

**LIVING CONDITIONS OF TRIBALS IN TELANGANA REGION: A CASE STUDY  
OF KHAMMAM DISTRICT**

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**CHAPTER-I**

**INTRODUCTION**

Development is usually conceived as an aspect of change that is desirable, broadly predicted or planned and administered, or at least influenced, by governmental action. Thus, the concept of development consists of (a) an aspect of change; (b) a plan or prediction; and (c) involvement of the government for the achievement of that planned or predicted goal. The term "development" is also used for the process of allowing and encouraging people to meet their own aspirations. It, therefore, must relate to transforming the entire society enmeshing together its economic, social, political and administrative aspects on all-round balanced upward change.

The term "development" involves all aspects of human activity. In still broader context, nations have been defined as developed or developing. But how can one justify that one is more developed than those who are to be developed. These questions have become very sensitive nowadays when one finds underdevelopment in some sphere or the other everywhere. For example, a society or nation may be more developed in the economic front; however, it may be underdeveloped on the

social front. So, one cannot define development in some aspects only; rather, it should be viewed multi-dimensionally.

The tribal population in the State of Andhra Pradesh and in the country as a whole is the most deprived and vulnerable community that faces severe economic exclusion. Although certain constitutional safeguards are provided, there has been no economic, social and political mobility across these communities. Contrary to Scheduled Castes and other Backward Castes who witnessed certain degrees of progress because of protective discrimination policies of the government, the Scheduled Tribes remain abysmally backward and socially excluded, still living in harsh environs. The economy and livelihood practices of the tribals are closely associated with the ecological factors and habitats which they inhabit. Most of these communities are found inhabiting the border districts of the state in the north and the northeast. The tribals live in forests and use forest land for cultivation. They collect forest produce which varies from forest to forest to supplement what they grow on land. Land is used for living and livelihood. The lives of the tribals are influenced by their habitat, level of traditional and ancient knowledge, and the skills they possess in using the resources that are available. Land is the main stay of the tribal people. Any discussion on the lives of tribals, irrespective of what aspect is being discussed is incomplete when the issue of land is left out. Not only their economies and livelihoods, but also their social relations, respective role of men and women, nature of struggles their relationship with the state, with non-tribals, their religious rituals, are all closely related to land issues - particularly the land in and around forests.

## **CONTEXT**

Tribal people of India suffered from neglect for long centuries until after independence they were drawn into the mainstream of the national life. Much has since been done for them, though much more remains to be done. Efforts made by the Government to ameliorate the conditions of tribal people. The backward tribal economy, which is characterized by extremely low level of economic activity, provides meagre employment opportunities. Though more than 70 per cent of tribals depend, on agriculture, their employment in this sector is hardly for 4 months in a year. During off-season these people remain idle without any gainful employment. By and large, they eke out their living through collection of minor forest produce, fishing, hunting, cutting of firewood etc. between one agricultural season and the other.

Tribal development poses a challenge to 'the policy makers, administrators and social workers all over the world. Even after six decades of planned development, due to the inaccessibility of the tribal areas in hilly areas and remote areas as also extreme variations' in the climatic conditions, the tribals have not been able to share the gains of development equally with the non-tribals and as a result they have remained backward and poor. The Government has tried to bring the-tribals at par with the non-tribals by launching various developmental schemes.

Levels of living is not wholly a monetary or even an economic, concept. It is so comprehensive as to include the material and non material consumption of individuals living in a family and also the collective wants of groups and communities. The factors determining the levels of living are income, size of the family and its earning strength, social status and other cultural, social and economic environment in which one lives and is also influenced by state action.

Despite some drawbacks in the implementation of the development programmes, the developmental activities have made a definite impact on the life-styles of the scheduled tribes.

After understanding the status of tribals with reference to their socio-economic status along with living conditions, any attempt to study the tribal problem with reference to living conditions, will assume considerable amount of significance. Hence, a modest attempt is made to review the earlier studies in order to identify the aspects covered and gaps if any.

