- It is observed that 39 per cent of the respondent households are making food expenditure between rupees 1000-1500 per month which is highest in this category. 68.29 per cent the respondent households are doing non-food expenditure below rupees 500 per month and 27.71 per cent of the respondent households are doing non-food expenditure rupees 500-1000 per month. More than 36 per cent of the
respondent households are spending totally between rupees 1500-3000 and 3000-4500 per month.

* It is discovered that the monthly average total expenditure of the respondent households is rupees 2374.28, mode for monthly total expenditure for them is rupees 2951.61 and monthly per capita expenditure of the respondent households is rupees 485.53, which is rupees 50.83 greater than monthly per capita income of the respondent households.

* Level of expenditure and size of the family are independent to each other.

* Karl Pearson Correlation finds that the strong positive relationship between total income and total expenditure as 8.20 per cent.

* Karl Pearson Correlation got the positive association between food and non-food expenditure as it’s being 54.80 per cent.

* It's finds 33.71 per cent of the respondent households eating the food one time per day and only 6.57 per cent of the respondent households are consuming the food three times per day. 93.43 per cent of the respondent households are consuming the food in both vegetarian and non-vegetarian and remaining percent are no response. It is observed that majority of them are non-vegetarians. Since fishing is very common among them, they include fish and crabs in their seasonal food. Consumption of non-vegetarian is 40 per cent of them are consuming frequently and weekly basis. 59 per cent of them are consuming raw food from forest and it may be irregular.

* It is finds that 58 per cent of the respondent households are consumed both pulses and cereals. It should be consuming irregularly and 64.57 per cent of the respondent
households are consuming vegetables and fruits from forest and purchased from market and many of them are brought from nearest working fields.

* Only 20.85 per cent of the respondent households purchase milk for consumption. Because they are private services and another reason there is children of houses. It shows the low level of nutrition of the respondent households. No one rearing the cow and only rearing the goats.

* It indicates monthly average saving of the respondent households is rupees 391.42 and monthly per capita saving of the respondent households is rupees 80.04.

* The Correlation and Linear Regression are relationship for the savings and debts of the respondent households, which are 41.10 per cent positive relation.

* It finds that the 16.29 per cent of the respondent households are savings below rupees 500, 8 per cent of the respondent households are savings rupees 2000-2500 and remaining 71 per cent of the respondent households do not save the money. Because, they do not have regular income. Among the savings respondent households, 29 per cent savings money in co-operative bank and 20.29 per cent in Self Help Groups. Nobody have any type of jewels and valuable things with them.

* It finds monthly average debts of the respondent households is rupees 543.42, mode of the debt amount is rupees 350 and monthly per capita debt amount of the respondent households is rupees 111.13. Most of the respondent households have debts. Among those 36 per cent of between rupees 300-600, 15 per cent of them have both in rupees 0-300 and 600-900. It finds that 50 per cent of the respondent
households are received loan form money lender, which is highest and also weekly base of payment. But rate of interest is high than other places.

* The health conditions of the respondent households are very poor. Most of the respondent households are suffering from simple diseases such as fever, cold, cough, headache, body pain and teeth oriented. Among those 34.29 per cent of the respondent households are taking treatment from Non-Government Organization’s hospital and 16.29 per cent of them are taking treatment from Government hospital. In study, more than 57 per cent of the respondent households do not know about the family welfare program and remaining is no response. Most of the respondent households do not know about insurance schemes.

* All household have ration card and received essential items from ration shop. They are pledge the ration card to receive loans.

* It is finds that 20 per cent of the respondent households are members of political organization and 60.86 per cent of them do not have any memberships.

* Few of them say that the improved tribal community, but unfortunately most of the governments funds for their development are not reaching to them. In Nilgiris district, few years ago at the request of the state government, ACCORD and AMS had drawn up a detailed master plan for all the adivasis of the area.

* The study finds that the most of the respondent households are faced water problems. Out of 350 households, 11 per cent of them are require housing, 14 per cent of them are require money for food, 20.57 per cent of them are require employment and 4.86
per cent of them are require cloth for wear. Respondents are considered these things as it is basic needs.

* Most (60.57 per cent) of the respondent households are using betel leaves, areca nut, tobacco, smoking, alcohol which is highest among the Paniyan tribal than intake food.

* Dominant communities should treat Paniyan people as inferior community.

* It is observed that the more than 50 per cent of the respondent households are dissatisfied in life.

