CHAPTER-1
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1.1 General Introduction

The human being is most precious resource on the Earth as being architecture for adopting and creating existing environment. Therefore, it is essential to understand the evolution of demography of region both in qualitative and quantitative terms. The regional imbalance in distribution of population and their racial and social characteristics are studied in geography. Population geography is recent discipline in geography studying regional differences of population distribution on the earth and is concerned with spatial analysis of population which involves the magnitude of human population and different characteristics of growth and mobility. In some regions, human beings are still learning to live in dispersed, nucleated communities while others created new socio-economic planned communities. “Tribal population” is a social group of human being which lives in a common territory having a common dialect, uniform social organization, possess cultural homogeneity having common ancestor, political organization and religious pattern. These communities belong to different entho-lingual groups professing diverse faiths. The tribal groups are recognized by Government of India and renamed as “Scheduled Tribe” (Census, 1981). The levels of socio-economic development and evolution of scheduled tribes can be studied in terms of social, historical, cultural, political, economic and technological points of view. The presence of tribal is in old world from the last several thousands years. Tribal were the earliest among the present inhabitants forming integral part of civilization. The references about tribes have found in Vedas, Puranas, Mahabharata and Ramayana. Tribal are called vanyajati (Castes of forest), adijamati (Primitive people), janjaati (Folk people) and anusuchit janjati (Scheduled Tribe). Principally, adivasi and anusuchit janjati are commonly used. Beside these, terms atavika, vanavasi "forest dwellers" or girijan "hill people" are also used for the tribes of India, adivasi carries the specific meaning of being original, autochthonous inhabitants of a given region and was specifically coined for that purpose in 1930. Over a period of time, term "tribes" and "adivasi" has developed during the British period in India. The Constitution of India, Article 366 (25) has defined Scheduled Tribes as "such tribes or tribal communities or part of groups
within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to the Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution”. In Article 342, the procedure to be followed for specification of scheduled tribe is prescribed. However, it does not contain the criterion for the specification of any community as scheduled tribe. An often used criterion is based on geographical isolation, backwardness, distinctive culture, language, religion and shyness of contact (Lokur Committee, 1965). As per 2001 Census, tribal population in India is 8.43 crores constituting 8.2 percent of total population and mainly concentrated in Madhya Pradesh (14.51) percent, Maharashtra state (10.17), Orisa (9.66), Gujarat (8.87), Rajasthan (8.42) and Jharkhand (8.4). These tribal populations have found unique characteristics like pre-agriculture level of technology, stagnant population, low literacy and subsistence level of economy. The tribals study has carried out by Anthropologists, Sociologists, Geographers, Economists and Planners with variety of approaches.

1.2 Literature Review

The geographers have attempted to study the demographic issues of tribal population considering spatial and environmental aspects. Indian geographers have made notables contribution on tribal study by Boss (1969), Diksha Barai (1975), Buddhadeb Chaudhary (1982), Govind Gare (1989) Sateysh Chakraborty (2001) and K. C. Ramotra (2009) and have focused on distribution pattern and unique geomorphology of tribal areas. Boss has studied the tribes and tribal societies in India in general while Dakasha Barai has studied the tribes of Andaman and Nikobar islands. Sateysh Chakraborty has described tribal problems. In India, tribal society is unique society having diversity of nature. Poverty, poor health and sanitation, illiteracy and other social problems prevail among tribals are exert effect on economy of nation. The many tribal study in India have focused on tribal economy, land alienation, socio-economic development, tribal culture and population. Moreover, assessment of tribal population have made by various anthropologists, sociologists, economists, geographers and research scholars. The trend of ethno-methodology during British period was studied by Verrier Elwin in 1943 and which he suggested that tribals should be kept isolated in hills and forests. Elwin's theory is known in social anthropology as ‘Public park theory’ and non-tribal people should be restricted for entering into tribal pockets without permission of state Government. This system would get guarantee the isolation of tribals.
Ghurye, G. S. in 1943 has put forth the theory of Public Park where tribals are nothing more than backward caste Hindus. Hence, tribals should be treated as part of Hindus. D. N. Majumdar in 1944 took slightly different opinion that the cultural identity of tribals should be retained. The scientific study of tribal economy in India was first undertaken by Nag, D. D. and R. P. Saxena. Nag D. D. in 1958 has made an extensive fieldwork of tribal dominant area in Mandla, Bilaspur, Durg, Balaghat and has studied the Baiga economy in the context of general economic theories emphasising on sources of economy of Baigas. Verma (1959-1960) has discussed the socio-cultural organizations of Sanria Paharias, Mal-paharias and Knmarbhag. He has examined various phases of tribal life, pregnancy and birth, adolescence, widow remarriage, place of women in society, religion, village council and institutions. N. N. Yyas in 1967 has studied the historical, social and economic life of Baniyas of Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Gujarat. He pointed out customs and practices of Baniyas in different states in India.

