

Implementation and Acceptance of Tribal Development Program: Status of Bastar

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Abstract

Chhattisgarh has a tribal population of 32.45 percent (Census of India, 2011). Tribals are concentrated over nearly 65 percent of the states area, and this area covers seven districts entirely and another six districts partly. The state is home to several tribes small, large and even those nearing extinction in numbers and it presents among the most challenging scenario for human development anywhere in the country. Despite all, the Scheduled tribes, since ages, have been victims of socio-economic exploitation and have been relegated to low income generating occupations, inferior trades, unhealthy environment and unclean unskilled occupations and the majority of Scheduled Tribes continue to show socio-economic backwardness while the goals of tribal development has been pursued within the broad framework of overall development. With above background the objective of the study is to find out the status of the implementation objects of government and acceptance status of local tribal people towards tribal development program regarding literacy, educational status, health, women status and cultural protection norms etc. for this purpose both qualitative and quantitative research methods had been followed. The result shows that there is improvement of acceptance of tribal development program but there is still lacking a strong bridge between tribal development program and tribal people of Bastar.

Keywords: Schedule Tribe; Socio-economic; Tribal development; Implementation; Government.

Introduction

In India, approximately there are about 698 Scheduled Tribes who constitute 8.5 per cent of the nation's population as 2011 censuses. Tribal population have specialized characteristics which are different from others. They are simple people with exotic customs, traditions and practices. As per D.N. Majumdar (1937), a tribe is a social group with territorial affiliation, endogamous, with no specialization of functions, ruled by tribal officers, hereditary or otherwise, united in language or dialect, recognizing social distance with other tribes or castes, without any social obloquy attaching to them, as it does in the caste structure, following tribal traditions, beliefs and customs, illiberal of naturalization of ideas from alien sources, above all conscious of homogeneity of ethnic and territorial integration (Hasan A.,1988).

Despite all, the Scheduled tribes, since ages, have been victims of socio-economic exploitation and have been relegated to low income generating occupations, inferior trades, unhealthy environment and unclean unskilled occupations. Although clear untouchable practices may be declining in many parts of the country, caste rigidities continue to confine many Schedule Tribe workers in demeaning occupations, which put them at a disadvantage when compared to other communities (Singh Ajit K.,1984). The forces of urbanization, social and protective legislations, positive discrimination and other measures taken by the Government, have led to gradual improvement in occupational mobility and living standards over the years, but the living conditions of the majority of Scheduled Tribes continue to show socio-economic backwardness while the goals of tribal development has been pursued within the broad framework of the following five fundamental principles which has given by Elwin Verrier (1955).

1. Tribal people should be developed along the lines of their own genius and imposition of anything on them should be avoided. Their traditional arts and culture should be encouraged in every way.
2. Tribal rights in land and forests should be respected.
3. A team of their own people should be trained and built up to do the work of administration and development. Some technical personnel from outside will, no doubt, are needed, especially in the beginning. But introducing too many outsiders into tribal territory should be avoided.
4. The tribal areas should not be over-administered or they are not overwhelmed with multiplicity of schemes. The work should be carried out through, and not in rivalry to their own social and cultural institutions.
5. The results of these programmes should be judged not by statistics or the amount of money spent, but by the quality of human character that is evolved.

With above background, the objective of the research study are to analysis the implementation objects of government and acceptance status of local tribal people towards tribal development program regarding literacy, educational status, health, women status and cultural protection norms etc.

Methodology

For collecting the data, we used both quantitative and qualitative sources. The study is mostly based on primary data collection for quantitative research study where interview schedule was used to collect the data from the tribal respondents from the village of Bastar District in Chhattisgarh. In order to analyse the tribal people acceptance status towards tribal development program, quantitative research has been used to quantify the result within the area of literacy, educational status, occupational

status, cultural preservation status, women status, infrastructure-amenities development status and health status etc. as well as secondary data were collected for the comparison with primary data for final discussion and result. Hence, the resources of secondary data collection were central government offices, research publication, Journals and News papers Magazines etc.

