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"Modernity in Tribal Agriculture"- A Study in the Agency area of Warangal District

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Abstract

Tribal population in India is 10.43 crores as per 2011 census and it is larger than any other community in the world. Tribal population in India is more than the total population of France and Britain and four times that of Australia. If all the tribals in India were to live in a single state it would be the Fifth largest state in Indian. India constitution has provided different protective measures for their development and the government has introduced different measures for their advancement. Even then tribals remain the most backward group in India on the three most indicators of development viz., education, health and income. Tribals are more backward, not only when compared to the general population but also in comparison to the scheduled castes, the other acknowledged backward social group.

Tribals live in about 15 percent of the geographical area scattered over all the states and union territories except Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and the Union territories of Pondicherry and Chandigarh. They are mostly rural as more than 90 percent live in the villages / thandas. More than 80 percent of the tribal population depends on agriculture with limited modern technology. Podu cultivation or shifting cultivation is practiced still by some tribal gropus. Agriculture is mostly through traditional methods, depending on monsoons and meant for domestic consumption. They collect NTFP for domestic use and sell a part for monetary consideration. Socio-economic patterns are near stagnant and changes are slow as they stick on to traditions and customs to a large extent.

Keywords: Modernity ,Tribal Agriculture, Study, Agency, Warangal District

Objectives:

The Primary objective of this paper is to examine the economics of Tribal Agriculture Socio-Economic and living patterns are also analysed along with the primary objective.

Methodology:

The study is based on Primary data collected through a structured questionnaire. Data is collected from two mandals, Chennaraopeta and Kothaguda mandals of Warangal district. 150 respondents each from two villages, Ameenabad and Bathipalli have been selected

randomly to represent Lambada and Koya tribes. So the total respondents in the sample are 300 and they represent two different tribal groups. Simple tools of analysis like averages and percentages are used.

Conclusion:

Modern trends in Tribal Agricultural in the form of tractors, Fertilizers, Pesticides, Bore wells and the like have been noted in the study. Tribal Agriculture has transformed from subsistence agriculture to commercial agriculture. Tribal formers are cost conscious, market conscious and are aware of the income concepts. Progressive changes in the Tribal agriculture is noted in the study. The pace of the progress, no doubt is slow.

The study however, has the limitations of taking two upcoming tribal groups (Koya and Lambada), Income- cost calculations in a particular year and the regional variations.

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ANNEXURES

Table-I

Socio Economic Conditions

1) Illiteracy	
Respondents	66%
Family Members	52%
2) Size of the Family	4.65
3) Sex Ratio	961
4) Podu Cultivators	48 (19 %)
5) Respondents with leased land	29 %
6) Kuchcha houses	23 %
7) School Droputs	77 (20 %)
8) Non-Institutional Credit	40 %
9) Awareness of Child Immunization	44 %

Table-II

Particulars of type of agriculture of the respondent farmers

Both Villages	Permanent Agriculture	Shifting Agriculture	Total
Total	206 (81.10)	48 (18.90)	254 (100.0)

Table-III
Particulars of Yield and Crop-Wise of Food Crops

Crops	Area in acres	Total Yield Quintals	Average Yield Quintals
Paddy	127 (25.50)	3055 (36.46)	24.05
Maize	51 (10.24)	818 (9.76)	16.03
Pulses	68 (13.65)	172 (2.05)	2.52
Mixed Crops	252 (50.60)	4334 (51.72)	17.19
Total	498 (100.0)	8379 (100.0)	16.82

Table-IV
Particulars of Yield and Crop-Wise Commercial Crops

Crops	Area in acres	Total Yield	Average Yield
Cotton	196 (72.05)	1678 (58.14)	8.56
Chilly	34 (12.50)	524 (18.15)	15.41
Turmeric	14 (5.14)	339 (11.74)	24.21
Oil Seeds	27 (9.92)	345 (11.95)	12.77
Total	272 (100.0)	2886 (100.0)	10.61

Table-V
Crop-Wise Efficiency Indicators (food crops)

Crops under cultivate	Output value (Rs)	Input Value (Rs)	Efficiency Indicator

Paddy	20442	12351	1.65
Maize	10740	6349	1.69
Pulses	6048	4698	1.28
Mixed Crops	13408	5974	2.24
Total	20857	7464	1.72

Table-VI
Crop-Wise Efficiency Indicators (Commercial crops)

Crops under Cultivate	Output value (Rs)	Input Value (Rs)	Efficiency Indicator
Cotton	21831	13165	1.65
Chilly	59643	18740	3.18
Turmeric	29052	16530	1.75
Oil-Seeds	28750	15357	1.87
Total	26175	14204	2.18

Table-VII
Land allocation in relation to efficiency indicators

Commercial Crops	Efficiency Indicators	Land allocated
Cotton	1.65	196 (72.0)
Chilly	3.18	34 (12.5)
Turmeric	1.75	14 (5.1)
Oil-Seeds	1.87	27 (9.9)
Total	2.18	272 (100.0)