



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

Tribals and Tribal Welfare Programms with Special Reference to Kinnaur Region of Himachal Pradesh: Present Issues and Future Challenges

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ABSTRACT

The tribal people of India constitute an integral part of Indian population and represent a part of Indian culture. The population of the Scheduled tribes in the country is about 67.8 million. They constitute about 8.6% of the total population. The present study focuses on the Kinnaura tribal community, a scheduled tribe, inhabiting in Kinnaur district of Shimla Division in Himachal Pradesh and both primary and secondary information and provides an overall picture of developmental initiatives taken by the Government of India and Government of Himachal Pradesh for the upliftment of tribal communities.

The Indian Constitution identifies and provides special consideration for certain ethnic minority groups, traditionally referred to as tribes or tribals, as Scheduled Tribes (STs). There are 573 STs communities living in different parts of the country. Most of the tribal communities have their own languages and culture different from the language spoken in the state where they are located.

Kinnaura tribes are living in hard geographical conditions. So it is not easy to survive there and also much lack of facilities in social life. However, due to the initiatives of many NGOs and other social welfare organizations in the recent times, many of the Kinnauras have shown interest in academics. The study reveals that a number of developmental programes, policies and projects have been introduced to improve the well-being of tribal people. But the issue of tribal development is still alive. It clearly indicates that we have achieved very less in this regard. In this paper the authors have tried to evaluate the policies for the upliftment of this community and further identifies some critical issues and challenges to overcome

Keywords: Kinnaura, Tribal Development, Tribal Communities, Kinnaura tribes, Scheduled Tribes Tribal Developmental programs.

Introduction

The tribal people of India are a part of the Indian population and represent a truesynthesis of Indian culture (Narayan, 2002).The term ‘tribe’ is commonly used in social science literature, particularly in anthropology to denote certain categories of pre-literate cultures.In the evolutionary perspective, it referred to a societal form intermediate between the band and the nation. In this sense, it represented a territorially defined ethnic group (Dube, 1998).The tribal societies are characterized by traditional values, use of primitive technology and non-rational behaviour patterns which are incongruent with the values, technology and behaviour patterns of the modern world (Kattakayam,2001). The concept of tribe is territorial as it may be defined as a group of people living in a particular place or area from the time immemorial. The tribe has normally a common territory, a tradition of descent, common language, common culture, a common name, political system, simple economy, religion and belief, primitive law and own educational system (Narayan, 2002). (Beteille, 1977) has aptly observed that the formation of the tribes is a historical process, one need to have a historical perspective to identify them. It is only by going into the antecedents of a group we can say with any confidence whether or not it should be considered as a tribe (Ahmed, 1999). In nutshell, a tribe is an age- old indigenous, by and large, un-stratified and egalitarian ethnic group in both appearance and content. The other characteristics of tribes may include speaking a common language, claiming a common descent, living in a particular geographic area, having a primitive economy, technology and lack of scientific temperament, almost pre-literate and unaware about the so called modern knowledge and information, and observing social and political customs based on the principle of kinship.

Scheduling of Tribes/ Tribal Areas

The desire to develop the weaker sections of India’s population finds expression in the Constitution of the Republic of India (Kurup, 2000). With the dawn of independence and adoption of the Constitution, the responsibility for their welfare and development was placed on the popular government (Hasnain, 2001). In the first instance, a period of ten years was given to achieve this goal, but as the problem was not of a simple nature to be solved in a single decade, it has evidently persisted through decades (Singh, 1999).

It has been viewed that “though India is still a developing country, no country in the world can match its policy, efforts and constitutional provisions so far as tribal development is concerned” (Prasad, 1988). It has been rightly pointed out that for years ambiguity has stalked India’s official portrait of tribal people (Wilke et al, 1979). Even after independence with the adoption of the concept of scheduled tribes or as they are commonly called, Adivasi, did not, however, remove all ambiguity relating to the scheduling policy of tribals (Hasnain, 2001). It is true that neither the Constitution nor the governmental authority (executive or legislative) has specifically defined what the word ‘tribe’ means (Negi, 1976). The Scheduled Tribes are “the tribes or the tribal communities or part of or groups within tribe or tribal communities” which the President may specify by public notification through Article 342 of Constitution (Kattakayam, 2001). The concept of ‘Scheduled’ tribes came into existence only after the Constitution of India came into force on January 26, 1950. The first serious attempt to list ‘primitive tribes’ in the country was made during the Census of 1931. There are serious anomalies in the current system of, and procedures for scheduling as there are no clear-cut and scientific criteria for the purpose. The Kinnaura, Pangwalas and the Lauhola of Himachal Pradesh and the Jaunsari of Uttar Pradesh, a composite group of several castes are now enjoying status (Dube, 1998). Thus, it is evident that in some cases whole area/ territories where all communities irrespective of their social status have been declared

astribes. Kinnaur tribal area is also such region. Census of India categorizes the population of this region into scheduled tribes, scheduled castes and others.

