



EMPOWERMENT OF SCHEDULED TRIBE WOMEN DEGREE STUDENTS

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Abstract:

This paper aims at finding the Empowerment of Scheduled Tribe Women Degree Students. A simple random sample of 800 Tribal women Degree students in Guntur district was selected. Self-made tool consisting of 40 items was prepared by the investigator and standardized before using. Mean, SD and 't' values were calculated. The study revealed that there is no significant difference in the Empowerment of Tribal Women Degree Students w.r.t the variables – Locality, Type of College and Type of Management.

Key Words : Empowerment, Scheduled Tribe Women.

INTRODUCTION

In spite of various constitutional provisions and policies for the tribals, it is a hard reality that the tribal women still are lagging behind in many respects and they have to face many challenges. The study emphasized the need for socio-economic development of tribal women in India. Their low level of economic activities, social backwardness, low level of literacy and poor health conditions make it vital for a systematic process of tribal development. They work very hard and contribute significantly towards the economic condition of the family, but they are still in poverty mostly because no proper efforts are oriented towards them. During the plan period, various programmes are taken up for the development of the Scheduled Tribe population and a lot of betterment has been already done, but still, a lot more requires to be done.

Need of the Study:

Empowerment of tribal women by educating, providing self employment through the Integral Tribal Development Authority (ITDA) is developing tribals in the local tribal area by giving more powers and responsibilities for the local government i.e. panchayats, representation of tribal women representative in corporations etc., so that they can utilise the opportunities, resources available for sustainable development of tribal women. This process comprises of social, cultural, financial, skill and knowledge empowerment. Unless all these vital aspects are integrated and greater vision of the government cannot be achieved.

Large number of women in Andhra Pradesh State especially the women belonging to the tribal communities of Guntur district are comparatively having less status in social, economic, political and health aspects than the women belonging to other communities, due to the various prominent factors that contribute towards this differences. It has been many decades since India became free from the tyranny of invaders and has gradually moved towards industrialisation and modernization, and is now in a neck-and-neck race with the developed countries. However the condition of women, particularly in tribal communities, is very slowly showing improvement in an upward trend and this is very true for most of the tribal women whose lives are still alienated, male-dominated and are in an ignorant environment; unaware of their potential, skills and equal abilities in both organised and unorganised sectors to compete with other groups of male and female. Thus, this study not only probes the area of status of tribal women of Guntur district but also searches the other different factors that are directly or indirectly connected with the condition of these women involved in the development process. Hence the researcher has taken up a study on the Empowerment of Scheduled Tribe Women Degree Students.

Title of the Study:

Empowerment of Scheduled Tribe Women Degree Students.

Operational Definitions of Key Terms:

Women Empowerment: Women Empowerment is defined as a process that helps the women in gaining power, becoming self-reliant and confident.

Tribal women : Tribal women comes under the social group of scheduled tribes of India.

Degree Students: It includes the degree students studying degree in degree colleges , in this study they are the female degree students studying B.A., B.Sc., B.Com.

Objectives of the Study :

- 1.To find out the empowerment of scheduled tribe women degree students and to classify them
- 2.To find out the empowerment of Scheduled Tribe Women Degree Students with respect to the following variables

(a) Locality (b) Type of Institution (c)Type of Management,

Hypotheses of the study:

1. There would be no significant difference between rural and urban tribal women students in their Empowerment.
2. There would be no significant difference between women college tribal women students and coeducation college tribal women students in their Empowerment
3. There would be no significant difference between aided and private unaided degree college tribal women students in their Empowerment.

Variables of the Study:**Dependent Variable :**Empowerment**Independent Variables:** (a)Locality (b) Type of Institution (c) Type of Management,**Delimitations of the Study:**

- The study is limited to Tribal Women Degree Students only.
- The sample study is limited to 800 students only.
- The study is limited to Guntur district only
- The Study is limited to 4 dimensions of Empowerment i.e. Social empowerment, Educational empowerment, Psychological empowerment and Economic empowerment only.
- The study is limited to the variables such as Locality, Type of College and Type of Management,

METHODOLOGY:**Method of the Study:**

The present study employed Normative survey method.

