



A STUDY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF MALAIYALI TRIBAL IN PULIYUR VILLAGE: JAWADHU HILLS IN TAMIL NADU

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ABSTRACT

The Socio-economic justice, equality of status, opportunities, cultural and educational status are secure by the Constitution of India for all citizens and also provide supplemented provisions for scheduled caste and tribes. This study addressed that socio-economic condition of the Malaiyali tribal community on Jawadhu Hills in Thiruvannamalai district, Tamil Nadu. The majority of the respondents are engaged in cultivation for the primary source of income in seasonally and on other side most of the respondents are engaged in non-agricultural work for plain areas (seasonal migration). The study found that more than 52 per cent of household are living in the low income group (Rs. \leq 666,77 pa), and only 10 per of households are high income category, remaining 38 percent are middle income households.

KEYWORDS: Income, Malaiyali Tribal, Primary and Secondary occupation.

INTRODUCTION:

Development of the tribal's should be according to the "lines of their own thinking"

-Jawaharlal Nehru

In India 84.51 Million of total tribal population, this constitutes 8.14 per cent of tribal. There are 449 tribes and sub tribes in different parts of India. The most of the tribal people are live in forest and hill areas. In Tamil Naduas per the 2011 census has 7.21 lakh of STs intotal population. In India level 1.10 per cent of STs are living in Tamil Nadu. There are six primitive tribal groups, around 36 sub-tribal groups are found in the state. The major occupations of tribal are cultivators, agriculture labour, non-timber forest products collect and selling for their livelihood (Govt. Tamil Nadu).

Jawadhu Hills is located in the Thiruvannamalai District of Tamil Nadu State. Jawadhu Hills has a height of 4,000 meters and a maximum spered around 40 Sq.km. It is a part of the Eastern Ghats of India. Jawadhu Hills consists of steep rocky and precipitate soils. The climate is favorable to the growth of sandalwood trees. The total population of Jawadhu Hills is over 47,081 as per the 2011 census of India.

MALAIYALI TRIBE

Malai means Hills and yalee means rules who rule the Jawadhu Hills. It is one of the tribe communities in India and they are living for several decades in this hills area. This society is spread across the mountains of Jawadhu Hills which is shared by the judiciary of two districts namely Vellore and Thiruvannamalai. The major share of this community is in Thiruvannamalai district and little share is retained under Vellore district. Evidence at Keel Cheppli stone houses proves that existence of human civilization has a history of over 5,000 years (Chandramohan). The population of the Jamunmadthur block is 98 per cent are tribal community and 2 per cent are other communities.

Puliyur village is located in Southern part of Jawadhu Hills. This village is located in the main road between Jaminamdur and Chengam. This is the main village which consists of a few hamlets namely Killthadiyapattu, Mallthadiyapattu, Erukkampattu, Nellivai and Thalur. The size of population of Puliyur panchayat on the time of data collection is 478 households and literacy rate is just 43 per cent as per 2011 census. Killthadiyapattu has 19 households as per 2011 census.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

To analyses the socio-economic condition of the Malaiyali tribe in Jawadhu hills.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

This study used both primary and secondary data. The primary data 113 tribal households were collected through the interview schedule. The study has classified three types of household's namely low, middle and high income for better understanding within the groups. The simple statistical tools are used for better understanding of socio-economic conditions of tribal community in this area.

DISCUSSION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION OF PULIYUR VILLAGE

Head of the households

The result shows that 90 per cent of male respondents in the head of the household remaining 10 per cent female respondents in the head of household. Around 67 per cent of the female headed households come under the low income category, on other hand 50 per cent of the male headed households also this category. The chi-square test also denotes that less statistical association in the income and head of the household (vide Table 1).

Type of family

In the study area around 56 per cent of the respondent households in nuclear family and 44 per cent of the respondent household's in joint family are living in this area. Most of the Malayali tribal communities after marriage they start separate life. So that nuclear family is more in this area. The statistical result also shows that lass association in within this households (vide Table 1).

Age of the respondent

The respondent's age and income are generally highly correlated. In this result (chi-square 8.92) also show that association of age and income. The productive age (43-56) group are very high in the high and middle income households compared to low income households. Around 12.3 per cent of respondents are above the age of 57 in low income households in the study area. So that the low income household respondents are getting low wage received from locally available employment opportunities (vide Table 1).

Education of the respondent

The respondent education and income has more correlated in the household income. This tribal area 62 per cent of respondents are illiterate, 38 per cent of respondents are literate, this result of literacy rate is below in the national average 58.96 per cent (Census of India 2011). The result shows that the low income households only 27 per cent of the respondents are getting education reaming of them are illiterates. The chi-square result also association of within the two groups (vide Table 1).

Main occupation

The study areas almost 97 per cent of the respondents are engaged cultivation activities for their main sources of income, few of them engaged with construction labour work. The statistical result also shows that the association of the households and occupations (vide Table 1).