Result and Discussion

It is well established that the tribal communities as anywhere else in the country, are one of the most vulnerable and marginalised group. They face social diversity, oppression and economic hardships in various forms. They have to contend with unequal and insecure access to productive resources and share poor participation in governance. Tribal areas and communities largely remain underserved through public systems - both on account of supply (resources fail to reach the target or programmes fail to bring long term change) and demand (poor ability to demand and elicit resources and services) factors. Poor educational achievements, vulnerable health status and insecure livelihood base have kept these groups to the margins of development in Chhattisgarh.

So, the implementation and acceptance status of tribal Development of Bastar from local tribal people includes following determinants.

Demography of Household

Demography is must necessary to observe the status of family because it is the determinant of the dependent family members and their economic status despite their landholding capacity (Das, Rajat Kanti 1988). Access of tribal population to land, remains highly unstable and insecure. Land alienation and insecurity of tenure has been a regular cause of concern related to tribal land ownership and this makes their stakes even more uncertain, amounting to virtual landlessness. Wrongful dispossession,

Table 1: Age group wise Population Composition

S. No	Age group	Male		Female		Total	
		No	%	No	%	No	%
1	0-5	16	10.96	12	7.02	28	8.83
2	6--14	18	12.33	16	9.36	34	10.73
3	15-30	35	23.97	40	23.39	75	23.66
4	31-45	42	28.77	54	31.58	96	30.28
5	46-60	20	13.70	32	18.71	52	16.40
6	60+	15	10.27	17	9.94	32	10.09
Total		146	100.00	171	100.00	317	100.00

unfair tenancy arrangements and bondage are common in these areas. In these situations, most of the tribal families exist on the margin of an agrarian economy serving it with their cheap labour and skills. It reveals from Table 1 that a total of 150 household have been surveyed. These consist of a total 7tribal population. Total 150 households, in which males are 146 and females are 171. Out of 150 households, males majorities are 31-45 (28.77%) followed by 15-30 (23.97%) and least majority are 60+(10.27%) followed by 46-60 (13.20%) and in females majority are 31-45 (31.58%) followed by 15-30 (23.39%) and least majority are 0-5 (7.02%) followed by 6-14 (9.36%) respectively.

Literacy is one of the most powerful tools for socio-economic empowerment but the tribal communities of the state have lagged behind, both in terms of access as well as scholastic achievements. Although the state has invested considerably in infrastructure development for universalising education, large proportions of tribals, particularly girls, still remain outside the scope and reach of formal schooling. It reveals table 2 that out of a total 317 surveyed population, (55.45%) are literate and (44.55%) are illiterate. A large number of populations are lagging behind from the modern facilities as well as encouraged by others.

Table 2: Literacy Status

S. N.	Literacy level	Respondents	
		Number	%
1	Literate	56	55.45
2	Illiterate	45	44.55
	Total	101	100.00

Education is the key which opens the door of life, develops humanity and promotes national and self development. Education can be an effective tool for tribals empowerment. It enables the tribals to acquire knowledge for improving and empowering their tasks in all fields (Suresh and padmaja, 2005). The total literate (44.55%) there are (39.29%) primary school going students (26.79%) Middle level, (17.86%) High School level, (10.71%) Higher secondary level where as very low level of graduate (3.57%) and Post graduate (1.79%) respectively.

Table 3: Level of Education

S.N.	Education Level	Respondents	
		Number	%
1	Primary	22	39.29
2	Middle	15	26.79
3	High	10	17.86
4	Higher Secondary	6	10.71
5	Graduate	2	3.57
6	Post Graduate	1	1.79
	Total	56	100.00

It is clear that backwardness in education is an important cause for economic backwardness. It is in the light of this fact; the Central and State Governments attach greater importance to Scheduled Tribes' economic progress. From infancy on wards greater emphasis is being paid to education programs. Major part of the money set apart for economic development is being spent on education.

