



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBALS IN MADHYA PRADESH

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ABSTRACT:

Madhya Pradesh has the biggest Tribal population in the India. The rich diversity and variability in the tribal communities, spread over in different parts of the state, is clearly seen not only in matters of cultural heritage and lifestyle but also in social and economic developmental religious beliefs, structure, language and speech, customs etc. Due to the varied socio-cultural and geographical environment and its parameters, the diverse tribal world of M.P. tribal's and state are inter related in the field of economic development because government launches schemes for tribal's economic development and by this they find jobs and perform better that's why increases production and strengthen economic development of state. The Government of MP has initiated several programmers under the auspices of Tribal Welfare Department for the upliftment of the downtrodden with special emphasis on economic development of tribal population. In order to have all round development in the state, the state government has introduced different schemes specially to improve the living standard of tribes by enhancing their annual income with improved opportunities.

INTRODUCTION:

Madhya Pradesh is located in the central part of Indi covering an area of 308,245 square kilometers with the population of 60.4 million, it has a large proportion of scheduled castes and tribes (15.17% and 20.27% respectively) with 73% of the population living in rural areas. The State is typically characterized by difficult terrain, high rainfall variability, uneven and limited irrigation, deforestation and land degradation. Despite significant progress in socio-economic development over the last decade, the state continues to be afflicted with some of the worst indicators in India. These include low literacy rates, high levels of morbidity and mortality.

On 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2000, Madhya Pradesh State has been reorganized & divided into two states mp and cg. The State of Madhya Pradesh consist largest concentration of tribal population in the country. The tribal regions of the state adjoin the tribal regions of bordering states like , Gujarat Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh thus forming a large compact area of tribal concentration. The State therefore, has a substantial representation of almost all the tribal groups of Central India with varying socio-economic conditions. 37% of the population living below the poverty line in mp.

There are 46 recognized Scheduled Tribes in Madhya Pradesh, India, three of which have been identified as 'Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups' (PTGs)(formerly known as 'Special Primitive Tribal

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Groups'. The population of Scheduled Tribals (ST) is 20.27% of the state population (12.233 million out of 60.385 million), according to the 2001 census.<sup>[1]</sup> Bounded by the Narmada River to the north and the Godavari River to the southeast, tribal peoples occupy the slopes of the region's mountains. The term "Scheduled Tribes" refers to specific indigenous peoples whose status is acknowledged to by the Constitution of India. The term Adivasi also applies to indigenous peoples of this area.

Madhya Pradesh holds 1st rank among all the States/Union Territories (UTs) in terms of Special Tribal population and 12th rank in respect of the proportion of ST population to total population.<sup>[2]</sup>

### **Distribution of tribal population**

The main tribal groups in Madhya Pradesh are Gond, Bhil, Baiga, Korku, Bhariya, Halba, Kaul, Mariya, and Sahariya. Dhar, Jhabua and Mandla districts have a more than 50 percent tribal population. In Khargone, Chhindwara, Seoni, Sidhi and Shahdol districts, 30 to 50 percent of the population is of tribes. The largest population is that of the Gond tribes.

Name of tribe	Sub-tribe	Population (Census 1981)	Districts inhabited
<u>Gond</u>	<u>Pardhan</u> , <u>Agariya</u> , <u>Ojha</u> , <u>Nagarchi</u> , <u>Solhas</u>	5,349,883	All districts, mainly spread on both banks of <u>Narmada River</u> in <u>Vindhya</u> and <u>Satpura</u> , <u>Balaghat</u> .
<u>Bhil</u>	<u>Barela</u> , <u>Bhilala</u> , <u>Patliya</u> <u>Bijhwar</u> , <u>Narotia</u>	2,505,888	<u>Dhar</u> , <u>Jhabua</u> , <u>East Nimar</u>
<u>Baiga</u>	<u>Bharotiya</u> , <u>Nahar</u> , <u>Rai</u> <u>Bhaina</u> , <u>Kadh Bhaina</u>	248,949	<u>Mandla</u> , <u>Balaghat</u>
<u>Korku</u>	<u>Movasiruma</u> , <u>Nahala</u> , <u>Vavari</u> , <u>Bodoya</u>	66,781	<u>East Nimar</u> , <u>Hoshangabad</u> , <u>Betul</u> , <u>Chhindwara</u> , <u>Burhanpur</u>
<u>Bharia</u>	<u>Bhumiya</u> , <u>Bhuihar</u> , <u>Pando</u>	195,490	<u>Chhindwara</u> , <u>Jabalpur</u>
<u>Halba</u>	<u>Halbi</u> , <u>Bastariya</u>	236,375	<u>Balaghat</u>
<u>Kaul</u>	<u>Rohiya</u> , <u>Rauthail</u>	123,811	<u>Rewa</u> , <u>Satna</u> , <u>Shahdol</u> , <u>Sidhi</u>
<u>Mariya</u>	<u>Abujh Mariya</u> , <u>Dandami</u> <u>Mariya</u> , <u>Metakoitur</u>	195,490	<u>Jabalpur</u> , <u>Mandla</u> , <u>Panna</u> , <u>Shahdol</u> , <u>Chhindwara</u>
<u>Sahariya</u>	–	261,816	<u>Guna</u> , <u>Shivpuri</u> , <u>Morena</u> , <u>Gwalior</u> , <u>Vidisha</u> , <u>Rajgarh</u>