and problems of displacement, rehabilitation and socio-cultural changes occurred among the displaced scheduled tribe, Yanadis of Shriharikota Island in Andhra Pradesh. P. C. Jain in 1999 has studied Bhils and Minas tribes of Rajasthan and has found out that development of tribal groups through Five Year Plans. S. R. Bakshi and Kiran Bala (2000) have focused on socio-economic condition of scheduled tribes of sub-continent. Prakash Chandra Mehta (2000) has reviewed tribal development measures adopted during the 20th Century and has found basic minimum needs for their subsistence. Ramotra K. C. (2009) has analyzed status of tribal well-beings in northwest part in Maharashtra. In his study he has lighted on status of tribal concentrated tahsils of Nashik district. The review of tribal studies have conducted on general living conditions, health, education, implementation, impact of developmental programmes and social charge have been reviewed to understand the different dimensions of tribes by various researchers.

1.3 Choice of Study Region

The study region under investigation is influenced by many considerations. Firstly, tribal population of study region is typically backward and has not been so far studied particularly by geographers; hence, this topic has remained untouched for indepth study. Secondly, demography of tribal population has not studied for planning purpose specially. This has attracted researcher to assess tribal population and their characteristics. Further, study region is familiar to researcher and hence this becomes easy for data collection and references.

1.4 Study Region

Nashik district is located in northwest in Maharashtra state. This district extends from 19°33’ to 20°52’ north latitudes and 73°16’ to 74°56’ east longitudes (Fig.-1.1). The study region spreads over 15530 square kilometers and ranks fifth in Maharashtra state accounting 5.04 percent area. The study region is Rhomboidal in shape with longer diagonal of about 170 kilometers from southwest to northeast and an extreme breadth of about 120 kilometers from north to south. Administratively, this region consists of fifteen tahsils, namely Chandwad, Devala, Dindori, Igatpuri, Kalvan, Malegoan, Nandgaon, Nashik, Niphad, Peint, Baglan, Sinnar, Surgana, Trimbakeshwar and Yevla. Among these, tahsils Malegaon is largest tahsil occupying 12 percent area whereas Peint is smallest tahsil (3.63 percent) in study region. The district headquarter is located at Nashik. 18 towns and 1931 villages lie in study
region (2001). Nashik district is surrounded by Jalgaon district in east and northeast, Dhule in north, Gujarat state in northwest, Thane district in southwest, Ahmednagar district in south and Aurangabad district in southeast. There are three major geographical regions, namely, western region, central region and eastern region. The average height from mean sea level is 600 meters. The study region consists of Vani range, Ramshej range, Anjaneri range, and Kalsubai range. Girana, Kadva, Godavari, Darna, Damanganga, Nar, Par and Vaitarna are major rivers in study region. The soil in study region is originated from igneous rock. Monsoon commences in June and receiving average rainfall of 1103 millimeters with considerable variations and uncertainty. The rainfall amount decreases from west to east. The forest covers 3,343.5 square kilometers and is concentrated in west, south and southwest part in study region.

According to Census 2001, total population was 49,93,796, of which 25,90,912 males and 24,02,884 females. 61.20 percent people live in rural and 38.80 percent in urban area. According to 2011 Census (Provisional) population of region is 61,07,187 persons. The scheduled caste accounts 8.54 percent and scheduled tribes (23.91 percent) in study region. The both percent of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe account significantly (32.45 percent). Out of them 72 percent resides in rural area and 28 percent in urban area. The tribal populations are mainly found in Surgana, Peint, Trimbakeshwar, Kalvan, and Dindori tahsils. The population density was 322 persons per square kilometer in 2001. Nashik tahlis has highest population density of 1625 persons per square kilometers and Trimbakeshwar tahlis has lowest density (154 persons per square kilometer). Nashik district has found 74.15 percent literacy in 2001 showing close figure to Maharashtra state (76.9 percent) accounting 83.6 percent male and 64.4 percent female literacy. Sex-ratio was 927 in 2001.

The study region derives its name from it’s headquarter of town Nashik. Regarding origin of name, two interpretations are given. First, town is sited on nine peaks or navashikhara and hence, its renamed as Nashik. The other relates with incident Ramayana. Lakshmana is said to have cut off the nose (Nashika) of Shurpanakha in this place. The district comes into existence in 1869 when Britishers re-arranged districts of Maharashtra state.
Fig.-1.1 : Location of Study Region
1.5 Objectives

The present study has been undertaken to make comprehensive study of tribal population characteristics in Nashik district. This has been studied by purforthing following sub-objectives:

(i) Examining the physical background of Nashik district.
(ii) To examine the spatial distribution and growth of tribal population in study region.
(iii) To assess the tribal population characteristics in study region.
(iv) To evaluate the occupational structure of tribal population, and,
(v) To suggest measures for tribal development in Nashik district.