Sample of the Study:

In the present study, simple random sampling technique was followed to select 800 tribal women degree students from Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh.

Research Tool :**Questionnaire on Empowerment of Women:**

The researcher prepared and standardized the Questionnaire on Empowerment of Women (QEW) which consists of four dimensions namely, (i) Social empowerment (2) Educational empowerment (3) Psychological empowerment and (d) Economic empowerment with 10 items each.

Reliability coefficient of Questionnaire on Empowerment of Women (QEW)

S.No	Method of Reliability	Value
1.	Test- retest	0.79
2.	Split half	0.81

Validity of the questionnaire was established by subjecting the tool to the opinions of subject experts

Statistical techniques used: Mean; SD; % of mean and 't' values were calculated

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA:

Objective – 1: To find out the empowerment of Schedule Tribe Women Degree Students

Table-1**Empowerment of Tribal Women Degree Students**

Sample	Number	Mean	SD	% of mean
Whole	800	23.46	10.72	58.65

Interpretation and Finding:

The tribal women degree students possess average level of empowerment

Objective –2: To find out the empowerment of Schedule Tribe Women

Degree Students with respect to the following variables

(a) Locality (b) Type of College (c) Type of Management

Hypothesis – 1: There would be no significant difference between rural and urban tribal women degree students in their Empowerment

Table -2

Comparison of the mean scores of empowerment of rural and urban tribal women degree students

Locality	N	Mean	SD	SEd	't' value
Rural	325	22.04	10.42	0.76	0.842 ^{NS}
Urban	475	22.68	10.70		

NS– Not Significant at 0.05 level

. The obtained 't' value 0.842 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level . Therefore, it is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence the hypothesis – 1 is accepted.

It may be inferred that the locality of the tribal women degree students did not have any significant influence in their empowerment.

Hypothesis – 2: There would be no significant difference between women's college and coeducation college tribal women degree students in their empowerment.

Table 3

Comparison of the mean scores of empowerment of women's college and coeducation college tribal women degree students

Type of College	N	Mean	SD	SEd	't' value
Women's college	450	22.88	10.25	0.72	1.097 ^{NS}
Coeducation College	350	22.09	10.21		

NS– Not Significant at 0.05 level

The obtained 't' value 1.097 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level . Therefore, it is not significant at 0.05 level. Hence the hypothesis – 2 is accepted.

It may be inferred that the type of college of the tribal women degree students did not have any significant influence on their empowerment.

Hypothesis – 3: There would be no significant difference between aided and private unaided degree college tribal women degree students in their Empowerment

Table 4

Comparison of the mean scores of empowerment of aided and private unaided college tribal women degree students

Type of Management	N	Mean	SD	SEd	't' value
Aided	500	21.29	10.12	0.74	1.23 ^{NS}
Private unaided	300	20.38	10.08		

NS– Not Significant at 0.05 level

The obtained 't' value 1.23 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level . Hence the hypothesis-3 is accepted.

It may be inferred that the type of management of the college of tribal women degree students did not have any significant influence on their empowerment.

FINDINGS:

- Tribal women students are having average level of empowerment..
- There is no significant difference between rural and urban tribal women degree students in their Empowerment
- There is no significant difference between women's college and coeducation college tribal women degree students in their empowerment.
- There is no significant difference between aided and private unaided degree college tribal women degree students in their Empowerment

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS:

- The study is implied to all tribal women students studying in different colleges to know their empowerment.
- The study is also implied to the government to make policy decisions for developing empowerment among tribal women.
- It is helpful to the NGO organizations to support women from the violence.

CONCLUSION:

This study reveals that the tribal women degree students are having average level of empowerment. There is no significant difference in the Empowerment of tribal women degree students w.r.t the variables – Locality, Type of college and Type of management. It is the responsibility of the government and everyone to empower the tribal women students specially in all the dimensions.

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