### **REVIEW OF THE EARLIER STUDIES**

**Masavi, M.I**<sup>1</sup> had observed that it is found that there is high incidence of poverty in tribal areas. For tribals life is only a battle for survival. It is binding of the civilized city dwellers to bring life the lives of mere existence of these tribal brethren. To improve their standard of living there is an urgent need to provide them more opportunities of earning.

**Rangacharyulu, S.V**<sup>2</sup> has found that the APL households enjoy better housing status than the BPL households in respect of each of the 16 major states suggesting that economic status is a factor to determine the housing status. It is further observed that

1. The states of Haryana, Punjab and Kerala occupy the three positions on the housing status as far as BPL households are concerned. Similar trends are also witnessed in respect of both APL and overall group households. Falling

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<sup>1</sup> Masavi, M.I, "Income and Levels of Living in Tribal Areas of Gujarat", KHADI GRAMODYOG, 22(4), 1976(January): 195-200

<sup>2</sup> Rangacharyulu, S.V, "Consumer expenditure elasticity's of housing index of rural areas", JOURNAL OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 13(1), 1994(Jan-Mar): 35-46

on the end of the spectrum are the states of Orissa, West Bengal Assam and Bihar.

2. In the relative sense, the housing status of APL households, of the states of Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal is no better than that of their counterparts in the BPL category of the developed states of Haryana, Kerala, Punjab etc. Hence in addition to extending help to the weaker sections alone for bringing about improvement in the housing status, the Government housing policy must have a bias towards the APL households as well in these states.
3. The expenditure elasticity's of housing index are found to be high in respect of the states of Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar implying that incomes have a direct bearing on the housing status. As such, it is suggested that the Government should concentrate more on improving the incomes of the households, especially of weaker sections through effective implementation of wage employment programmes and this effort should be coupled with simultaneous implementation of housing programmes for weaker sections in these states.

**Reddy, B. Krishna and Reddy, M. Ramachandra**<sup>3</sup> made a critical analysis of the tribal welfare programmes revealed that the comparatively more affluent section of the Sugali community was taking more and more advantage of the benefits of

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<sup>3</sup> Reddy, B. Krishna and Reddy, M. Ramachandra, "Introducing directed change in a tribal community", SOCIAL CHANGE, 21(2), 1991(June): 25-31

welfare measures and the poorer section was often left behind. If this situation was allowed to continue, the gulf between the two sections will widen, ultimately leading to disintegration at the community level. To check this and to reduce the gap it is necessary to stream future welfare programmes so that, first of all, the poorer section gets a sound economic footing which will ultimately lead to the all round progress of the Sugali community. It was also observed that corruption of the Government officials and rigidity in the implementation of rules were the two main loopholes in the implementation of various welfare programmes. Often leaders of the Sugalis themselves, it is noticed, exploit their own brethren by making false promises. Lack of education, limited contact with outside world and complexity of rules compelled many a Sugali in both the Tandas to treat leaders as Suitable in getting their things done from different welfare agencies. Despite some drawbacks in the implementation of the development programmes, the developmental activities have made a definite impact on the life-styles of both the groups of Sugalis. They have acted as potential sources for raising their standard of living, for accelerating their empathic ability and to remove the obstacles in linking of the Sugali settlements with a wider network in India. Various development programmes have established beyond doubt that the Sugalis are not unintelligent or unduly tradition bound. In this context, it can be stated that 'innovations will be accepted if they are personally rewarding and satisfying to that what they replace or supplement" (Mead 1963). The progressive spirit now manifested among the Sugalis indicates that their very backwardness as well as cultural factors have intensified their aspirations and desire for quick progress. Finally, it can be suggested that there should also be programmes to increase the Sugalis'

understanding of their dependence on and their responsibilities for maintaining and improving, the ecological balance. The Sugalis are to be motivated or informed of the need and uses of different non-conventional sources of energy such as biogas, biomas, windmill etc., and social and commercial forestry

**Bapuji, M. and Pandit, J.V.K.V<sup>4</sup>**, have observed that tribal people of India suffered from neglect for long centuries until after independence they were drawn into the mainstream of the national life. Much has since been done for them, though much more remains to be done. Efforts made by the Government to ameliorate the conditions of tribal people of the coastal district of Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh are discussed in this article. The author's also suggests various measures to further streamline the administrative system for the purpose.

