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INCIDENCE OF POVERTY IN SCHEDULED TRIBES IN GUNTUR DISTRICT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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ABSTRACT:
    The main objectives of the paper are to analyse the status of Scheduled Tribess in Andhra Pradesh and   to analyse the poverty levels in Guntur district among the Tribes categories. The paper is based on the primary data. 100 sample respondents are selected from the two regions of Palnadu and gunture region of Andhra Pradesh. The incidence of persons living below poverty in Palnadu region is 69.50 and 52.27per cent in Guntur region. The incidence poverty among the caste category analysis is clearly shows that, it is found to be very high in ST and SCs. It is clearly shows that the poverty is 82 per cent of STs, 78 per cent of SC, 60 per cent of the BCs and 58 per cent of General respondents are below poverty line in Palnadu region. Where as in Guntur region 67 per cent of STs, 57 per cent of SCs, 45 per cent of BCs and 40 per cent of the OC respondents are under the below poverty line. It clearly shows that the poverty is high in Palnadu region when compared to Guntur region among the all the Tribes categories.

KEYWORDS: *Poverty, Scheduled Tribes, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.*

INTRODUCTION

    Poverty is a state where a person is unable to maintain a minimum socially accepted level of standard of living. It is regarded as the root cause for low levels of health and educational outcomes, poor access to clean water and sanitation, inadequate physical security, lack of voice, and insufficient capacity and opportunity for mobility. Poverty and Inequality The performance of Andhra Pradesh in reducing income poverty has been impressive, particularly in rural areas. Estimates based on NSS household consumption data indicate that poverty in AP has always been lower than the national average and also its pace of reduction is faster than that of all India. The poverty head count ratio declined from 44.6% to 29.6 % during 1993 -94 to 2004 -05. There has been acceleration in the pace of reduction of poverty in the state especially between 2004 -05 and 2009 - 10. Estimates for 2009 - 10 indicate a further decline in poverty to 21.1 % in the state from 29.6% in 2004 - 05 in AP while it fell to 29.8 % from 37% at all India level during the same period. A noteworthy feature is that the faster rate of poverty reduction has led to a fall in absolute number

of poor in the state. The total number of poor in the state has declined by nearly half from 15.39 million in 1993 - 94 to 17.66 million in 2009 - 10. During 2004 -05 to 2009-10, the inequalities in state increased marginally to 0.28 (from 0.27 in 2004-05) in rural areas and remained more or less stable in urban areas. In addition, the growth differential in rural and urban consumption has come down. These factors have contributed to rise in the elasticity of poverty for the state to nearly one. If the current elasticity and growth rate continue, the state has a good prospect of reducing poverty by another 8-10 percentage points by 2017.

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OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the paper is to analyse the status of Scheduled Tribess in Andhra Pradesh and to analyse the poverty levels in Guntur district among the Tribes and other caste categories

METHODOLOGY

The paper is based on both primary data and secondary data. 100 sample respondents are selected from the two regions of Palnadu and gunture region of Andhra Pradesh. The data only related to income and expenditure of the sample households. The present paper dividing two sections, section-1 deals the status of scheduled Tribess in Andhra Pradesh and section –II deals the incidence of poverty in Guntur district

Section - I

Indian population consists of 8 per cent of tribal population in the country. The percentage of tribal population to the total population in the country has increased by 1 per cent during last century. The country is not able to maintain the culture , traditions and customs of the ST population. Poverty is very high among these indigenous people as compared to general population. They are mostly agricultural labourers with meager assets like land and houses. The literacy gap between tribals and non-tribals is widening year after year. They are not politically empowered. Laws that are passed to improve tribal people but they are grossly inadequate. There is a special need to empower tribal population socially, economically and politically. Their active participation in the developmental activities will go a long way in national building.

Geographical Demography

Broadly the STs inhabit two distinct geographical areas - the Central India and the North-Eastern Area. More than half of the Scheduled Tribe Population is concentrated in Central India, i.e., Madhya Pradesh (14.69), Chhattisgarh (7.5), Jharkhand (8.29), Andhra Pradesh (5.7), Maharashtra (10.08), Orissa (9.2), Gujarat (8.55) and Rajasthan (8.86). The other district area is the North-East (Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh)2. Among States, Mizoram has the highest proportion of Scheduled Tribes (94.43) and Uttar Pradesh has the lowest proportion of Scheduled tribes (0.57). At the District level, 2011 Census reveals that there are 90 districts where ST population is 50 per cent more. With respect to districts, Kurung kumey district of Arunachal Pradesh has the highest proportion of Scheduled Tribes (98.58) and Kannauj in Uttar Pradesh has the lowest proportion of Scheduled Tribes (0.0009). 1.3. Growth of Population The growth of tribal population in six decades are given below.