The notion of tribal development taking place with the plan period and government trying to bring the tribal with in the mainstream, but after more than 7 decades of independence we are still worried about tribal development. Development of the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh totally depends upon the Rural Development Schemes. The situation of the tribes of Himachal Pradesh was totally different from the present situation. The rural development schemes have changed the scenario of tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. The aim of tribal development programs and tribal welfare policy in India has been defined as the progressive, social and economic advancement of tribal population with a view to their complete integration with the rest of people in the country. Tribal areas need special attention, if the benefits of the new developmental programs are to be accruing to the tribal community. Central Government as well as state Government has launched many Rural Development Schemes for the sustainable development of the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. These schemes have been based on economic and socio-cultural development. Some of them create infrastructure and generate employment.

Kinnaura Tribal Community of Kinnaur Region

Kinnaur itself is a name not any exact place to visit as it refers the Kinner Kailash . In the Himachal Pradesh kinnaur is one of the administrative block. Pooh, Kalpa and Nichar are three administrative blocks of this district and six counties (tehsils) Nichar, Kalpa, Pooh, Sangla, Moorang and Hangrang. District headquarter for Kinnaur is Reckong-Peo. According to census 2011 kinnaur is the second least populous district of Himachal Pradesh out of 12 districts of the state after Lahaul and Spiti. There are nine vital languages spoken in the district. Little is known about the history of Kinnaur, except for the fact that it was once known as Kanaurra or Kinnaura. There are, however, legends and myths among the inhabitants. Some of these people believe that they belong to the Kinners of Mahabharata while others consider themselves the descendants of the Kirats. Kirats were the people who were overpowered by the Aryans and Khasaa and forced to recede into the remote trans Himalayan region. One interesting aspect about the Kinnaura is their marriage system. All brothers in one family marry a single girl. This is what they call the Pandava marriage since the five Pandava brothers too had one wife for them. This custom has also left many of the girls unmarried (Sharma & Prakash, 2014). Sologamy is also practice in upper remote areas of the district.

Kinnaur was in earlier stage remains under the control of mugal kingdom and mourays empire ruled here in 6th century BCE. Mouraya's was then inhabited by kirata, kamboja, Panasika and valhika. In the 9th and 12th century kinnaur under went the kingship of Guge kingdom of Tibet. It was known that after the collapse of the Mughal Empire, the Kinnaur valley, then known as Chini Tehsil, played an influential role. When its dominant role in the region lapsed, it was merged to form part of the then Mahasu district. By 1960,

political, ethnic, and cultural considerations led to the area being reorganized, forming the present Kinnaur district but in 1975 an earthquake struck the region.

Objectives of the Study

The present study aims to analyze the following objectives:

- i. To study the development initiatives introduced for the welfare of the Indian tribal communities.
- ii. To examine the tribal developmental efforts by the Government of Himachal Pradesh for Kinnaura tribal community of Himachal Pradesh.
- iii. to collect information regarding various initiatives taken by Central Government
- iv. To explore the issues and challenges among Kinnaura tribal community.

Data Collection

The present study is based on secondary data. The secondary information relating to different development programmes aimed at socio-economic development of scheduled tribes in Himachal Pradesh have been collected from both online and offline sources. And researcher himself visited the maximum areas of Kinnaur to find out issues and challenges among Kinnaura tribal community.

Tribal Development Initiatives

The total population of the Scheduled tribes in the country constituted about 8.08 per cent of the total population (Census of India 2011). In terms of development, the tribal communities are at various stages. According to census 2011 in Himachal there are 5.7% population are tribal out of total population of 68,64,602 tribals. Some are still in the food gathering stage, some practice settled agriculture, while others are indeed developed and almost at par with the mainstream. Taking these stages of development into account, Indian tribes have been classified into plain tribes, hill tribes, island tribes, primitive tribes and advanced tribes (Mohanty, 2002). The development of tribal communities has been one of the important ingredients of the policy of development in India. The socio-economic situation of these communities is somewhat different from the general socio-economic situation in the country (Sree-kumar, 2001). The formulation of policy and executing programs for the upliftment of these downtrodden communities at par with the general mass of the country is the process of tribal development (Kohli et al, 1999). The chronology of process of tribal development can be better understood with reference to plan and policies implemented for the region specially.

