CHAPTER-VII
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7.1 General Introduction

The demographic characteristics of tribal population have transformed since last two decades. Even then it is important to adopt the better population policies in order to upliftment of tribals in study region. In order to eradicate poverty and for bringing out tribals in main stream, researchers have been continuously carried out research. The present research may depend on scientific study of tribal population characteristics both at micro and macro levels, here an attempt has been made to assess, analyse, describe and interpret the tribal population characteristics in Nashik district and investigate decadal changes in demographic characters, occupational structure and socio-economic conditions of tribal population, distribution, density, growth, sex ratio, literacy, dependency ratio, caste composition, education occupation, available infrastructures and provide strategy for upliftment of tribals in study region. In this chapter an effort is made to present the findings and suggestions of research work in briefly.

7.2 Summary

The research work entitled “A geographical study of tribal population characteristics in Nashik district, Maharashtra state” has been undertaken. This study is based on published secondary data and fieldwork at primary level. Primary data have obtained from households of five sample villages. The secondary data have been acquired from District Census Handbooks, Nashik District; Socio-economic abstract, Nashik District; Annual plan, Tribal Development Department Nashik. Concentration index, location quotient index, child-women ratio, dependency ratio, index of ageing, growth rate, projection, activity rate, Lorenz curve, Karl Pearson’s correlation coefficient method have been applied in present study and then summaries findings in text. Nashik is an important district in northwest in Maharashtra state consisting 15 tahsils (15,530 square kilometers). The study region is divided into three physiographic divisions, namely, western region, central region and eastern region. The physiography is undulating and sloping towards east from Sahyadri range. Godavari and Girna are main rivers flowing north and south parts in study region respectively. The study region is made up of igneous rock and red brown, loam, black
and yellow soils. The monsoon climate experiences in study region. The distribution of rainfall is fairly uneven varies between 500 millimetres to 3300 millimetres from June to October and it decreases from west to east. The tropical moist deciduous forest covers 21.53 percent and appears mainly in west part. Nashik district consists of 6107187 population provisional in 2011 and (49,93,796 population in 2001). The density of population was 322 persons per square kilometer with (2001). Nashik tahsil has highest density of 1625 persons per square kilometer. The study region has 61.2 percent rural and 38.8 percent urban population and literacy is 74.15 percent in 2001. The percent of scheduled tribes accounts 23.92. Peint, Surgana, Trimbakeshwar, Dindori and Kalwan tahoils have more than 50 percent tribal population. Nashik is district headquarter, educational commercial and industrial centre having network of linkage of roads and railway routes. The national highway No.-3 and 50 and other state highways passes from study region. 60 percent population involves in agriculture. Niphad tahsil has found highest 32.8 percent of irrigation.

The spatio-temporal analysis of tribal population characteristics unfolded great variations within the study region. The tribal population have concentrated in west hilly topography in study region and restricted in Peint, Surgana, Kalwan, Trimbakeshwar, and Dindori tahoils living in isolated patches. This study also reveals concentration of tribal population have largely influenced by natural conditions. Koli-Mahadev ranks first in terms of tribal population (33.04 percent) Kokna, Bhil, Thakur, Warli, Khathdi, Katkari, Koli-Dhor, Tokare-Koli, and Pardhi major in study region. The Peint, Surgana, Kalwan, Trimbakeshwar, Dindori and Nashik tahoils have found density of 80 persons per square kilometer. Kalwan tahsil has lowest growth (5.5 percent) in tribal population in 2001. In population space relationship actual trace line differs from the theoretical trace line and line highlight tribal population is distributed unevenly in study region. Population index has presented high tribal concentration in Surgana tahsil (3.96). Population growth rate was declined from 32.70 to 28.27 during study period. Peint tahsil ranking first for declining tribal growth rate. Tribal population for 2011 may reach up to 15,31,753 and 19,62,687 for 2021. The predicted population is very close to provisional figures (15,64,369). Tribal sex-ratio was 979 and 976 in 1981 and 2001 respectively. Kalvan tahsil has highest rural tribal sex ratio (1000) and Malegaon tahsil has found highest urban tribal sex ratio (1024) in study region whereas Nashik tahsil has lowest sex ratio due to urbanization, industrialization and male in-migration for jobs, services and education. Age-sex
pyramid for tribal population reveals triangular shapes during study period found large numbers in 5-9 age groups. It was found that literacy rate was low 16.73 percent in 1981 and 49.3 percent in 2001. Female literacy is found less than males. The dependency ratio of tribal population is 87.93 whereas for young age dependency ratio is 75.99 it is low as compared to total dependency ratio (87.93). There are 41 castes of tribes in study region. Koli mahadev, Kokana, Bhil, Thakur, Varli, and Kathodi are some major tribes. The percent of Koli mahadev is 33.04 percent in study region followed by Kokana (30.02) and Bhill (25.16). The literacy rate low (20.15 percent) in study region. The study region has 635.09 child women ratio (2001). In migration study it is clearly identified that nearest districts namely Dhule, Jalgaon and Ahmednagar have larger tribal migration.