* Most of the men need jobs in forest department because they do not want to be away from the forest and wild life.

* The Lorenz curve of expenditure is near to line of equity than debt and income. The expenditure line shows that dispersion is lower than others and concluded that consistency is more than others.

* The Co-efficient of Variation for income is 44.47 per cent and expenditure is 38.22 per cent, in which variation of income of the respondent households shows more dispersion and less consistency than expenditure of the respondent households.

* Multiple Regressions shows that the inadequate basic need, working days per month and food per day, those variables are associated with happiness of the respondent households. But, food per day is strongly positive association with the dependant variable of happiness of the respondent households, which is 64.60 per cent, decides the respondent households happiness.
Conclusion

Most of the respondent households feel that education makes their boys disobedient, insolent and alienates them from rest of their society. (Girls give every kind of help to their mothers while boys work in the field with their parents especially during the agricultural season. House constructed by Government and through Non-government Organization, is look at poorhouses to the hardship in livelihood. The meals taken by most of the respondent households are remaining simple. Most of them eat boiled rice with some amount of dal and occasionally some vegetables as well as chewing betel leaves and areca nuts. The food habit is uniform among the respondent households and there is not variation.

The Environmental conditions (physical and social) have played a determining role in shaping the life and economic activities of the respondent households. Forest plays a vital role in the life of the respondent households. It is very difficult for any respondent households to live without forest. The respondent households are considered to be less developed than the rural economy. It is almost a closed economy and the tribal are living in object poverty, malnutrition and unemployment under subsistence economy. Few tribes are goat rearing, they gives adequate income, as it just improved in the basic life of the respondent households is visible. Collection of forest product is equally important for the respondent households. They are collecting a number of wild roots, fruits, leaf and vegetables around the year. This is main job of the women and adolescent children and older, as they are enough to recognize these forest products. There is a strong positive association between income and expenditure of the respondent households.

The respondent households not have much contact with the rest of the tribes and others in the study area. The government programmes have implemented in the study area, none of
the respondent households responded to the programmes. ACCORD and CTRD are non-government organization, which are majority role to receive government aids and spent it tribal development. Basic need of the food per day is determine the happiness of the respondent households.

**Suggestions**

- The tribal literacy level is poor, specifically the Paniyan tribes are very poor in education; this is because of that they were highly isolated from mainstream of life and they do not know the importance of education. To create interest on education, the same Paniyan tribal has to be trained as a teacher and post them as teachers this will motiue the tribes to lead the way towards development.

- Paniyan tribes were highly isolated from mainstream of life and there is very little infrastructure for formal education in their settlement. Adult education both for men and women to awaken their awareness for the need for economic development has to be paid serious attention. The Paniyan habitations have not yet been effectively brought into the mainstream of national life. Therefore, proper infrastructure facilities should be provided, so that they could be linked with national mainstream, which will go a long way to develop their socio-economic conditions.

- Anganwadi Centres are not functioning in the tribal villages. So it is suggested to open the Anganwadi Centres in all the tribal settlements for the nutritional supplement.

- The Primitive Tribal Groups being small, the saturation approach towards the economic development of the entire group is not possible. Thus the individual family as the base should be adopted.
➢ The Government should make arrangements to provide at least one-light service electrification to all the respondent households. Government should provide the safe drinking water through tap to Paniyan settlements. Existing programs for the tribal need to be strengthened and improved to achieve their desired objectives. However, attention should also be given to reduce problems of development where it exists.

➢ Paniyan tribes were found to suffer from almost all the deficiency diseases. This was due to the lack of a balanced diet in their consumption pattern. Though the natural resource was available in abundance in the tribal areas, the tribal did not know the nutritive value of it. So, awareness should be created among the tribes on the nutritive value of the local food resources.

➢ Awareness needs to be created among the Paniyan tribes regarding the adverse effect of excessive intake of alcohol and the use of tobacco / drugs.

➢ To uplift the Paniyan tribe’s economy, the government has to create awareness about the tribal development programmes in the Paniyan settlements and make them to use the welfare measures. The village head has to be educated regarding the economic empowerment provided by the government.

➢ In order to provide and enhance their income, employment opportunities should be created.

➢ Recommended that the state government should appoint the Welfare Officers as Field Officers to evaluate and monitoring the implementation of the schemes in the Paniyan settlements. This will ensure that the program remain effective and culturally sensitive.

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