Efforts of Development in Kinnaur Region (Plans for development by the State Government and Central Government)

Although tribal community constitutes only 4% of total population in the Himachal Pradesh, it has found a specific attention in the development strategy of the state. The Government of Himachal Pradesh claims to have made concerted efforts for the welfare of marginalized group of scheduled tribes living in difficult areas and leading a subsistence level of existence in self contained ecological settings. In order to protect the tribals from dispossession and alienation of their land, the government of Himachal Pradesh passed the Himachal Pradesh Transfer of Land (Regulation) Act, 1968. Section 3(1) of the Act provides that no person belonging to any scheduled tribe shall transfer his interest in his land by of sale, mortgage, lease, gift or otherwise to any person belonging to such tribe except with the prior permission of the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned district. The Himachal Pradesh Ceiling on land Holdings Act (1972) has also taken special care of the problems of the tribal areas. The Tribal Sub-Plan covering the majority of Scheduled Tribes was started in 1974-75 in Himachal Pradesh and by 1987-88 the entire Scheduled Tribes population was brought under the ambit of the Tribal Sub-Plan. The State Government is trying to accelerate socio-economic development of these areas by earmarking adequate funds in the Annual Plans. The flow of funds from State Plan to Tribal Sub-Plan has substantially increased over a period of time from 3.65 in 1974-75 to about 95 at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan and the same level for the 11th Five Year Plan. The size of 11th Five Year Tribal Sub-Plan 2007-12 and Annual Tribal Sub-Plan 2009-10 has been fixed at Rs. 1260.00 crores and Rs. 243.00 crores respectively. The adoption of single consolidated demand in the Annual Budget and introduction of single-line administration in the ITDPs have been outstanding achievement of this State in furtherance to the cause of socio-economic development of tribal community in the State. There is a need to make a review of the tribal situation. His review would indicate that the strategy for development would require an intensive approach to the tribal problems in terms of their geographic and demographic concentration, if the faster development of the community is to take place. While these achievements are a matter of some satisfaction as various development plans, policies and programmes have brought forth a perceptible improvement in the socio-economic status of the Scheduled Tribes, a lot more needs to be done with concerted focus on the issues crucial to improve their status on par with the rest of the population. These are; prevention of land alienation from tribal to non-tribal; review of National Forest Policy and Forest (Conservation) Act 1980; consideration of symbiotic relationship that the tribals are having with forest; provision of clean drinking water and medical facilities; effective rehabilitation of the tribals who are displaced on account of setting up of development projects; and legal measures to curb the activities of money lenders and traders by effective implementation of laws and regulations. Women play a significant role in tribal society; therefore, their empowerment with upgradation of their skill is one of the issues to be addressed urgently. After independence the policy stresses the need to recognize tribal rights over land and forest and to let them develop along the lines of their own genius, but in reality, tribal communities have been progressively alienated from their traditional rights over natural resources like Land, Forest, River and that has eroded the very basis of their existence. The government

is working hard towards a new social order based on social equality and social harmony, but still it is not adequate enough for the development of tribal people in India as well as in Himachal Pradesh.

Various Development Initiatives

1. Agriculture & Allied Activities. Agriculture is the largest industry and main occupation of the people in tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. The farming in tribal areas is highly agro-pastoral and most of the areas are mono crop areas. Out of total geographical area of 23,65,533 hect., operational area is only 39,900 hect. i.e. 1.69% owned by 34,500 farmers. The average size of holdings of scheduled tribes is 0.90 hect. Against the state average of 1.0 hect. About 69% of the main workers are engaged in agriculture. Cultivated area per agriculture workers is 0.44 hect. only. Intensity of cropping in tribal areas during 2014-15 varies from 100% to 144% average being 121.62% against 175% at State level. The low cropping intensity is due to the fact that mostly these areas are mono-crop. About cent per cent cropped area in ITDP Lahaul and Spiti and 50% area in ITDP Pangti is under irrigation. In ITDP Kinnaur and Bharmour, the irrigation facilities are scarce except in Pooh sub-division of district Kinnaur where sizeable area has been brought under irrigation through the Desert Development Project. The agro-climatic conditions prevailing in the tribal areas are quite conducive to the production of cash crop like seed potato, vegetables, vegetable seeds, medicinal and brewage herbs. The crops are relatively less prone to fungal diseases.

2. Exp. on improved Seed/vegetable/potato/pulses: This programme includes components i.e. (i) c/o Seed Stores (ii) 100% transport subsidy on transportation of improved seed and (iii) frozen subsidy on cost of seed and (iv) staff and expenditure on farms. The staff expenditure will be met out from Non-Plan It is envisaged to increase income of farmers through production of vegetable and vegetable seeds. The vegetables like peas, cabbage, cauliflower, beans shall be given 23 priority. In Pangti, seed production programme of cauliflower and cabbage will be introduced. For early raising of vegetable seedling, green houses/glass houses would be introduced in the potential areas. Funds for meeting expenditure on 100% transportation subsidy cost will be provided for raising the production of pulses in tribal areas. To increase the production/productivity of seed potato in tribal areas funds are proposed for meeting expenditure on potato farms, frozen subsidy on cost of seed potato to the farmers from non-plan and 100% transportation of seed potato from Plan sector. Further, with a view to ensure better prices to the farmers and to maintain quality of the seed potato, seed certification programme will be encouraged.

