



Impact of Economic Reforms on the living conditions of Tribals in Ichoda Mandal of Adilabad District in Telangana State

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Abstract

India has the world's second largest concentration of tribal population next to Africa. According to 2011 census, the scheduled tribes population in India is 104.3 million (8.7%), In Adilabad District alone 18 per cent of population is tribal population. Of them Gond –2,63,515, Kolams-44,805, Pardhan-26,029, Thoti-4,811, Naikpod-5,206 . Economic reform process aimed at growth perspective had any impact on the living conditions of these tribal population. The establishment of transport facilities, building infrastructure does improve the employability and contribute to growth. The inclusive growth pattern of the Government of India nad state government had to be looked in the perspective of the improvement in the living conditions of tribal population.

The present study has been conducted in two villages Dubaripet and Patwariguda of Ichoda Mandal of Adilabad district The study has been carried out for 50 sample respondents 25 from each village. A structured schedule was administered for collection of data from these respondents. For the usage in the appropriate places, secondary data was also collected from relevant journals, annual reports of Ministry of Tribal affairs and various document and related publications. The objectives of the study is to explain the issues of gond tribes in the present reform period. The study also tries to study Socio-economic ecological aspects effecting the food habits of the Tribes in the select study areas.

Keywords: *TIBAL WELL BEING, ECONOMIC STATUS, INCOME STATUS,*

India has the world's second largest concentration of tribal population next to Africa. According to 2011 census, the scheduled tribes population in India is 104.3 million (8.7%), accounting for about one-fourth of the total tribal population of the world. There are 461 tribal groups here distributed in all states except Punjab and Haryana. Some states like Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Lakshadweep are predominantly tribal states. Out of the total 461 tribal communities of India, 74 have been classified as "Primitive Tribes. (K.S. Sing 1994). According to the 2011 census Adilabad is the biggest district in Telangana with scheduled tribes population of around 4,95,794 constituting of 18.09% of total population. Of them Gond –2,63,515, Kolams-44,805, Pardhan-26,029, Thoti-4,811, Naikpod-5,206 . Economic reform process aimed at growth perspective had any impact on the living conditions of these tribal population. The establishment of transport facilities, building infrastructure does improve the employability and contribute to growth. The inclusive growth pattern of the Government of India nad state government had to be looked in the perspective of the improvement in the living conditions of tribal population.

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The historical background of the Gond Population is that Gonds settled in Gondwana, now known as eastern Madhya Pradesh, between the 13th and 19th centuries AD. Muslim writers described a rise of Gond state after the 14th century. Gondas ruled in four kingdoms (Garha-Mandla, Deogarh, Chanda, and Kherla) in central India between the 16th and 18th centuries. During the British regime in India, Gonds challenged the Britishers in several battles. The Gond settled in cultivation in the rich natural resource state of

Telangana over a period of time. The Koyas and Konda Reddis were others who were doing shifting cultivation then. They would not care to produce anything and prefer to live on the roots, tubers and other forest produce. The following 9 were declared as Scheduled Tribes in erstwhile Hyderabad state under the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 (Published in the Gazette of India, New Delhi, dated September 6, 1950) with the assent of the President of India. Andh, Bhil, Chenchu or Chenchwar, Gond (including Naikpod and Raj Gond), Hill Reddis or Konda Reddis, Kolam (including Mannarvarlu), Koya (including Bhine Koya and Rai Koya), Pardhan and Thoti.

Review of Literature

The review of literature of the study is thus carried out for the benefit of this study. **Nihar Rajan Patnaik's (1961)**, *History and Culture of Khond Tribes* is a stimulating volume of an interpretative, clearly organized and well balanced survey of history and culture of the Khond tribes of India. Elaborating the geography and topography of the region and the consequent nature of the Lambadi (A scheduled tribe of A.P), migration of lambadas to south India and also their socio-economic and cultural conditions and community life of the lambadas are discussed. **Dr. K. Mohan Rao's (1993)** *The Kolams – a Primitive tribe in transition* gives in sight in to analyse the genesis and affinity of the core aspects of the culture of Kolams and other neighbouring dominant tribe on one hand and total cultural heritage of local tribes on the other side are analysed. **Ramesh.M. (1994)** concentrated on socio-economic conditions of one of the eight tribal groups recognized as primitive Tribal Groups, which is known as Kolam tribal group were worked out. **Mohanthy P.K. (2002)** is a comprehensive survey of the development of primitive tribes groups in India with main thrust on Lodhas of West Bengal and Orissa. Chenchus of Andhra Pradesh and Totos of West- Bengal. Detailed and well-written with regard to several welfare programmes in these regions. **Deogaonakar (2006)** in his book *The Kolam tribals*, attempts to depict an ethnographic profile of the tribe and also discusses some of their socio-cultural as well as economic problems. Even their traditional methods of dispensation of justice have been studied. **Subba Rao .N (2007)** covered the tribes of Andhra Pradesh. The nature and Characteristics of Tribal people, development efforts by Government and other agencies in Gondipakala village and Araku Valley agency region in Visakhapatnam District are studied with Special reference to Coffee Plantation Programme. **Srinivas.L (2007)** explained the work participation rate of tribes in Andhra Pradesh, category of workers in agriculture were also covered. He gives special attention on ITDA agricultural programmes and IFAD programmes in Andhra Pradesh.