Table- 1
Trends in Population of scheduled tribe population
(population in Millions)

S.No	Census year	Total Population	Scheduled tribe population	Percentage of STs population
1	1961	439.2	31.1	6.9
2	1971	547.9	38.0	6.9
3	1981	665.3	51.6	7.8
4	1991	838.6	67.8	8.1
5	2001	1028.6	84.3	8.2
6	2011	1210.8	104.3	8.6

Source: Ministry of tribal Affairs, SD, GOI (2013) Statistical Profile of STs in India 2013, p.2)

The table 1 reveals that tribal population is on ever increasing. Three- fold increase of population is found, whereas tribal population also in similar wave length. The percentage of Tribal population has raised from 7 per cent to 9 per cent in six decades.

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Standard of Living:

Amenities are the indicators of standard of living of any person or group of people in any location. The following table informs the economic position of tribal.

Table-2
Basic Amenities in India- A comparison of all Social groups and STs
(figures in Percentages)

S.No	Indicators	All Social groups	ST
1	Total Hours (no)	24,66,92,667	2,33,29,105
	Good Houses	53.1	40.6
2	Drinking Water within premises	46.6	19.7
	Preceived full intervention (treated tap water, hand pump set etc)	65.46	53.82
3	Household having latrine facility within premises	46.9	22.6
4	Availability of bathing facility within permises	42.0	17.3
5	Percentage of households having separate kitchen inside	61.3	53.7
6	Electricity	67.2	51.7
7	Availing of Banking services	58.7	44.98
8	Mobile Connectivity	53.2	31.1
9	Possession of Television	47.2	21.9

Source: Ministry of tribal Affairs, SD, GOI (2013) Statistical Profile of STs in India 2013, p.69)

The table 2 informs the minimum facilities available to Tribals in India, comparing other social groups. The population of tribal are 10 crore, whereas houses are 2 crore, among them good houses are 41 per cent. The all indicators of drinking water. latrines, bathing, separate kitchen, electricity for lighting, banking services. mobile connectivity and Television are found abnormally below to other social groups. In fact, the interest has to come within tribal groups through education and State intervention is also indispensable in this regard with good governance. More the amenities to the people, more the production and productivity to the society was observed and realized.

Lower Infant Mortality rate:

As per census 2011, there are 640 districts in the Country, out of which 631 are rural districts. There are 5879 sub-districts (Teusils), 5,97,483 villages, 8398 towns and 82,251 wards. All India level number of districts have risen 8 per cent (from 584 in 2001 to 631 in 2011). It can be seen that across India, out of 152 districts with more than 25 per cent scheduled Tribe population, 28 districts have ST literacy below 50 per cent and 9 districts have female ST literacy rate below 30 per cent'.
It is found that STs have a lower infant mortality rate (62.1%) than SCs (66.4%) but higher than OBCs (56.6%). Even the pre-natal mortality rate for STs (40.6%) is lower than other social group / castes.

Andhra Pradesh SCs and STs Development: 2011 Census:

In all religions, castes poor were there. But more concentration is found SCsSTs only. In Andhra Pradesh development SCs and STs were abundantly found in Coastal Districts Guntur and follows Rayalaseema Districts. STs were placed more in Visakapatnam and other Hill areas. The income and employment were extended only to literate classes among these. Much of them are left-farm labourers construction workers and doing petty business in slum locations. The crude Reservation system was enjoyed by urban bounded households, who were cornered as creamy layer. Though Kanshiram, the founder of

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Bahujan Samaj Party observed that Reservation System reached centenary celebration, which are to be removed and every caste, class has to get the spirit of competitiveness. Of Course, many classes are not accepting his advice. The following tables provided a bird's eye view of SCs and STs development in Andhra Pradesh.

Table – 3
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Population in Andhra Pradesh – 2011 Census

S.NO	District	Persons	SCs	% of SC Population to total Population	STs	% of STs Population to total Population
1.	Srikakulam	27,03,114	2,55,664	9.46	1,66,118	6.15
2.	Vizianagaram	23,44,474	2,47,728	10.57	2,35,556	10.05
3.	Visakapatnam	42,90,589	3,29,486	7.68	6,18,500	14.42
4.	East Godavari	51,54,296	9,45,269	18.34	2,13,195	11.14
5.	West Godavari	39,36,966	8,11,698	20.62	1,09,072	2.77
6.	Krishna	45,17,398	8,71,063	19.28	1,32,464	2.93
7.	Guntur	48,87,813	9,57,407	19.59	2,47,089	5.06
8.	Prakasam	33,97,448	7,87,861	23.19	1,51,145	4.45
9.	SPS Nellore	29,63,557	6,66,588	22.44	2,85,997	9.65
10.	Chittoor	41,74,064	7,85,760	18.82	1,59,165	3.81
11.	YSR Kadapa	28,82,469	4,65,794	16.16	75,886	2.63
12.	Anantapur	40,81,148	5,83,135	14.29	1,54.127	3.78
13.	Kurnool	40,81,148	7,37,945	18.21	82,831	2.04