The occupational structure of tribal has assessed for understanding distribution and sex wise participation in different economic activities. The percent of tribal main workers were increased by 6.72 percent and marginal and non-worker were decreased – 3.38 percent and 3.32 percent respectively during study period. The main workers occupational structure deliberates the percent of tribal cultivators decrease in tribal concentrated region in Peint and Surgana tahsils. The central part in study region, namely, Baglan, Kalwan, Chandvad and Niphad tahsils have increased tribal cultivators. The percent of tribal agricultural labours increased by 2.33 percent in study region emphasizing wage-earners have increased in agricultural sector whereas industry workers are very less (0.33) in proportion because “Balutedar” performing such occupations at village level but after 2001-11 increased slightly (0.22 percent). The highest percent of other workers was recorded in Nashik tahsil (17.08 percent) due to urbanization, industries, sugar factories, good network of transport and in 2001 Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) zones. The tribal marginal workers have found reduced by 3.38 percent whereas main workers have increased to 5.46 percent in study region. The percent of tribal non-workers were reduced by 3.32 percent during study period. The tribal male marginal workers are less 36.22 percent as compared to female 63.78 percent in study region. Crude and economic activity rate was analyzed reveals that crude activity rate is reducing by in both male (05.20) and female ( 0.40) tribal workers. General activity rate was very high among tribals accounting 97.66. The relationship between workers and literacy was computed. In 1981 relationship between labours and literacy is positive (0.23) but low for main marginal workers (R = 0.16) whereas 2001 has found moderately positive relationship
Fieldwork carried out by researcher and infolded demographic, occupational and socio-economic characteristics of tribal population for five sample villages in study region and found varied characters. The demographic characters, occupation structure and way of living changed during study period. Tribal sample Villages are namely, Kotambi, Nanduri, Ramshej and Khambale and Behed. These villages have similar physiography and climate condition except Behed village. It was found that tribal population has rapidly increased in study region. Kokana is major tribe found in Kotambi and Nanduri villages. Mahadev koli tribes are dominated in Ramshej and Behed while Thakur tribe is in Khambale village. Ramshej accounting lowest density (84 per square kilometer) of tribal while Behed has highest density (444 per square kilometer) owing location in plain fertile area and available irrigation facility. The highest literacy is found in Behed (70.28) while Khambale is lowest literacy (50.29) in study region. High crude activity rate was recorded at Khambale village (70.30 percent). All five sample villages found more birth rate than death rate. The proportion of old age group (above 60) is low indicating less life expectancy among tribals.