**Hanumantha rayappa and Grover Deepak<sup>5</sup>** have noted that main distinguishing characteristics the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes are their rurality, illiteracy, economic backwardness (lower income, under incidence of indebtedness, fewer etc) and social retardation (low disabilities, etc). The same prevalent among general population also but are more prominent in the of scheduled groups. These groups, the tribes, constitute the among the weaker sections. Another facet of poverty among weaker sections is the ownership of fewer assets such as agricultural land. In general, the areas where the tribals live and work areas secluded and backward, Also the tribal areas happen to be poorly integrated with the rest of the economy. Even though the scheduled castes and

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<sup>4</sup> Bapuji, M. and Pandit, J.V.K.V, "Transforming the tribals of Srikakulam", KURUKSHETRA, 25(16), 1977(May 16): 18-19

<sup>5</sup> Hanumantha rayappa and Grover Deepak, "Employment planning for scheduled caste and schedule tribes", ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 14(24), 1979(16,June): 1015-1022

scheduled tribes are concentrated among small cultivators and agricultural laborers, it is naive to equate them the other weaker sections in rural India. They finally concluded that there is a need for careful analysis of data on weaker sections (particularly on scheduled castes and scheduled tribes) even though such data are scarce and are partially helpful for the purpose or planning. Greater caution is required in drawing policy inferences on employment and employment aspects based on these sparse data. More detailed inquiries are necessary for different caste and tribe groups at the national, state local levels.

**Suryanarayana, C<sup>6</sup>** has opined that the backward tribal economy, which is characterized by extremely low level of economic activity, provides meagre employment opportunities. Though more than 70 per cent of tribals depend, on agriculture, their employment in this sector is hardly for 4 months in a year. During off-season these people remain idle without any gainful employment. By and large, they eke out their living through collection of minor forest produce, fishing, hunting, cutting of firewood etc. between one agricultural season and the other. As such generation of job opportunities to unskilled and semi-skilled tribal labour has been considered as one of the vital aspects of tribal development programmes. The Area Development Approach of the Government of India is a step in the right direction. The objective is to speed up economic development of tribal tracts without jeopardizing the socio-cultural matrix of tribals and eventually distribute the fruits of economic development to this lagging section ant society. It is felt that the

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<sup>6</sup> Suryanarayana, C, "Achievements of ITDA programmes" KURUKSHETRA, 31(9), 1983(January 16), 17-18,21

economic activity, if geared properly, would create job opportunities to a large chunk of the tribal labour force.

**Nayak, Vijay and Prasad, Shailaja**<sup>7</sup> have estimated the consumption expenditure distribution of the SC/ST and the non-SC/ST groups in Karnataka. We find that the SC/ST have a lower standard of living than the non SC/ST. This is not surprising. However, there has been a fall in the standard of living in real terms for both the SC/ST and not-SC/ST over the period 1973-74 to. 1977-78. The decrease has been greater for the SC/ST, leading to a widening of 'the disparity. With respect to inequality, there is generally less inequality within the SC/ST group as compared to the non-SC/ST. This is not surprising either, since the SC/SC is more homogenous than the non- SC/ST. Over the period of study, the inequality within the groups has increased. The increase in the inequality for the SC/ST has been of a higher magnitude than that for the non-SC/ST. On closer examination, we find that a small percentage of the SC/ST in the urban sector have fared extremely well in comparison to their non-SC/ST counterparts, while the majority of the SC/ST suffered relatively more. The study also shows that only a minor proportion of the poor are SC/ST. The study points to the differences in the levels of education and occupational status of the households, and suggests that this may be a major factor accounting for the observed disparities in levels of living. This aspect, however, needs further analysis.