Objectives of the Study:

The specific objectives of the study are:

- to examine the socio-economic conditions of the selected primitive tribes in Adilabad district.
- to identify the socio- economic developmental factors that are responsible for primitiveness in select study areas.
- to find out whether the primitive tribes are aware about the development programmes and offer suitable suggestions.

Hypotheses:

- The government policies and scheme are improving living standards of Tribes.
- The food habits, the earning pattern have changed by the influence of economic reform process
- There is an overall impact in their living standard due to the government economic schemes.

Sources of Data:

Primary Data: The data was collected through primary and secondary sources, structure and primary data was collected through structure questionnaire interview, personal observation and participatory method.

Secondary Data: Secondary data was collected from various reference books, Journals annual reports of ITDA, different reports and various government documents on tribals.

Sampling Design:

A sample size of 50 respondents have been selected 25 each from each village of Dubaripet and Patwariguda of Ichoda Mandal of Adilabad District has been selected for study using random sampling method.

Tools of Analysis:

The tools used for analysis are percentage, frequencies, mean, median and Correlation.

Significance of the Study:

The study is appropriate at this time when the state government is focusing on the developmental programmes for the welfare of the tribal population. There is no study capturing the villages of Ichoda Mandal of Adilabad District though there are studies relating to tribal population of Andhra Pradesh in general.

Below is the table pertaining to the income distribution of sample respondents of the two villages of Ichoda mandal in Adilabad District.

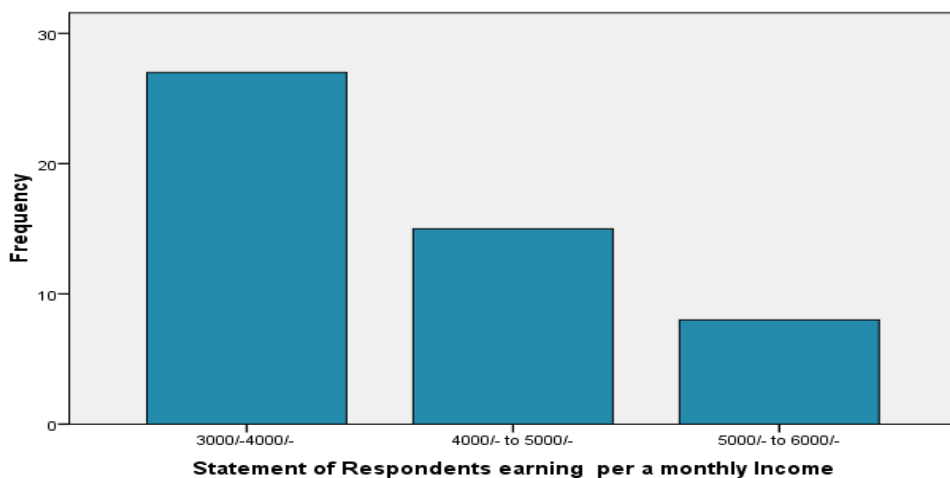
Table.1

Income classification of sample respondents

Statement of Respondents earning per a monthly Income

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	3000/- to 4000/-	27	54.0	54.0	54.0
	4000/- to 5000/-	15	30.0	30.0	84.0
	5000/- to 6000/-	8	16.0	16.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

Statement of Respondents earning per a monthly Income



The above table and figure clearly signifies that the major 54 per cent of tribal population in selected area are in the lower income bracket of Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4000. Table 2 also shows that this the major percentage which has highest consumption pattern for food items with a lower expenditure of Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1500.