3. Distribution of Fertilizer: With a view to promote balanced use of fertilizer, the State Government has allowed cost subsidy on complex fertilizers @ Rs. 1000/- per MT. apart from this, cost subsidy @ 25% is also being provided on 100% water soluble complex fertilizer. Funds are provided for meeting transportation cost

on fertilizer, with a view to maintain uniform sale rates of fertiliser 100% cost on transportation upto distribution head is proposed to be provided.

4. Soil Testing Programme: The object of the scheme is to test soil samples collected from different beneficiaries and on the basis of these tests to convey recommendations to them for adoption so as to maintain the fertility of the soil for various crops. In order to provide Soil Health

Cards to all farming families, samples are being drawn through field extension officers and recommendations are issued to the farmers. The expenses on the soil testing laboratories established in the tribal areas will be met out from non-plan funds. The soil samples shall be analysed free of cost.

5. Plant Protection: It is continuous scheme envisaged to save crops from pests and diseases. Under this scheme, the farmers are to be provided with plant protection equipment and chemicals at 50% cost. Subsidy on cost of these items will be met out from non- plan funds. Besides, 100% transportation cost of material shall be borne under this scheme.

6. Agricultural Machinery: The funds proposed under the scheme are for meeting expenditure on distribution of agriculture implements suitable to local conditions on frozen subsidy from Non Plan and 100% subsidy on its transportation from procurement point to distribution point will be met out from Plan sector.

7. Training & Extension scheme: Funds under this scheme for meeting expenditure of staff, maintenance of existing infrastructure built under the T&E project will be charged on Non-Plan. Besides, rendering training to the farmers regarding improved farm technology from time to time and expenditure on establishing linkages between the Agriculture Scientists and farmers at the grass root level will be met out under Plan/Non-Plan sector.

8. Expenditure on Agriculture: The funds proposed are for meeting expenditure on organizing Agriculture Exhibitions in Tribal areas and also in non-tribal areas.

9. GIA to CSKHPKV: The Government has decided to provide funds under GIA to CSK HPKV, Palampur under Plan for Teaching, Research & Extension activities.

The following strategic research issues have been prioritised:—

- i. Improving crop productivity of rain fed areas.
- ii. Development and demonstration of Farming System Modules for rain fed and irrigated areas under various Agro-Ecological Zones.
- iii. Crop diversification through high value cash crops & value addition.
- iv. Breeding of efficient crop varieties.
- v. Organic farming
6. Mechanisation
- vi. Strengthening of nucleus/breeder/foundation and truthfully labelled seed production program.
- vii. Integrated nutrient management, insect, pest and disease management and weed

management for sustained agricultural productivity.

viii. Management of alien invasive weeds and improvement of non-cropped waste lands.

ix. Protected cultivation.

x. Fostering public-private partnership in R&D to strengthen crop improvement programmes including delivery of products and services.

xi. Establishment of Central Instrumentation Facility for strengthening research.

xii. Refinement of land use data bases using RS/GIS and devising suitable land management plans for various land uses along with disaster management.

xii. Animal Health Care.

10. Lift Irrigation and Bore-Well Scheme: In most parts of the State, water has to be lifted for irrigation purpose. As an incentive to the farmers, Government has decided to grant 50 per cent subsidy for construction of Lift Irrigation Schemes and installation of Bore-Wells by individual or group of farmers for irrigation purposes. The budget provision will be increased as per the actual demand from the farmers.

11. Grants to Marketing Board for Construction of Marketing Yards: Under H.P.

Agriculture and Horticultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2005, H.P. Marketing Board has been set-up. At present, 10 market committees are functioning. 55 markets

have been made functional. Market information is being disseminated through different media i.e.

AIR, Doordarshan, Print Media and through Net to farmers. Market fee has been reduced from 2% to 1%.

The work of development of marketing infrastructure is done out of the funds of APMC's. Information on daily rates is also disseminated through AIR/DD. Market rate of 30 nodes are also disseminated through agmarket.nic.in.

12. Prakritik Khet Khushhal Kisan: Govt. of Himachal Pradesh has decided to implement an innovative technique of Subhash Pakelar Natural Farming (SPNF) under a new scheme called "Prakritik Khethi Khushhal Kisaan" to reduce cost of cultivation and enhanced farm income for the comprehensive and long term welfare and prosperity of farmers and to safeguard them 26 from the adverse climate effects. The scheme has been continued in the State for the year 2020-21.

13. Mukhya Mantri Khet Sanrakshan Yojna : Mukhya Mantri Khet Sanrakshan Yojna was introduced in the State under Budget Assurance during the year 2016-17 for fencing the farm to protect crops from the stray animals, wild animals and monkeys etc. under this scheme 80% Govt.

assistance is being provided to individual farmer and 85% assistance will be provided to group of three or more farmers for installation of the solar power fencing system.