**Janardhan Rao, B and Bharat Bhushan, M**<sup>8</sup> addressed the public meeting, and

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<sup>7</sup> Nayak, Vijay and Prasad, Shailaja, "On levels of living of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes", ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 19(30), 1984(July 28): 1205-1213

<sup>8</sup> Janardhan Rao, B and Bharat Bhushan, M, "Andhra Pradesh: Tribals forums unite for self rule", ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 30(1), 1995(January 7): 24-25

outlined how development policies pursued by the post-independence governments have further intensified the process of marginalization of the rural poor and tribal communities by alienating them from their common property resources. He said that the current economic policy is destructive in general and would lead to the erosion of tribal identity as well as their extinction as distinct peoples. The moves towards lifting restrictions on and transfer in agency areas, he said, would turn the tribals into destitute and slaves in their own lands. In the long run the process would also uproot the small and middle peasants among non-tribals in the agency areas, as these lands increasingly become the playgrounds of industrial and foreign capital interests. He said that there is an urgent need so extend the Sixth Schedule provisions to all tribal agencies and initiate the process of tribal autonomy so safeguard the rights of tribal communities as guaranteed by the Constitution. Speaking about the Forest Bill, he said that it should be radically reframed to protect forest wealth from becoming the private resource of capital interests. Unless it is amended the traditional right is of adivasis would be totally eliminated, and this would lend to the privatization of public resources. All development projects hitherto introduced in the agency areas have only developed the tribal region, but not the tribal people. A distinction must be made between 'development' of tribal regions and tribal emancipation, failing which all those programmes aimed at tribal development would further intensify the hold of the migrants and weaken that of the natives, and would only create an illusion of tribal development while the ground reality continues to be one of growing conflict and contradictions in tribal agency areas.

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**Narsimha Rao, P. et.al**<sup>9</sup> have found that to a direct question, whether they faced any problem in the process of receiving the scheme, 89 per cent of them said that they did not face any problems. Rest of the 11 per cent beneficiaries said they faced many problems in the process of receiving the scheme. The latter category of the respondents maintained that delay in forwarding the application; cumbersome rules and regulations; bringing the lower level officials for forwarding the application to the higher levels; negative attitude of the bank officials in giving consent letter and sanction of the amount to purchase the scheme; delay in sanctioning the scheme by the financing agencies; illiteracy of the beneficiaries and their ignorance of office procedures; losing wages while visiting pillar to post in getting the schemes etc., are the major problems they encountered in availing the schemes.

**Raja Rathnam, B**<sup>10</sup> has observed that tribal development becomes a big challenge to 'the policy makers, administrators and social workers all over the world. Even after five decades of planned development, due to the inaccessibility of the tribal areas in hilly areas and remote areas as also extreme variations' in the climatic conditions, the tribals have not been able to share the gains of development equally with the non-tribals and as a result they have remained backward and poor. The Government has tried to bring the-tribals at par with the non-tribals by launching various developmental schemes such as the Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP) and by allocating separate funds for their

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<sup>9</sup> Narsimha Rao, P. et.al, "Administration of Tribal development in Andhra Pradesh: A study of modified area development approach", INDIAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, 57(1), 2011(Jan-March): 100-116