The house types in study region have retectes physiography, climate and economic conditions. Kaccha and semi pakka houses 90.96 percent tribal lies below poverty line (Annual Sub plan 2013-2014). Assessment of tribals households socio-economic conditions in sample villages clearly indicates tribal possess televisions and phones (70 percent) but less possessing other article. Landuse pattern in sample villages varies according to their geographical locations. Kotambi have more area under forest (32 percent) while Behed has absence of forest. Behed has maximum area under migration (77 percent) irrigation while remaining four villages have less in irrigation. Tribals in Behed and Ramshej work as labour are in-migrated from jobs and further work from tribal concentrated region, while maximum tribals in Kotambi, Nanduri and Khambale engaged in cultivation following traditional practice of paddy, nachni and khurasani crops. It is found that other income sources among tribals are very limited in study region. 90 percent tribal families have total annual income of less than one lakh. Nanduri and Khambale have primary health centres. Less awareness was identified about family planning in Kotambi village has high birth rates (28.6 per thousand annually). Water scarcity and unemployment during summer
are major problems identified at Kotambi and Khambale villages. There is less awareness about education among tribals in Khambale village whereas in Behed, information, documents, area easily available among tribal population.

With considering several tribals problems presenting attempt has been made for development of tribals through five year plans have assessed about education, health and welfare schemes of tribals during five year plans in TSP areas. It is imperative to note that fifth five year plan was outlined 4.75 percent and has increased up to 8.94 percent in eleventh plan accounting 3 percent total budget of Maharashtra state. Tribal region is presently facing education problem like low literacy (Male 49.3 percent and female 37.2 percent), drop out rate has increased as level of education increased. Traditional cropping and unemployment are main economic issues in study region. Strategic planning has suggested for dealing with management by team building among tribals. Finally, model has proposed for tribal development consists five mechanisms, namely; need identification, participation, programme designing, execution strategy and withdrawal of strategy.

7.3 Suggestions

On the basis of above study fallowing suggestions are given for welfare (upliftment) of scheduled tribes in study region.

(i) Irrigation should be introduced to enhance agriculture activities in Igatpuri tahsil as this taluka recives rainfall of region 3000 to 3500 millimetres by participation of tribals and creating team building awareness as this tahsil facing scarcity of water for agriculture and drinking during summer.

(ii) Small-small irrigation tank should be constructed at Khambale and Kotambi which lie in high rainfall region 2500 to 3500mm. It is beneficial for agriculture and solve water problem during summer.

(iii) Tourism activities should promote at famous ‘Ramshej fort’ at Ramshej village to enhance tribal economic conditions.

(iv) Reservation and training should be given to tribals in private sectors. Such amendment in law should be made by government.

(v) The unit of Tribal Department should establish at every tahsil place where tribal population is more than fifty percent and consider the opinion of tribals before the starting the policies and implementing schemes. Booklets should be provided to create awareness regarding policies schemes to every household in study region.
(vi) For increasing literacy among tribal women school education be introduced at every pada at tribal villages in Nandgaon, Malegaon and Yevla tahsils.

(vii) There should be flying health clinic vehicle visit at every month in remote tribal villages particularly Peint and Surgana tahsils.

(viii) It was suggested that 15 percent financial assistance of total Maharashtra state budget should be allotted on higher education for tribal dominating talukas in study region.

(ix) The effort should be made to eradication of alcohol, tobacco and smoking habits among tribals in tribal villages.

(x) The tribal workers in Niphad tahsil should get work during non-harvesting period guaranty schemes.

7.4 Concluding Remark

Human resources in any region hold key position in development process. Population and their functional interaction in surrounding environment are highly dynamic in nature. Tribal region is found out of the main stream of development causes economic disparity. The tribal educated youth and government should lead for development of tribal community. However, there is need to improve potential, standard of living, team building attitude and create maximum quality services by producing employment within study region. Such study may has abundant potential and attract attention of experts belongs administration from tribal department, population geographers, and regional planners for future in depth study and better planning for further improvement of tribal community in Nashik district. In this respect there is a sufficient scope for research in general for preparing planning strategy for tribals and population planning in geography, investigation and experiment in tribal population study and planning.