Land, both private and public, is the main source of livelihood in rural areas, with agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and allied activities the main sectors in which tribals earn their living. These are carried on primarily for their own subsistence and often under endemically adverse ecological and economic factors (Sunder Raj, D. and Venkata, Ravi, 2005). The status of agriculture and allied activities of the tribals is basically low technology low input, and subsistence economy based (Chauduri Buddadeb, 1992). While there are segments amongst tribals who own large tracts of land and have also taken to more productive and hence more remunerative agricultural practices, they by and large revolve in low technology equilibrium. The major constraint in enhancing agriculture returns among the tribal groups has been marginal land ownership, feudal structures of production and low ability for investment (Ramani V.S., 1988).

As regard the different occupations adopted by the tribal population which is in table 4. Agriculture cum labour is the main occupation of majority informants which is (42.15%) then the second option for them is Labour (27.27%). There are some tribal's who are totally depends on Agriculture which is (14.88%) and the least majority of tribal's are working as Agriculture cum Labour cum Business (2.48%) respectively.

Table 4: Occupational Status

S. N.	Occupation	Respondents	
		Number	%
1	Agriculture	18	14.88
2	Labour	33	27.27
3	Business	7	5.79
4	Service	5	4.13
5	Agriculture+ service	4	3.31
6	Agriculture cum Labour	51	42.15
7	Agriculture cum Labour cum Business	3	2.48
	Total	121	100.00

Perception and Acceptance of Women and Children Health Scheme

The scheduled tribe people generally dislike the adoption of modern medicine system. But because of continued indoctrination and the

sweeping social changes their dislike towards the modern medicine system is gradually vanishing. Majority of the respondents (56.30%) using the health care facilities in rural areas and its is the priority attention and concern of Government. Various National Health Programs are currently in operation for the improvement of child health and prevention of childhood diseases. Research about the diseases prevalent among the scheduled tribes and awareness campaigns on these diseases propoganda are also going on. Every year medical camps are being conducted in selected places involving expert medical practitioners.

Table 5: Regarding Health Scheme

S. N	Health scheme is satisfactory	Respondents	
		Number	%
1	Yes	100	76.34
2	No	31	23.66
Total		131	100

There are many schemes related to women which is circulated in rural areas and the majority is Indira Gandhi Matrivita Sahyog Yojana (27.16%), followed by General health scheme (17.28%) and Mahila Jagriti Shivir (19.75%), followed by Supply of contraceptives (21.60%) and the least majority is of Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) (14.20%) respectively.

Table 6: Women Health Scheme

S.N	Status	Respondents	
		Number	%
1	Mahila Jagriti shivir	32	19.75
2	Supply of contraceptives	35	21.60
3	General health scheme	28	17.28
4	Indira gandhi matrivita sahyog yojana	44	27.16
5	Janani suraksha Yojana (JSY)	23	14.20
Total		162	100.00

Village Health and Nutrition Days (23.30%), followed by Nutritional Rehabilitation Centre (19.42%) then is Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaran (22.33%), followed by Rashtrouya Bal Swasthya Karyakaran (19.42%) and the least majority of Facility Based Newborn care (15.53%) respectively.

Integrated Child Development (ICDS) aims at providing an integrated package of services. This service includes supplementary nutrition, immunization, medical checkups, recommendation service, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition & health awareness. There were 39,299 applicants identified as eligible in Bastar District, out of which ration cards for 31,400 applicants have been prepared. Departmental Officials informed that under Food Security Act 2012, Chhattisgarh

Government will facilitate monthly supply of 35kg food grains at Rs. 2 per kg and 2kg iodine salt for the free of the cost to each of the poor families under the preference category.