Secondary occupation

In this tribal area most of male respondents are seasonally migrate from the plain areas for getting the jobs. Because, mostly depend the rainwater for their cultivation purpose, rest of the time there is no employment opportunity in this area. The result shows that most of the respondents of low income household are working in out of their locality for seasonally. On other hand females are taking care of children, livestock, land and house. Compared to male the female seasonal migration is low, because the most of the females are participating the government employment scheme in MGNREGA. The statistical result also shows that association of the employment and income group's households (vide Table 1).

Respondents income in difference sources

The household income has classified in three groups, namely high, middle and low income household. In these classifications 9.7 per cent of the households are high income group, 38 per cent of the households are in middle income group and 52.3 per cent of the households are low income group. In this respondents are received income in different sources for their day to day life. There are five major sources of income are classified namely crop income, livestock income, secondary occupational income, forest income and government sources of income.

Crop income

In this study area 97 per cent of the respondent households are depending on crop income. The low income households are getting low income for the cultivation, because their operational landholding size is very small. So that, low income household are getting low income compared to middle and high income households. At the same time middle and high income households are proportionally some different for landholding and income also proportionally different in the within the households. The statistical test also clarified the association of the within the households (vide Table 3).

Secondary occupational income

This study area 50 to 55 per cent of income generate for non-agricultural activities. The secondary sources of income are received proportionally high in middle and high income households compared to low income households. The statistical result shows that the association of the income and household (vide Table 3).

Livestock income

The livestock income of this household is proportionally very low. Because, most of the households are keeping the livestock using for agricultural purpose, so that the income is low. The statistical result revealed that less association in the household income and livestock (vide Table 3).

Forest income

The result shows that the non-temper forest product the low income households are selling more but they are getting income is low, but on other hand high and middle income household are selling forest product and received proportionally income has high in this household. The statistical result also revealed that the association of the within this households (vide Table 3).

Government Schemes Income

The result shows that 56 per cent of the respondent households are not received any kinds of the income in government schemes except in MGNREGA. The statistical test revealed that the some association of within the households to receive the income of government schemes (vide Table 3).

Savings of the respondents

The result shows that 54 per cent of the respondents are no savings in all the category respondent households. The low income category less amount only to save compared to middle and high income category households. The statistical test revealed that the association of the savings and income households. The reason was low income category household income almost spent to household expenditure. In another reason was non-availability of the banking services. Most of the respondents have only the MGNREGA accounts for receiving wages (vide Table 11).

Borrowing of the respondents

The result shows that 73 per cent of high income, 56 per cent of middle income and 52 per cent of low income respondent households did not received any borrow in financial and non-financial institutions. The result revealed that 48 per cent of low income households are received more money from moneylenders, pawnbrokers, relatives and friends. The statistical results also revealed that association of the money borrowing and households (vide Table 11).

Asset holding of the respondents

The assets holding house value are almost similar to all the group of household. The result shows that less association of the within the households. On other hand land and livestock's are more association within the households. The statistical result revealed that the association (vide Table 2)

CONCLUSION

In this study area 52 per cent of households are low income category, there socio-economic condition has very low in compared to the middle and high income households. The income sources of low income household main source income generate from secondary occupation, on other hand high income household generate income in both main and secondary occupation. But, compared to middle and low income household are received proportionally low in main occupational income. The 66 per cent of the low income household no savings, on other hand 48 per cent of low income household borrowed money. The asset holding of the all groups of households are similar, but some proportionally variances in middle and high income household.

Table 1 Households basic information of the respondents

Items		High income HHS	Middle income HHS	Low income HHS	Total	Chi-square test
Head of the Households	Male	9 (8.91)	41 (40.59)	51 (50.50)	101 (100)	3.20
	Female	2 (16.67)	2 (16.67)	8 (66.67)	12 (100)	
Type of Family	Joint family	7 (14)	21 (42)	22 (44)	50 (100)	2.84
	Nuclear family	4 (6.35)	22 (34.92)	37 (56.76)	63 (100)	
Age	Below 43	5 (8.93)	27 (48.21)	24 (61.43)	56 (100)	8.92
	44 to 56	6 (16.22)	10 (27.03)	21 (56.76)	37 (100)	
	Above 56	0	6 (30)	14 (70)	20 (100)	
Education	Illiterate	6 (8.57)	21 (30)	43 (61.43)	70 (100)	6.38
	Literate	6 (16.22)	22 (27.03)	16 (56.76)	37 (100)	
Main Occupation	No work	0	1 (100)	0	1 (100)	6.18
	Cultivation	10 (9.09)	41 (37.27)	59 (53.64)	110 (100)	
	Construction work	1 (50)	1 (50)	0	2 (100)	
	No work	1 (25)	2 (50)	1 (25)	4 (100)	

Secondary Occupation	Cultivation	0	0	1 (100)	1 (100)	6.43
	Agricultural labour	0	1 (25)	3 (75)	4 (100)	
	Govt. / PVT Job	0	1 (50)	1 (50)	2 (100)	
	Construction work	6 (11.11)	24 (44.44)	24 (44.44)	54 (100)	
	MGNREGA	4 (8.33)	15 (31.25)	29 (60.42)	48 (100)	