<sup>10</sup> Raja Rathnam, B, "Impact of Institutional credit on socio-economic development of Tribals: A study of Khammam Dist, A.P", JOURNAL OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 23(2), 2005(April-June): 245-268

upliftment, but still there exists vast variation in the levels of their living standards. The rural credit institutions have emerged as catalytic agents in providing credit for the economic betterment of tribals, but the level of utilization of rural credit by the tribal communities is poor and uneven in most of the tribal belts, It is, therefore, a matter of vital concern for the policy makers, planners aa4 bankers to ensure that the tribal communities can be brought under the institutional fold in order to enable optimum use of rural credit for their economic betterment. Further, operational performance of credit institutions, the borrowing pattern and repaying capacity of tribals and impact of rural credit on their socio-economic development, are all different from one tribal region to another and even within the same region due to age-old, social, economic and cultural handicaps coupled with environmental factors. The main objective of credit institutions operating in tribal areas is, therefore, to enable the Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections to adopt modern technology and improve their agricultural practices for increasing production as well as productivity. Indebtedness has been considered as one of the most vicious causes of the exploitation of tribals in the country. In fact, the tribal economy is essentially non-monetary with little cash surplus being generated. Once debt has been incurred, it is very difficult to be repaid by the poor tribals, even over generations due to exorbitant interest rates and lack of knowledge of repayment terms and rates of interest rates; and at times, absence of documents. This is because of the usurious rates of interest being charged by non-institutional agencies in the tribal areas in spite of various Acts passed by State Government.

**Vittal, C.P**<sup>11</sup> has revealed that the adaptability to change by Chenchus in the study region is both positive and encouraging in several aspects which in effect contributed to their socio-economic transformation. The ethos of the tribal world sets it off against the stereo-typed modernity of the non-tribal world, within it, there is a rich mosaic, of cultural and socio-economic diversity among the different tribal communities. The individuality of one tribal makes it conspicuously different from another, being heightened by isolation and other environmental factors, leading to development of distinctive line of evolution. The Chenchus, originally, a nomadic tribe and wandering people are now slowly adapting so permanent settlement and slowly adjusting to the new environment in the plains. The Chenchus attuned their life styles in the new settlement to suit the new environment and switched over to agriculture and other wage labour distinct from their traditional mode of living. They are also enthusiastic to rear the cattle which in turn help them to pursue agricultural operations an indicative of a clear shift to a different kind of economy much alien to them. Tribal groups which have developed their association with neighboring village-folk, have modified their tribal economy but still retain their tribal vitality and distinctive social organization. The attitude towards small family norm and schooling of their children clearly show their positive approach towards change and to the process of transformation. According to Vidyarthi the tribals in different parts of India are passing through an active phase of transformation and the equilibrium of the traditional society has definitely been greatly disturbed. But, the tribal scenario of the Chenchus in the study region is

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<sup>11</sup> Vittal, C.P, "Socio-economic transformation of a primitive tribal group: a study of Chenchus in Andhra Pradesh", *MAN IN INDIA*, 72(2), 1992(June): 198-206

that still a handful of them are influenced by certain age old practices and taboos. It is distressing to note some of the Chenchus even today go for shekar (hunting) and to dig out certain tubers like 'Chenchugaddalu' under depleted conditions of earning their bread. Despite bore wells and other facilities for drinking water in the village some of them prefer to fetch water from the irrigation wells in their fields. Some of the Chenchus wastefully spend substantial sums on alcohol even risking their precious health though they are struggling for hand-to-mouth existence. In this regard the views of Vidyarthi are quite significant. He says: social change among the tribal communities, as among other, is not to be judged only in terms of the processes and factor which are readily visible on the surface. In sum, it can be gauged that the adaptability to change by Chenchus while in some aspects is both positive and encouraging but in some other aspects it is on a slow pace due to their taboos, Though Chenchus could derive certain benefits out of the new assets given to them under various development programmes by accruing additional income, they however, could not derive maximum benefits out of the same due to certain inbuilt impediments. In the words of Saxena the major aim of tribal welfare programmes should be to solve the various problems arising out of uncontrolled, haphazard and at times disastrous culture contact, to provide amenities of modern life and to create conditions of their systematic integration into the main stream of the Indian society.