14. Mukhya Mantri Kisan Aivam Khetihar Mazdoor Jivan Suraksha Yojna : The State Govt. has launched a Scheme called "Mukhya Mantri Kisan Aivam Khetihar Mazdoor Jeevan Shuraksha Yojna" in 2015-16 for the welfare of farmers. The scheme is to provide compensation to the farmers and agricultural labourers in the event of sustaining injury or death during the operation of farm machinery. In case of the partial amputation, permanent disability and death a

compensation of Rs.10,000/-, Rs.40,000/-, Rs.1.00 lakh and Rs. 3.00 lakh respectively is being provided to the affected farmers.

15. Uttam Chara Utpadan Yojna :- The state Government has started Uttam CharaUtpadan Yojna to assist farmers in producing good quality fodder for animals. Following components are being covered under this scheme:- i) Distribution of fodder seed on 50% subsidy, ii) Distribution of Chaff-Cutter. iii) Construction of Azolla Pits.

16. Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY): Government of India has launched a specialAdditional Central Assistance Scheme RKVY in 2007-08 with the aim to incentive state to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sector to boost agricultural growth rate provided with flexibility and 27 autonomy in the proves of planning execution of agricultural and allied sector schemes. This programme envisages adoption of new seed varieties, farm machinery, integrated nutrient and pas management and knowledge based interventions developed for different agro climatic zones. The area of focus under RKVY is integrated development of major crops such as wheat, paddy, coarse, cereals, minor millets and pulses, enhancement of soil health andmechanization, development of rain-fed farming system, strengthening of market infrastructure and marketing development and strengthening of infrastructure to promote extension services and also activities relating to the enhancement of production in Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries. The scheme was implemented as 100% ACA from 2007-08 to 2014-15. Now its funding pattern has been revised to 90:10 (Centre : State) by Govt. of India from 2015-16 onwards.

17. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA): Sustainable agricultureproductivity depends upon quality and availability of natural resources like soil and water. Agricultural growth can be sustained by promoting conservation and sustainable use of these scarce natural resources through appropriate location specific measures. Towards this end, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) has been formulated for enhancing agricultural productivity especially in rain fed areas. Main deliverable under this mission are Developing rain fed agriculture, natural resources management, enhancing water use efficiency, improving soil health, promoting conservation agriculture. The component will be in the ratio of 90:10 from 2016-17 onwards.

18. National Mission on Agriculture Extension & Technology (NMAET) : During 12th Five Year Plan the National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET) has been launched to make the extension system farmer-driven and farmer arrangement of technology dissemination. NMAET has been divided in to four sub-missions as: (i) Sub Mission on Agriculture Extension (SAME), (ii) Sub Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP), (iii) sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), and (iv) Sub Mission on Plant protection and Plant Quarantine. The component will be in the ratio of 90:10 Center and State Share from 2016-17onwards.

19. National Food Security Mission: The National Food Security Mission has been launched in 2007. State has been included under this mission to increase the production and productivity of 28 Wheat, Maize, Pulses and Rice. Under this mission, 11 districts in Wheat (Except Shimla), two districts Kangra and Mandi under Rice, 9 districts except Shimla, Kinnaur& Lahaul & Spiti under Maize and 9 districts under Pulses (For this Kharif season Mash & Moong) except Shimla, Kinnaur and Lahaul & Spiti have been selected in the State. The mission provides assistance for laying cluster demonstrations, distribution of Certified Seed, Micro-Nutrients, Plan and soil protection material, improved implement and machinery. The scheme will be in the ratio of 90:10 Centre and State Share.

20. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna: To promote organic farming, Govt. of India has recently launched a new scheme Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture for adoption of organic villages & PGS certification by mobilizing farmers in cluster mode to enable them to certify their own organic products. Under this scheme participatory guarantee system of certification will be followed in place of costly third party certification system. Project is for three years. Total 100 clusters of 50 acre (20 hac.) each are being selected and farmers are being trained in organic farming and PGS system of certification. Since SPNF Scheme is being implemented by our State therefore more emphasis is being given to implement PKVY as per the analogy of SPNF.

21. National Project on Soil Health and Fertility : SHM will aim at promoting location as well as crop specific sustainable soil health management including residue management, organic farming practices by way of creating and linking soil fertility maps with macro-micro nutrient management, appropriate land use based on land capability, judicious application of fertilizers and minimizing the soil erosion/degradation. Assistance will be provided for various improved package of practices based on land use and soil characteristics, generated through geographical information system (GIS) based thematic maps and database on land and soil characteristics through extensive field level scientific surveys. Besides, this component will also provide support

to reclamation of problem soils (acid/alkaline/saline). This component will be implemented by State Govt., National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), Central Fertilizer Quality Control & Training Institute (CFQC&TI) and Soil and Land Use Survey of India (SLUSI). The private parties can be encouraged to set up soil testing labs in selected areas in the district. The Govt. of India has launched new scheme based on which the sample of soil shall be drawn on GPS basis.