### **Discussion:-**

#### **Strategy of Tribal Development**

At present the tribal development strategy has a two pronged approach-the area approach and target group approach. The area approach for tribal development was adopted from third plan onwards by way of converting those Community Development Blocks into Tribal Development Blocks where the concentration of tribal population was 66 % and above. Since the tribal pockets by and large having spatial compactness, the demarcation of TDB led to the emergence of a continuous geographical patch of tribal concentration. This area is known as the Tribal Sub-Plan Area and from Fifth Five Year Plan onwards was adopted as focused area approach for the socio-economic development of tribal communities.

The most important salient feature of TSP strategy is that in the general plan there will be a separate plan meant for the welfare and development of tribals within the overall plan of the state. The funds provided under the Tribal Sub-Plan have to be at least equal in preparation to the ST population of the state.

The qualifying firms /organizations are expected to have a detailed knowledge of development indicators as well as the human indicators of the tribal and also an appraisal of comparative life situations of STs from the national human indicators. Study of census report and the recommendations of the Planning Commission of India may also be observed while preparing the Master Plan. The focus of attention is to laid in the following sectors:-

a). Agriculture: -

As agriculture is the main stay of their livelihood, concerted and vigorous efforts has to be diverted to improve the productivity and yield of produce from the fields. Innovative ideas must be incorporated to convert this vital primary sector activity into a profitable one. Schemes suitable for the small holdings of ST farmers with combination of horticulture and agro forestry should be prioritized. This may be one of the possible methods to diversify the farming methods and increase the family income of the ST farmers.

The most important fact that is to be born in mind is that the subsistence agricultural practice in tribal areas has to be converted into a profitable activity with the small holdings and meager resource of ST families.

Obviously, the change of pattern in agricultural practices calls for a vigorous practices for active and capacity building. Thus inducement skill and and training for changing the mind of ST farmers is an important prerequisite and must be incorporated as an integral part of plan exercise. The practical aspects of its acceptability and feasibility among the tribal areas must be studied in depth by experienced agricultural experts/scientists and their regular supervision and guidance must be available with the firms /organizations as senior team members while monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of planned schemes.

- Horticulture :-As tribals have small land holdings, orchid based horticultural activities are best suited format of farm practices. It can be developed with a balance combination of agricultural crops and profitable fruit plantations on the *Wadi* model. This pattern of horticultural with combination of compatible crops has rendered good results in states like Gujarat, Maharashtra and AP. It has helped the organizing the farm practices on small holdings in a better way.

b).Animal Husbandry:- This sector has immense scope for development. The population of animals is the largest in India but the production of per animal dairy product is the lowest. This fact is typically suggestive to the tribal areas.

There is an urgent planning need to improve the breed of animals and train the tribal families adopting modern methods of animal husbandry.

c). Communication

There has to be a well designed communication plan to link all the tribal villages (Manjhra /Tola) with all weather metalled roads, connecting Block/Tahseel/District head quarters As tribal areas are mostly rugged and forested, it has been comparatively isolated from main stream.

There are many roads in tribal areas which are without *pullias/culverts* and during rainy seasons the entire hinterland served by such roads remains cut off from vital supplies and health facilities. These pockets have to be carefully identified /demarcated and plan to fill up the missing links has to be prepared. Other major road links to develop connectivity with the general areas also has to be mapped out for irradiating the prevailing imbalance of development in the tribal areas.

So there is a need to prepare a plan with a holistic approach, combining the activities of agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry, balancing the three aspect so proportionately that the best use of resources may be possible.

d).Education

As education is the main input for human development, the educational infrastructure is to be improved to an extent so that the education standard along with skill development in tribal youth may be brought at par with the national average. The plan for tribal education should be prepared keeping the fact in mind that existing schemes could be dovetailed to maximize the outcome.

1. Education.
2. Food Security.
3. Drinking water.
4. Health.
5. Employment generation programme.
6. Infrastructure development.

Are most important areas for economic development of tribes.

e).Health

The high rate of MMR and IMR along with the problem of malnutrition is one of the major concerns of tribal health. The Master Plan is expected to study the scenario of health services in the tribal areas and present a time bound plan activities to reduce the MMR and IMR down to the national level. The areas related to the shortage of trained staff, nurses, doctors should be assessed along with the required infrastructure facilities. It is important to prepare the road map for health services by team of experts with the consultation of Health Department / Women and Development Department of state government while combining the their schemes to promote synergy and optimization of recourses.

## **Conclusion:**

Tribal culture is a unique culture. Economic development of tribal's are fully based on schemes of Indian government, when government will provide some growing materials for them then they can grow like goal. Behind its apparent gaiety and colorfulness there are some subtle and indirect considerations of their belief and traditions, which are always to be honored and helpful. However, the planning exercise is also expected to be tempered with the spirit of progressiveness. The idea is to integrate the tribal communities in the main stream of national life by way of inducement, without offending their righteousness and self esteem.

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