Table 7: Rural Children Health Scheme

S.N	Status	Respondents	
		Numbers	%
1	Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK)	23	22.33
2	Rashtriyaya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram (RBSK)	20	19.42
3	Facility Based Newborn Care (FBNC)	16	15.53
4	Nutritional Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs)	20	19.42
5	Village Health and Nutrition Days (VHNDs)	24	23.30
Total		103	100

Acceptance of Rural Development Schemes

By augmenting tribal sub plan schemes, various programmes are being undertaken every year. For this, special assistance received from the Center is being utilized. The schemes are helpful for economic development. The programmes aiming economic development are being given priority (Hasamin Nadeem, 1983). Other programmes, which can serve as a link in the development of Scheduled Tribe areas, are also promoted.

There are many schemes for development for Rural areas and the majority is of Rashan card benefit (31.03%), followed by Pension Yojana (19.54%), Integrated Child Development (ICDS) (24.14%), MGNREGA (18.39%), followed by Mukhyamantri Kanyadaan Yojana (6.90%) it is least in majority respectively.

Table 8: Rural Development Schemes/ Programme

S.N	Status	Respondents	
		Number	%
1	Integrated Child Development (ICDS)	42	24.14
2	Mukhyamantri Kanyadaan Yojana	12	6.90
3	MGNREGA	32	18.39
4	Pension Yojana	34	19.54
5	Ration card benefit	54	31.03
Total		174	100

Awareness and Acceptance of Gram Yojana

The reason behind the Gram yojana's is in order to facilitate rural and tribal villages with good schools, hospitals, temples, farms, markets and others. Despite this facilities 28.68 percentage of respondents doesn't know about the Gram Yojna.

Table 9: Knowledge Regarding Gram Yojana

S.N	Gram Yojana Beneficiary	Respondents	
		Number	%
1	Yes	92	71.32
2	No	37	28.68
	Total	129	100.00

Gram Yojna starts with the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (35.55%), followed by Mukhyamantri Gram Gaurav Path Yojana (25.00%), Gram Vikas Yojana (26.95%) and the least majority of (12.50%) respectively.

Table 10: Gram Yojana

S.N	Status	Respondents	
		Number	%
1	Gram Vikas Yojana	69	26.95
2	Aam Admi Bima Yojana	32	12.50
3	Mukhyamantri Gram Gaurav Path Yojana	64	25.00
4	Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana	91	35.55
	Total	256	100.00

Recommendation and Conclusion

There is need of following steps to enhance the acceptance of tribal development program and its implementation inclining rate:

- Perspective development, vision and mission articulation, strategy planning, organizational development, gender and food security etc.
- Need for capacitation on participatory planning, monitoring and evaluation, group organization and leadership development.
- Needs to be outsourced to linguists who have experience of working on tribal dialects and languages.
- The Commissionerate, Tribal Development Department, along with the ATCs and ITDPs is responsible for the planning, implementation and the monitoring and review of the Tribal Sub Plan. However, certain assigned tasks are not efficiently carried out for a variety of reasons. These tasks could be outsourced to reputed NGOs and/or Development Research Organizations.
- Training of trainers and process documentation is equally important as it enhances inhouse capacity and reduces dependency on others.

The implementation of rural development programmes through the Panchayat Raj Institutions has brought a radical change in the socio-economic conditions of the rural tribal people in the study village. The implementation of rural development programmes has affected even the social and political affairs of the people. In the economic sphere, these programmes have shaped an improvement in economic position of the village. As a result, most of the tribal villagers have acquired an added income. Moreover the tribal development schemes have not brought any changes in the life of majority of the tribal people. Inclusive growth is not making the fruits of development available and accessible to the tribal population of India. In conclusion, it can be summed up that "Inclusion" should be seen as a process of including these excluded sections of the population as agents whose participation is essential in the very design of the development process and not simply welfare targets of development programmes (Patel M.L., 1974). It is necessary that steps should be taken to make these people informed about the development schemes. At the same time procedures of sanctioning of the schemes should be made easy so that the number of total benefitted families increase.

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