22. Horticulture Development Scheme.—

This scheme aims at creating and maintenance of infrastructural facilities required for the distribution of planting material and other orchard inputs for the plantation of new orchards and maintenance of existing orchards for the expansion of area under fruit crops. The main objectives of the scheme are as under:—

1. Bringing more and more area under fruit crops and replanting old uneconomical

orchard area in the potential area of different agroclimatic conditions and farming situations.

2. Introduction of improved high yielding varieties of different fruit crops for replacement of old plantation so as to increase the productivity per unit area.
3. To ensure the availability of verified plants in growing areas and easy availability of production inputs.
4. Strengthening of input service in the fruit growing areas for easily availability of production inputs.
5. Increasing fruit production and productivity by using package of practices recommended by the research institutions.
6. Earmarking of fruit trees of outstanding merit for selections of state mother trees and to supply bud wood to the nursery growers.
7. Providing the facilities of mobility at field level for timely arrangement and supply of inputs to the fruit growers. The main emphasis under the scheme is on replacement of old plantations with new improved plant material and creation of infrastructural facilities in tribal region. The survey of existing fruit plantation in the tribal areas of the state shall be conducted to identify fruit trees of outstanding characters and high yielding potentials. This will help in creating bud wood bank for the supply of bud wood to the registered nursery men in the region.

23. Development of Apiculture (Bee-Keeping).—This scheme aims at multiplication of existing bee colonies at departmental bee keeping stations and making them available to the tribal farmers besides providing advisory services and various inputs to bee keepers.

24. Development of Floriculture.—This scheme aims at laying out of demonstration on the fields of the farmers as well as on departmental progeny-cum demonstration orchards in the tribal region to evaluate the performance of different flower crops like Gladiolus, Daffodils, Lilies, flowering plants of Chrysanthemum, Carnation, Alstromeria and seasonal like Aster, pansy, zinnia, salvia, antirrhinum etc. as well as to demonstrate the package of practices for flower cultivation to the farmers. The size of the demonstration plot will be 50 square meter. Flower seed/corn and other inputs will be provided by the department of Horticulture. These demonstrations will be laid out under the supervision of technical staff of the horticulture department who shall also maintain complete data for each demonstration plot. At Hurling nursery in ITDP Spiti, nucleus flower planting material will be introduced and multiplied for supply to flower growers in the tribal regions.

25. Fruit Canning Units—This scheme aims at utilization of the unmarketable surplus fruits and vegetables for manufacturing of fruit products for making available to the consumers at reasonable rates besides providing community canning services and training in fruits preservation to the fruit growers and women through Mahila Mandals. All these facilities are provided in the ITDP Kinnaur.

26. Maintenance of Government Orchards/Nurseries.—Improved planting material is the basic necessity for the expansion of fruit industry for meeting the requirement of fruit plant material to the fruit growers for tribal areas. The department of horticulture has established 15 Progeny-cum-Demonstration Orchards (PCDO) in tribal region for multiplication and distribution of quality planting material to the tribal farmers.

27. Fruit Plant Nutrition Programme.—The main objective of the scheme is to provide free advisory service to fruit growers in plant leaf tissue analysis for demonstration of nutritional status for their orchards and recommending fertilizer schedule for adoption in their orchards through three main plant nutrition laboratories established at Shimla, Bajaura (Kullu) and Dharamshala (Kangra). Since these laboratories are located far away from the tribal areas, therefore two 32 small laboratories have been established in major fruit growing tribal areas of Kinnaur and Bharmour. These two small laboratories receive the recommendations from the main laboratories for onward circulation among the orchardists for adoption in their orchards.

28. Marketing and quality control for MIS/Carton Subsidy.—The scheme aims at ensuring remunerative price to the fruit growers of their produce by implementing support price/market intervention scheme. On an average 15 to 20 lakhs of standard apple boxes are being produced annually in tribal areas. The unmarketable produce of the farmers is procured at a fixed support price and utilized for marketing/processing purpose. This scheme also envisages training of farmers regarding picking, grading and packing of fruit produce. Daily market information to the producers through AIR/Doordarshan by Market survey and procurement of fair average quality apple, mango and citrus fruits under Market Intervention scheme. This scheme also aims at providing incentives in the form of subsidy on the use of alternative packing material i.e corrugated carton for fruit produce of the fruit growers.