Source: Compiled data from field survey

Table 2 Total households assets category wise

Items		High income HHs	Middle income HHs	Low income HHs	Total	Chi-square test
House Asset value	≤1,17,522	6 (9.23)	23 (35.38)	36 (55.38)	65 (100)	0.67
	1,17,523 to 1,97,246	4 (16)	9 (36)	12 (48)	25 (100)	
	1,97,247 ≥	1 (4.35)	11 (47.83)	11 (47.83)	23 (100)	
Land Asset	No Land	0	2 (50)	2(50)	4 (100)	9.39
	Below ≤ 3 acre	7 (7.87)	34 (38.20)	48 (53.93)	89 (100)	
	3 to 4.7 acre	3 (37.50)	1 (12.50)	4 (50)	8 (100)	
	4.8 ≥ Above	1 (8.33)	6 (50)	5 (41.67)	12 (100)	
Land Value	No Land	0	2 (50)	2 (50)	4 (100)	9.78
	Below ≤ 2,37,699	3 (4.48)	23 (34.33)	41 (61.19)	67 (100)	
	2,37,670 to 3,87,371	4 (16.67)	11 (45.83)	9 (37.50)	24 (100)	
	3,87,372 ≥ Above	4 (22.22)	7 (38.89)	7 (38.89)	18 (100)	
Livestock Asset	No Livestock	2 (5.13)	7 (17.95)	30 (76.92)	39 (100)	4.08
	Below ≤ 26,241	1 (5.26)	10 (52.63)	8 (42.11)	19 (100)	
	26,242 to 52,732	6(17.14)	17 (48.57)	12 (34.29)	35 (100)	
	52,733 ≥ Above	2(10)	9(45)	9 (45)	20 (100)	

Source: Compiled data from field survey

Table 5 Households income received different sources

Items	Respondents income (Rs.)	High income HHs	Middle income HHs	Low income HHs	Total	Chi-square test
Crop Income	No Income	0	2 (33.33)	4 (66.67)	6 (100)	63.21
	Below ≤23,269	0	22 (36.67)	38 (63.33)	60 (100)	
	23,270 to 39,794	2 (5.88)	15 (44.12)	17 (50)	34 (100)	
	39,795 ≥ Above	9 (69.23)	4 (30.77)	0	13 (100)	
Secondary Income	No Income	0	0	1 (100)	1 (100)	63.10
	Below ≤34,650	0	10 (16.67)	50 (83.33)	60 (100)	
	34,651 to 62,713	5 (13.57)	24 (64.86)	8 (21.62)	37 (100)	
	62,714 ≥ Above	6 (40)	9 (60)	0	15 (100)	
Livestock Income	No Income	10 (9.71)	37 (35.92)	56 (54.37)	103 (100)	2.46
	Below ≤ 1,135	0	0	0	0	
	1,136 to 4,003	1 (100)	0	0	1 (100)	
	4,004 ≥ Above	3 (25)	6 (50)	3 (25)	12 (100)	
	No Income	7 (14.58)	18 (37.50)	23 (47.92)	48 (100)	

Forest Income	Below \leq 3,378	1 (5)	6 (30)	13 (65)	20 (100)	8.07
	3,379 to 7,963	0	14 (46.67)	16 (53.33)	30 (100)	
	7,963 \geq Above	3 (20)	5 (33.33)	7 (46.67)	15 (100)	
Government scheme income	No Income	5 (7.94)	20 (31.75)	38 (60.32)	63 (100)	6.21
	Below \leq 4,255	1 (8.33)	4 (33.33)	7 (58.33)	12 (100)	
	4,256 to 10,475	2 (20)	5 (50)	3 (30)	10 (100)	
	10,476 \geq Above	3 (10.71)	14 (50.00)	11 (39.29)	28 (100)	

Source: Compiled data from field survey

Table11 Total savings and borrowing household wise

Items		High income HHs	Middle income HHs	Low income HHs	Total	Chi-square test
Savings	No savings	5(8.20)	20 (32.79)	36 (59.02)	61 (100)	11.00
	Below \leq 1,784	1 (4)	9(36)	15 (60)	25 (100)	
	1,785 to 5,751	3 (17.65)	7 (41.18)	7 (41.18)	17 (100)	
	5,752 \geq Above	2 (20)	7 (70)	1 (10)	10 (100)	
Borrowed	No Borrowing	8 (12.70)	24 (38.10)	31 (49.21)	63 (100)	4.69
	Below \leq 20,531	1 (7.69)	7 (53.85)	5 (38.46)	13 (100)	
	20,532 to 56,052	2 (7.69)	9 (34.62)	15 (57.69)	26 (100)	
	56,053 \geq Above	0	3 (27.27)	8 (72.73)	11 (100)	

Source: Compiled data from field survey

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