**Heredia, Rudolf C**<sup>12</sup> has observed that if an outsider encountering this strange new world of tribal culture often produced response of 'wonder' that was ambiguous: amazement and fear, repulsion and attraction, condemnation and

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<sup>12</sup> Heredia, Rudolf C, "Tribal history: living word or dead letter?", ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 35(18), 2000(Apr/May):1522-1525

appreciation. But the ambiguity was at least open-ended. It is precisely this ambiguity of wonder that remains "available for decency as well as domination". So there is still a human way available to cope with the otherness of the other and to recognize oneself in the other, and the other in oneself. May we always be able to wonder because the other is always beyond our reach, our grasp always partial, and open to learning. Perhaps this capacity to 'wonder', the beginning of all philosophy as Plato speculated in ancient Greece, is what our tribals can restore to us today.

**K. M Joshi**<sup>13</sup> has noted that the tribal community of India remains the most backward ethnic group of India in terms of health, education and income status. The tribal communities are living in widespread poverty, illiteracy and malnutrition. The enrolment of tribal children in the elementary has increased in the recent times but the issue of effective participation and high dropout prevails, especially in the age group of 9-14. Unfortunately regional disparity and gender disparity in access to education amongst the tribal children is very explicit and reflective of unaccomplished task with reference to the tribal communities of India. The high participation rate of tribal children in labour market and their low participation in school is largely because of their Poverty and economic status. The cost of attending schools is not able to offset the economic loss or opportunity cost of working as a child labour.

As the tribal communities are heterogeneous and their socio-economic landscape differs from each other so there is a need to have regional policies along with the

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<sup>13</sup> K. M. Joshi, "Tribal children , education access and participation as child labour: some reflections from India", INDIAN J SOC DEV, VOL.11, No.1, 2011 (January-June), pp 317-331

macro policies to address the problem of child labour. The policy makers will have to differentiate the situations in which the earning of child is essential for household survival from other circumstances in which children work in labour market, which is visible in many African countries with large tribal communities. Enforcing the laws of ban on child labour very strictly as priority policy in tribal areas may not be effective without simultaneous policies that enhance the economic status of these tribals. In absence of appropriate incentives, any attempt to strictly implement child labour ban is likely bring negative effects and push them in more hazardous and unsupervised work or increase the poverty.

Child labour policies and education policies have to be formulated and implemented in close association. The effective school participation and reduction in dropout has to be addressed simultaneously with the economic compensation for the impoverished tribal households. The curriculum in the school will also have to be tribal specific and in the local language which would create learning ambiance. Involvement of people of tribal community is prominent stakeholders in imparting education through training of people from tribal community is likely to bring in more apparent results of increase in school participation and reduction in child labour.

**S. Gregory and Jancy Gregory**<sup>14</sup> has observed that there is a great need for examining the questions which are stated below:

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<sup>14</sup> S. Gregory and Jancy Gregory, "Role of education in tribal development: Issues and concerns", *SOCIAL ACTION*, VOL.57, 2007 (January-March), pp 14-25

- When there has been so much exploitation against the tribal communities at all levels, what kind of education that would effectively respond to such situation in order to free them from all kinds of exploitation?
- While there has been so much emphasis on formal education and considering its achievement alone as the sole criterion for measuring the educational attainment of the tribal people, what kind of positive or negative impact will it bring about in the life of the tribal people?

These are requiring serious thinking and immediate response while discussing tribal education. What ever be the case, there should be no doubt in the minds of the people who are seriously concerned with the development of tribal people that what is required today is a holistic education that is meaningful to the living community and society.

**Ramaiah P<sup>15</sup>** has analyzed the problems of agriculture, forestry and industrialization, focusing on poverty and indebtedness of tribals. He critically discussed several approaches to the multi-dimensional development of Indian tribals-policy of isolation, policy of assimilation and policy of middle path and suggests a new approach for integrated development of tribals without destroying the essential ethos of tribal culture.