29. GIA to YS Parmar University.—The State Horticulture and Forestry University has established following research stations in tribal areas:—

i) Regional Horticultural Research Station Sharbo.—The Regional Horticultural Research Station is located at Sharbo in District Kinnaur which is the pioneer research station of agro- climatic zone IV for research and development of technology in Horticulture and Forestry,

vegetable crops, aromatic and medicinal plants for sustainable production in the cold and temperate zone of the state. Approximately 8.5 hectare land is under experimental trials at this station. Different experiments on various aspects of Horticulture Industry are being conducted in this Station.

ii) Horticulture Research Station Kalpa.—This Research Station is situated at Kalpa in Kinnaur District an elevation of 3000 mtrs. A.M.S.L. The major mandate of research at Kalpa is vegetable seed production of Cabbage, Cauliflower, Turnip radish and other vegetables. The total area under experimentation at this station is about one hectare.

iii) Horticulture Research Station Tabo.—The research station is situated at Tabo in Spiti Sub-Division of Lahaul and Spiti District about 3350 mts. A.M.S.L. Total area of the station is about 8 hectare out of which 4

hectare has been 33 developed for conducting research work on almond, apricot, cherry etc. besides vegetables seed of cabbage, peas potatoes etc.

iv). Plant Protection Scheme.—Modern Plant protection measures are of prime importance at all the stages of development of commercial horticulture product so that pests and diseases do not act as limiting factor in the fruit production programme. Free advisory services for control of pests and diseases and recommended pesticides through Horticulture extension centres/plantprotection centres established in tribal areas on 50% subsidy are being provided under this scheme.

v). Horticulture Training and Extension.—Training and Extension is an important programme for the transfer of Technology to the farmers for increasing horticulture production and for human resource development and meeting the skilled manpower needs of horticulture industry. The department is imparting short term training courses of 4 to 15 days duration in various horticulture locations. Besides this farmers are also trained in state level seminars, district level training camps and ITDP level training camps. In addition, study tours are also organised from time to time.

vi). Horticulture Buildings (Capital Works).—The department has created many assets in the tribal area for conducting various horticultural development activities which include construction of office buildings/residential accommodation to staff

Schemes for community Development:-

1. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna: The Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has restructured the scheme of Indira Awas Yojna (IAY) into Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (Gramin) (PMAY-G). The scheme aims to provide a puccahouse with basic amenities to all houseless households. The unit cost in hilly/difficult areas is Rs. 1.30 lakh which is to be shared in the ratio 90:10 between central and hill state governments.

2. Mukhay Mantri Awas Yojana : This scheme is being implemented on the analogy of PMAY(G). The unit cost of this has been increased to Rs. 1.50 lakh from 2019-20. The State Government, keeping in view the wider interest of the people, the State has fixed the base of BPL survey and recommendation of Gram Sabha for identification and selection of beneficiaries under this scheme. Rs. 25,000/- financial assistance per unit cost is provided to the beneficiaries for house repair to all categories of BPLs.

3. H.P. State Handicrafts & Handloom Corporation Ltd.: The H.P. State Handicrafts & Handloom Corporation was set up in the year 1974 for the development of Handicrafts & Handloom sector and facilitate the upliftment of the weavers and artisans of the Pradesh. More than 60% beneficiaries belong to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and are located in

1. Tourism Development:

Tribal areas of the State are rich in tourist potential and offer a variety of attractions in the form of trekking, mountaineering, art and culture, fairs & festivals and flora and fauna. Kinnaur and Lahaul-Spiti districts

have common international border with Tibet. After the relaxation of inner-line restrictions, Lahaul valley has already acquired international recognition and Spiti along with Kinnaur is on the threshold to do so.

i) Nucleus Budget for Tribal area:- This scheme was introduced in 1979-80 with the provision of Rs. 5.00 lakh for the each ITDP but in 1991-92 this amount was raised to Rs. 15.00 lakh to ITDP Kinnaur having 3 CD Blocks, since then Rs. 5.00 lakh was available for such CD block rather than each ITDP (the limit was revised to Rs. 10.00 lakh each CD block vide HP Nucleus Budget Rules for Tribal Areas, 1995 till 31.03.2008) which is further revised vide Govt. letter No. TBD(C)2-15/99-II dated 05.05.2008 keeping in view the population/habitations of ITDP Lahaul and Bharmour, (which is more than double of Spiti and Pangi)

Some Issues and Challenges among Kinnaura tribal community:

In Kinnaur region of Himachal Pradesh, some issues are prominent and some challenges are there which Kinnaura tribes faces some important issues and challenges discussed hereunder :

Polyandary

In Kinnaur, among Kinnaura tribal community due to the influence of Tibetan culture ancient concept of polyandry is still alive in some areas. This practice of polyandry was introduced in old times to balance survival as cultivated land is less and family cases of remote areas. The interpersonal relationships in one's life deals with kinship and family relations that play pivotal role in fostering overall development (Ansell, 2009; Wyse, 2010).

Lack of facilities in Schools:

In maximum areas of Kinnaur district still lack of facilities in schools and there is a need to develop curriculum and instructional material in tribal languages at initial stages with arrangements to switchover to regional languages. And Scheduled tribe youths will be encouraged to take up teaching in tribal areas. Ashram Schools/ Residential Schools will be established in a large scale in tribal areas and also Incentive schemes and scholarships will be formulated for Scheduled Tribes, keeping in view their special needs and lifestyle.