1.6 Data Sources and Methodology

The present study is primarily based on both secondary and primary data. The secondary data have been obtained from Statistical Handbooks, District Census Handbook, Socio-economic Abstract of Nashik District, Tribal Development Department Nashik, Tribal Research and Training Institute, Pune and Census of India from 1981 to 2001. Primary data have been obtained from households through questionnaires on demography, religions, households, health, education, occupation and income from various sources. Besides this, information have gathered from village Talathi, Village Development Officer and Sarpanch of selected sample villages. The spatial and temporal aspects of tribal population of five sample villages have studied. For delineating tribal population composition, concentration index, location quotient index, child-women ratio, dependency ratio, growth rate, population projection, activity rate and index of ageing methods have been computed. Lorenz curve is used to find out population space relationship in study region. Karl Pearson’s correlation coefficient method has been used to study the relationship between tribal literacy and working population. Following techniques have been used in present study.

(i) Concentration Index = \frac{\text{Tahsil Population / Tahsil Area in Square Kilometer}}{\text{District Population / District Area in Square Kilometer}}

(ii) Location Quotient = \frac{\text{Percent of Tribal Population to Total Population in a Tahsil}}{\text{Percent of Tribal Population to Total Population in the District}}

(iii) Population Growth Rate = \frac{\text{Population of Current Decade - Population of Previous Decade}}{\text{Population of Previous Decade}} \times 100
(iv) Population Projection by Crude Method

\[ R = \frac{1}{n} \times \left( \frac{P_n - P_o}{P_o} \right)^{1/n} - 1 \times 100 \]

(v) Population Projection by Compound Method

i) \[ R = \left( \frac{P_n}{P_o} \right)^{1/n} - 1 \times 100 \]

ii) \[ P_n = P_o (1 + R/100)^n \]

Whereas:

- \( R \) = annual rate of growth
- \( P_n \) = population in the current year
- \( P_o \) = population in the base year
- \( n \) = number of intermediary years.

(vi) Total Dependency Ratio

\[ TDR = \frac{\text{Population Aged (0-14) Years and 60+ Years}}{\text{Population Aged (15-59)}} \times 100 \]

(vii) Index of Ageing

\[ I = \frac{\text{Population Aged 60+ Years}}{\text{Population Aged (0-14)}} \times 100 \]

(viii) Child Women Ratio

\[ CWR = \frac{P(0-4)}{F(15-44)} \times K \]

Whereas:

- \( P_{0-4} \) = The number of children of both sexes under the age of 5 years.
- \( F_{15-44} \) = The number of women between the ages of 15 and 44 years.
- \( K = 1000 \)

(ix) General Activity Rate

\[ GAR = \frac{\text{Economically Active Population}}{\text{Population Aged (15-59)}} \times 100 \]

Later on, collected data have classified, proceeded and presented in the form of tables, charts, maps and graphs by applying appropriate cartographic techniques. The sample villages were selected by purposive sampling method. The field survey of sample villages were conducted in 2013 through designed questionnaires. The opinions of villagers and Sarpanch were obtained through questionnaires besides personal discussion with villagers Sarpanch and Patwari and are interpreted in the text.

1.7 Arrangement of Text

The present study has been arranged into seven chapters. First chapter is on introduction of study which includes general introduction, review of literatures, study region, objectives, data sources and methodology and limitations. The second chapter has described the background of Nashik district with respect to location, site, physiography, climate, soil types, vegetation, population, irrigation, occupational structure, landuse, transportation and socio-economic profile of population. Third chapter has dealt with tribal population characteristics and has studied the tribal
population distribution, density, sex composition, age-sex composition, literacy, dependency ratio, caste composition and population change from 1981 to 2001. Chapter fourth has to assess the occupational structure of tribal population in depth. Chapter fifth has devoted to case study of five sample villages. The chapter sixth has studied tribal population problems and planning strategy and lastly chapter seventh has presented summary, conclusion and suggestions.

1.8 Limitations

The data has available in terms of Government Published Records, Grampanchayat, District statistical abstracts, Census handbooks, Tribal Development Department Nashik, Tribal Research and Training Institute, Pune and local tribal people. Lack of upgraded data available in Government Published Record and each Village level has lead problems for data collection. And therefore data collected during field work do not match with government records. As well as there is change in administrative boundaries of tahsils (1999) in study regions has become handicap to get accounts tribal populations data. The data for 2011 Census has not published hence; researcher has to depend on data available in Census 2001. Which have been used for mapping and interpretation of present study. Beside this, information given by tribal people during field work was also inadequate hence interpretation is entirely based on available data and information in the text of present study.