**Trivedi H.V<sup>16</sup>** has observed that the tribals remained buried in poverty and backwardness for centuries have now been introduced to the forces of planned development and modernization. They occupy a privileged position through the implementation of protective discrimination in the tribal process of development.

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<sup>15</sup> Ramaiah P, "Tribal economy of India", Chaung Publication, Hyderabad, 1981.

<sup>16</sup> Trivedi H V (1985), "Economic development of Tribes in India", Himanshu Publications, Delhi.

**Mahalingam S**<sup>17</sup> has noted that India is one of the few nations of the world noted for its tribal concentration. Tribals are among the most down-trodden section of the society who have been victims of age old social and cultural prejudices and hostile environmental factors. Their integration with the mainstream of national life has been recognized as a necessary condition for their welfare.

**Bharati and Mamtaz**<sup>18</sup> have observed that NGOs can play an important role in the development, implementation, and reform of public health service. To be effective, NGOs must recognize the critical role of law in protecting the health of the public and in the public health system's emergency preparedness in tribal areas.

**Kurane M and Suresh M**<sup>19</sup> have observed that non involvement of tribal people and weak monitoring and supervision systems also counts a lot in tribal health management. It is expressed that the effects of health care interventions of NGOs are not limited to improvements of tribal's people's health status. It is found that few NGOs interventions have a broader intention, such as empowerment of tribal beneficiaries to get more control over health determinants, health behaviour and to find out their own solution/s for their health dilemma and the solidarity with vulnerable segments of that population. It is really a holistic way of health development and management. Capacity building of the beneficiaries is one more

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<sup>17</sup> Mahalingam S (1988), "Role of Co-operative organization in developing Tribal economy", Mittal Publications, New delhi.

<sup>18</sup> Bharati K, Mamtaz D (2003). 'High prevalence of under nutrition among Adult Kora Mudi Tribals of Bankura District, West Bengal, India', *Anthropology. Sci.*, 11(4): pp 65-68.

<sup>19</sup> Kurane M (2008). Promoton of tribal health: story of NGOs. *J. Med.*

*Sociol.*, 12(4): 34, Suresh M (2008). Health Status of Selected Tribes in Karnataka, *J.*

*Health Res.*, 3(1): 24

goal for of many NGOs. Impacts done by these kind of NGOs on tribal health are needed to be scientifically studied.

**Patel K<sup>20</sup>** has observed that the lack of interest and resources in the government sector has widened the treatment gap for tribe's health. NGOs have played a significant role in the last few decades, not only helping bridge this gap, but also by creating low cost replicable models of health care. NGOs are active in a wide array of special areas such as mental health, schizophrenia and psychotic conditions, drug and alcohol abuse, dementia etc. among tribes. Their activities have included treatment, rehabilitation, community care, research, training and capacity building, awareness and lobbying.

**Nidheesh K B<sup>21</sup>** has opined that a visible and sustaining policy oriented towards the creation of an equitable and non exploitative social order is essential for development of tribes. Development is a constructive and multidimensional process stemming from the creative genius of the people. In this sense, development programs should play a catalytic role in activating the latent energies of the society.

**S K Lal, et.al<sup>22</sup>** have observed that there are considerable inter tribe as well as inter farm size group variations in employment and income of tribals. The small farmers among tribals lagged much behind the large farmers and also GOND tribe lags behind the Korku tribe in employment and income. Thus, if the income and

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<sup>20</sup> Patel K (2010). Tribal Health and NGO, Third Concept, 2(4): 7

<sup>21</sup> Nidheesh K B, "National rural employment guarantee programs and amelioration of poverty among tribal people", INDIAN JOURNEY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, 8 (2), 2008 (DECEMBER) 229-244.

<sup>22</sup> S. K. Lal, M. M. Bhalerao and SBL Gupta, " Income and employment among tribals", KURUKSHETRA, 32(8), 1984, (May), 22-24

employment of tribals is to be increased, it will be necessary to integrate crop enterprises with other related enterprises .