Table- 2

Consumption Pattern on Food Items per a month of sample respondents

Sl. No.	Per a month expenditure	No. of Respondents in Ichoda Mandal		
		Dubaripet	Patwariguda	
1	Rs1000/- 1500/-	12(24.0)	15(30.0)	27(54.0)
2	Rs1500/- Rs2000	8(16.0)	7(14.0)	15(30.0)
3	Rs2000- Rs3000	5(10.0)	3(6.0)	8(16.0)
4	Rs3000 and above	-	-	-
	Total	25(50)	25(50)	50(100)

Source: Field Study (Figures in Parentheses are Percentage)

The table 2 also reveals that Dubaripet village is predominant number with 12 respondents consisting of 24.0 percent are consuming food items with Rs1000 to Rs. 1500/- expenditure and the lowest number 5 respondents accounting for 10 percent belong to expenditure of Rs 2000/- to Rs3000/-.

In Patwariguda village the highest number 15 respondents consisting of 30.0 percent are consuming food items with expenditure of Rs1000/- 1500/-. Lowest number 3 respondents accounting for 6 percent belong to Rs2000/- to Rs3000/- expenditure. The overall observation is that in primitive tribes 54 percentage of them are spending their earned month income on the primary needs.

Table- 3

Statement of Respondents Consumption Pattern on Non-Food Items per a month

S.No.	Per a month expenditure	No. of Respondents in Ichoda Mandal		
		Dubaripet	Patwariguda	
1	Rs1000/- 1500/-	14(28.0)	12(24.0)	26(52.0)
2	Rs1500/- Rs2000	8(16.0)	7(14.0)	15(30.0)
3	Rs2000- Rs3000	3(6.0)	6(12.0)	9(18)
	Total	25(50)	25(50)	50(100)

Source: Field Study (Figures in Parentheses are Percentage)

The table- 3 reveals that the particulars of consumption pattern on Non-Food Items per a month of sample respondents in selected village of Dubaripet in Ichoda mandal is predominantly in 14 respondents consisting of 28 percent are consuming for non-food items with Rs1000/- 1500/- expenditure and the lowest number 3 respondents accounting for 6 percent belong to Rs2000 –Rs3000 expenditure .

In Patwariguda village the highest number of 12 respondents consisting of 24 percent are consuming non-food items between Rs1500/- to 2000/- expenditure and the lowest number 6 respondents accounting for 12 percent belong to Rs2000/- to Rs3000/- expenditure. The overall observation is that the majority 82 per cent of table are spending below Rs. 2000. of their income on non-food items.

The above table justifies that the correlation between the food and non-food items of the tribal population in the sample area are highly correlated with significance of 1 per cent level. This is quiet obvious with higher percent age of tribal population are belonging to income bracket of less than Rs. 2000 per month and their expenditure likewise is concentrated on food and non-food itmes.

Table.4
Karl Pearson Correlations

		Food_Items	Non_food_Items
Food_Items	Pearson Correlation	1	.825**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	50	50
Non_food_Items	Pearson Correlation	.825**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	50	50

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed). **Table. 5**

Education status of the sample respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Illiterate	37	74.0	74.0	74.0
	Primary	12	24.0	24.0	98.0
	Secondary	1	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

Pearson Correlations

		Educationstatus	Statement of Respondents earning per a monthly Income
Educationstatus	Pearson Correlation	1	.236
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.099
	N	50	50
Statement of Respondents earning per a monthly Income	Pearson Correlation	.236	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.099	
	N	50	50

The above table 5 shows that 74 per cent of sample respondents are illiterate and that only a single person has passed secondary education. This means that fruits of economic reforms or governmental policies are not reaching this section of the tribal population. The correlation table -6 also justifies that the lower the education has no significant correlation with the income level. As the lower income bracket population has no access to education. Though the correlation is 0.23 with significant at 10 per cent level. It is very low.

Conclusion:

It can be summarized that the fruits of reforms or governmental policies did not benefit the poorer sections of the tribal population especially the Gonds. There is a need to educate them and need to highlight the necessity of primary and secondary education among these sections of the society. There is also need to improve their living standards by giving them alternate source of employment. The study also highlights the need for in depth analysis of research into their occupational pattern and employability. The study also highlights the need to improve their food and non-food habits and increase their consumption expenditure while improving their income levels.

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