Source: DES (2013) Statistical Abstract of Andhra Pradesh -2013 pp.16 & 50

The table-3 have been highlighted that as per census 2011, Prakasam District stood first (23.14%) in concentration of Scheduled Castes to total population follows Nellore and West Godavari Districts. The least SCs were found in Visakapatnam (8%) Srikakulam and Viziayanagaram. Where as in Scheduled Tribe, most of them are concentrated in Visakapatnam 14.42% Vizianagaram (10.05%) and least was found in Kurnool District (2.04%). Kadapa and West Godavari Districts.

Section -II

The 100 sample respondents are selected simple random method and the paper followed the $ 1.25 on the World Bank Criterion, i.e., Extreme Poverty Line: In the most recent literature on the incidence of poverty World Bank (2008) suggested two measures. Following the World Bank's methodology (GoI, 2010, Sukhvir Kaur, 2013) of $ 1.25 per day, the poverty line was worked out as under: This paper highlights the income based and consumption based poverty lines on export group methodology. In the previous section the paper discussed the status of Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh. In this section –II discussed the income based poverty levels in the Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh according to the world bank criteria.

Annual per capita income = Rs. 24,765/- per annum, per person All the Tribes group households having per capita income or per capita consumption expenditure below Rs.24,765/- have been considered as poor households

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Table -4
Region wise poverty levels in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh

S. No	Caste Category	Palanadu	Guntur
1.	General	58.00	40.00
2.	Backward Tribes	60.00	45.00
3.	Scheduled Caste	78.00	56.85
4.	Scheduled Tribes	82.00	67.25
5.	Total	69.5	52.275

Source: Primary data

By using the 1.25 dollars per day method, the region wise percentage of persons living below the poverty are presented in the Table-4. It reveals that the incidence of persons living below poverty in Palnadu region is 69.50 and 52.27per cent in Guntur region. The incidence poverty among the Tribes category analysis is clearly shows that, it is found to be very high in deprived Tribes groups like SC and STs. It is clearly shows that the poverty is 82 per cent of STs a, 78 per cent of SC, 60 per cent of the BCs and 58 per cent of General respondents are below poverty line in Palnadu region. Where as in Guntur region 67 per cent of STs, 57 per cent of SCs, 45 per cent of BCs and 40 per cent of the OC respondents are under the below poverty line. It clearly shows that the poverty is high in Palnadu region when compared to Guntur region among the all the Tribes categories.

SUGGESTIONS

✓ There is need to increasing the literacy rate. So the government to implement the education development schemes effectively.
✓ There is need to quality of education not for the quantity of education. The persons are not obtained degrees but obtained skills only
✓ There is need to increase the working day of MGNREGA 100 man days to 150 man day in drought region of Palnadu and other regions of Andhra Pradesh. And there is need to interlinking of agricultural sector
✓ Effectively implementation of Poverty elevation programmes in the state of Andhra Pradesh.
✓ To effectively work of SC sub plan. Majority of the beneficiaries are belonging to the ruling party members. Lack of effective monitoring to ensure that the ministries and department levels earmark funds under SCP received are underutilized.
✓ To provide basic civic amenities not only rural but also in urban areas in Andhra Pradesh

CONCLUSION

The main objectives of the paper is to analyse the status of Scheduled Tribess in Andhra Pradesh and   to analyse the poverty levels in Guntur district among the Tribes categories. The paper is based on the primary data. 100 sample respondents are selected from the two regions of Palnadu and gunture region of Andhra Pradesh. The data only related to income and expenditure of the sample households.

As per census 2011, Prakasam District stood first (23.14%) in concentration of Scheduled Tribess to total population follows Nellore and West Godavari Districts whereas least SCs found in Visakapatnam (8%) Srikakulam and Viziayanagaram. The table 2 has been revealed that according to 2011 census in SCs the highest literacy rate was found in west Godavari (71.43%) Krishna and Visakapatnam Districts whereas least were in Kurnool (55.26%) Kadapa and Vizianagaram.   Generally employment (Main, Marginal workers) generates income to the people. Among SCs to total population, Guntur stood first with 54%, follows Prakasam and Kurnool. The least employment was found in Visakapatnam (42%) follows East Godavari and Srikakulam Districts.

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