### **GAPS IN THE EARLIER STUDIES**

- No study made an attempt to study the living conditions of the tribals through the means of enterprising activities.
- No empirical research is conducted with a focus on the impact of enterprising activities of tribals on their socio-economic empowerment.
- No study is made to examine the nexus between sustainability of the self employment enterprises and sustainability of the living conditions of tribes.
- No research work is generated on accounting the expectations of the self employed tribal entrepreneurs.

In order to fill the said gaps the present study is initiated.

### **STATEMENT OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEM**

The present study is basically meant to address, explain, estimate, analyze and infer the living conditions of tribals who are involved in self employment programs placed in Khammam district. The following questions/ issues are considered for research inquiry. They include

What are the factors which can be held responsible for the backwardness of the scheduled tribes?

What is their socio-economic profile of the tribes?

What is the activity portfolio of tribes towards the end of their development?

What is the magnitude and direction of the investment and income relationship in the self employed enterprises of tribes?

What is the level of empowerment effects of the self employment programs by tribes in pre and post self employment settings?

What are the expectations of tribal self employed towards better living conditions through their development efforts like self employment programs?

The present study makes a modest attempt to answer the above mentioned questions.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. To identify the determinants of the backwardness of the scheduled tribes in the study area.
2. To analyze the living conditions of tribals in the study area.
3. To evaluate the performance of tribal self employed entrepreneurs as an integral part of their development strategy.
4. To study the empowerment effects attributable to the enterprises managed by tribals.
5. To identify the expectations of the tribal entrepreneurs.

### **HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY**

1. The Relationship between the social category of tribals and their perceptions about reasons for the backwardness of tribals is assumed to be statistically independent.
2. The Relationship between the social category of tribals and their profit distribution is assumed to be statistically independent.

3. The Relationship between the social category of tribals and Tobin's Q of their self employment programs is assumed to be statistically independent.
4. The Relationship between the education of tribals and empowerment effects attributable to their self employment programs is assumed to be statistically independent.

### **METHODOLOGY**

For the purpose of the present study, the following methodology is adopted.

### **SAMPLE DESIGN**

Towards the end of the objectives and hypotheses, 200 self employed tribals are selected from Chinturu, V R Puram, Kunavaram, Badrachalam, Bhuragampadu, Aswaraopet, Dummugudem, Cherla and velerupadu, Kothagudem, Enkuru, Yellendu mandals of Khammam district of Andhra Pradesh. The sample units are selected mostly by adhering to the principles of stratified random sampling. The criteria of stratification are line of activity and social category.

### **SOURCES OF DATA**

The present study made use of both primary and secondary sources of data. The secondary sources of data included the annual reports of the self employment programs concerned and the related reports of ITDA, Khammam district etc. The primary data are collected directly from the respondents by administering a pre designed questionnaire/ schedule.

### PERIOD OF THE STUDY

The present study covers a period of five years covering 2008-2013.

### SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The present study covers only the living standards of the self employed tribes in tribal areas. It does not cover the effects of non economic factors of tribal development.

### TECHNIQUES OF ANALYSIS

The present study made use of various tools of statistics including simple percentages, frequency distribution, coefficient of correlation, Chi-Square statistic, simple regression and Tobin's Q to measure and test the significance of relations specified in the study.

$$R = 1 - \frac{6 \sum d^2}{N (n^2 - 1)}$$

Where r= Spearman's rank correlation coefficient

d= deviations

n= number of items

$$\chi^2 = \frac{\sum (O_i - E_i)^2}{E_i}$$

When  $\chi^2$  = Chi-Square statistic

$O_i$  = Observed frequencies of the ith class

$E_i$  = Expected frequencies of the ith class

$$\text{Tobin's } Q = \frac{\text{Market value of the assets}}{\text{Replacement cost of the assets}}$$