Alcoholism – a social evil:

Due to climatic conditions and religious reasons, liquor consumption is very common among the people here. Alcohol plays such an important role in their life that even the worship of a deity is considered as incomplete without offering of liquor. In the times of erstwhile rulers, the people were freely allowed to distil liquor. They do so mostly for their own consumption and rarely had occasion to sell it for profit (Bali et al. (2011)). Though with the application of the Punjab Excise Act 1948, distillation of liquor was made illegal in the state yet it could not be enforced in the district primarily because of the cultural tradition and secondly due to remoteness and inaccessibility of the area. The district administration continues to follow a liberal policy in the effective implementation of excise act. Consequently, due to high extraction of liquor, most of the people have become addicts. Even the school going children below the age of 15 years have started consuming liquor resulting in adverse effects on their health, frequent incidents of quarrel, dispute, rape, accidents and abduction etc.

Poverty and indebtedness:

Majority tribes live under poverty line. The tribes follow many simple occupations based on simple technology. Most of the occupation falls into the primary occupations such as hunting, gathering, and agriculture. The technology they use for these purposes belong to the most primitive kind. There is no profit and surplus making in such economy. Most of them live in below poverty line and are in debt in the hands of local moneylenders. In order to repay the debt they often mortgage or sell their land to the moneylenders.

Health and Nutrition:

Most of the tribal people of Himalayan region suffer from goiter due to lack of iodine. Leprosy and tuberculosis are also common among them. Infant mortality was found to be very high among some of the tribes. The ecological imbalance like cutting of trees have increased the distances between villages and the forest areas thus forcing tribal women to walk longer distances in search of forest produce and firewood.

Education:

Superstition and myths play an important role in rejecting education. Most tribes live in poverty. It is not easy for them to send their children to school, as they are considered extra helping hands. The formal school do not hold any special interest for the children. Most of the tribes are located in interior and remote areas where teachers would not like to go from outside.

Requirements of roads connectivity in tribal area:-

According to the tribal annual sub plan draft 2020-21 the requirement for connecting the remote village the total Roads construction is required upto 891km

Internet and electricity disturbances**Lack of proper marketing for crops and fruits****Lack of availability of trained health care practitioners****Cultural Problems:**

Due to contact with other cultures, the tribal culture is undergoing a revolutionary change. Due to influence of Buddhism the problem of bilingualism has developed which led to indifference towards tribal language. The tribal people are imitating western culture in different aspects of their social life and leaving their own culture. It has led to degeneration of tribal life and tribal arts such as dance, music and different types of craft.

Discrimination:

Discrimination among upper caste and lower caste is still in practice among tribal communities. It is found in some remote areas of Kinnaur region that people of upper caste put their child out from government schools due to mid day meal practices. Because in schools they have to take their lunch with them.

Physical Isolation:

There is the problem of physical isolation because as they generally live in inaccessible areas of forest, mountain or desert. They are fringe dwellers and surviving on limited needs in the midst of the bounties of

nature. Generally, the tribes live in inhospitable environments on the fringes of areas with limited means of livelihood and poor quality of resources. Combined with minimal educational and other facilities this has led to their backwardness and poor quality of life (Parmar, 2011).

Some Suggestions for the better implementation of policies and more development:-

1. Maximum of the people of tribal areas is not aware with Rural Development Schemes which are for them and there is no proper system to educate the tribal people about various schemes and their importance. Meeting, seminars and Nukkadnataks may also be organized with rural people at village level by concern authorities to aware people.
2. The schemes were made by the government and implemented, but there was no participation of the rural people in it. Emphasis should be given on the formulation of perspective plans, which must be followed by action on the original beneficiaries and people should given their full co-operation and participation for the success of the scheme.
3. There should be a proper check over different departments and officials of Rural Development Schemes.
4. The government should ensure the transparency in the implementation of Development Schemes specially meant for tribals and other backward sections. Working committees and vigilance committees may be formed at village level for the monitoring of Rural Development Schemes.
5. Yuva Clubs should be framed to aware the peoples of that particular area.
6. The efforts should be made to simplify the procedure to get the benefits of Tribal Development Schemes and the formalities should be minimized according to the knowledge and understanding of the rural people.
7. The amount of the scheme should be adequate according to the estimate and proper verification of the scheme.
8. To connect the remote tribal areas of the state with air services, the government has to construct heliports in tribal areas and more service should be there for transportation.
9. Local handiwork and horticulture and agriculture should be promoted for rapid development. And there should be proper marketing of their products.
10. Land equisation act should be continued for further so that they can be strong by their financial conditions.

CONCLUSION

The study reveals that a number of development efforts have been made by both the central government and state government during last 5-6 decades for improving the socio-economic conditions of the tribal people, including kannaura of Kinnaur region. Since independence, particularly with the inception of five years plans, concern for tribal development has always been high on the government's agenda. However, the issue of tribal development is still alive. It clearly indicates that we have achieved too less in this regard. There is need to further strengthen and consolidate the efforts aimed at bringing the tribals in mainstream of the society.

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