

# **Economic Development of Tribal Women in India**

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#### Abstract

Through this paper, the relationship of women empowerment has been established through the industry they have done. The trend of entrepreneurship among tribal women is very low. The main occupation of the tribal family is collecting flowers and fruits and performing barbaric work. Tribal women are not motivated to do this. Acting on the orders of the family head and hearth root, Thane's life is destroyed. The present research article reviews the industry and its economic development carried out by the tribal community. Production efficiency activities carried out by them are family social transformation decision making process; political Representation, entrepreneurial development and social leadership were explored. Their participation in economic activities In particular, their business practices, their socioeconomic conditions were examined. 77% women are involved in family work. 48% of women have broken the barricades of limiting themselves to reproduction only and have tried to survive in subsistence agriculture.

Keywords - women empowerment, entrepreneurial development, social leadership.

## Introduction

The status of women in Indian tribal society is an important reflection of the level of social justice in that society. The status of women is described by their income level, employment, education, family, community and health roles in society. . The economic development of an area is a good reflection of the standard of living of its people. The delivery of financial services is important not only for promoting economic development but also for family development and improving the quality of life. A strategy for the development of tribal women, and their betterment, requires improved development and effective empowerment.

Empowerment of tribal women, economic development of marginalized groups involves not only the process of creation of socio-political space for these groups by the government but also the process of emancipation from man-made constraints through struggle. It represents the fulfillment of tribal women's hopes and dreams for an environment that is free from inequality that affects them economically. The issue of economic development is also linked to aspects like their quality, intelligence. Economic development of tribal women is needed to overcome poverty and achieve their economic development in the society. Tribal's in India are traditionally isolated, underdeveloped. They are affecting the Indian development process. . The overall graph shows that the tribal population in India has very poor health conditions, poor economic conditions, lack of social hygiene and lack of knowledge. Tribal's women have high rates of anemia and girls get less than expected nutritional intake. According to the Indian context, the entire tribal community is undernourished. Also Knowledge and practice of family planning was also found to be low among tribal's. There is a need to study differences in economic and demographic characteristics, economic problems and family-oriented care and financial concerns, nutritional health problems, and nutritional and anemia status. Consideration should be given to women's participation in economic activities, their legal status in terms of transactions, accounting and inheritance of property, access to health care. Economic development is about empowering women, especially tribal women, to make decisions for them or to resist decisions made by others, to acquire and possess power and resources.

Possession of resources in a society such as personal wealth, property, land, skilled education, information, knowledge, social status and position, leadership qualities, ability to mobilize resources etc. indicates the level of economic development. Tribal women occupy an important place in the economic structure of their society. They exercise a free and firm hand in all aspects related to their financial life. But still the tribal woman appears to have the same passions, loves and fears, the same loyalty to home, husband IJFMR ICMRS'23-111 1



and children as any other woman. Although tribal women are excluded from the mainstream of economic and professional life, they are not kept out of the influence of economic changes. A tribal woman is forced to follow certain rules which deprive her of professional outlook. Such various processes have a negative impact on tribal women.

## Constituting provision for Tribal -

The Constitution has provided clauses for the up liftmen of tribal women. It works with policies and affirmative action on affirmative action against tribals.

- 1. Article 14 provides equal rights and opportunities to all
- 2. Article 15 prohibits discrimination against any citizen on grounds of sex, religion, caste etc.;
- 3. Article 15 (4) States to make special provisions for the advancement of any socio-educationally backward class;
- 4. Article 16 (4) empowers the State to provide for reservation in appointments or posts in favor of any backward class of citizens who, in the opinion of the State, are not adequately represented.
- 5. Article 46 The State promotes with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections, especially the STs, and protects them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.
- 6. Article 275 Grant Helps to promote and uplift the welfare of STs.
- 7. Article 330 Seats to be reserved in the House of the People Article 332 Reservation of seats in state assemblies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes 332,335 Determines the claims of Scheduled Members
- 8. Article 244(1) Establishment of tribal welfare communities for welfare of tribal's.
- 9. Article 22(2) 73rd and 74th Amendment To ensure effective participation of tribal's in planning and decision-making processes.
- 10. Extension to the Scheduled Areas Act, 1996. Constitutional amendment is extended to Scheduled Areas through Panchayats.

## Economic condition of Tribal Woman's -

R.Linton (1936) defined status as a position in a social system. The word role is closely related to the idea of status. It refers to the behavior expected of people in a given situation. The status of a person or group in society is mainly determined by educational status, health status, employment status and decision-making capacity. All these factors are closely related to each other. Higher levels of education will create health awareness, employment opportunities and decision-making capacity among these groups. The status of women in tribal society depends largely on the social structure and type of society. In the Indian social context, a patriarchal family structure prevails, with men dominating all settings and social contexts. However, in many tribal communities, matriarchal families predominate. In contrast to patriarchal societies, status matriarchal families have a higher proportion of women.

Mitra (2007) Burman Roy(2012) suggest that the Garo and Khasi tribes of North-East India give relatively high status to women due to the system of matrilineal descent, matrilineal residence and inheritance of property by women. But in other tribal societies which follow patriarchal rules, the status of women is not as high as in matriarchal societies.

Hutton (1921) A study of Naga women by shows that they enjoy substantial independence and high social status.

This shows that the status of tribal women is not the same everywhere but varies according to tribal group and social structure.

The status of women in a tribal society is an important reflection of the level of social justice in that society. The status of tribal women is described in terms of their income, employment, education, health and fertility, as well as their roles in the family, community and society. The role of women is important in tribal society. Tribal population is about 18% of the total population but in tribal society women are more important than other social groups, as they work harder than men and the family economy is totally dependent on them. The new industrialization and commercialization have crippled the tribal economy but even then tribal women played an important role. Collection of minor forest produce is mainly done by



women and children. Many work as laborers and contribute to their family income. Despite being exploited by contractors and managers, tribals are managing the country's economy more efficiently. Tribal's are more honest and hardworking than non-tribal's.

## Strategies for a chance for economic development of tribal women -

As pointed out in various researches, sub-poverty level of tribal economic activities is a major problem faced by tribal women. A practical way to deal with the problem for tribal's to vote on this issue is to impart skills to women, promote entrepreneurship which will help them to increase their income. Efforts can be made to create awareness for the empowerment of these women. Various NGOs can come forward to provide necessary training that will help them become empowered and generate livelihood.

Bridge Trust is an NGO working for economic up liftmen of tribal women near Mumbai. Nidish's article highlights the role of self-help groups in women's empowerment in Kerala where women worked to transform their identities at the local level and beyond the local level. If non-tribal women take care of the financial side and create awareness, tribal children can go to school which will help them develop a strong base for their future. Tribal women need to do business to prepare themselves for future life. It is necessary to sensitize and motivate tribal's to give Kartik Vikas Kaun by doing business. This is not just to earn money but to improve their decision making skills. Despite legal and protective measures to curb usurious lending to tribal's and provisions for debt relief, enforcement is weak and ineffective. The consumption needs of the tribal's are not recognized and due to money constraints they easily fall prey to and depend on moneylenders. The exorbitant rates of interest keep tribal's permanently in debt, resulting in mortgage and eventual loss of land and property. It is imperative that tribal families take the initiative for the economic advancement of tribal's.

Economic development of tribal women is one of the concepts developed in relation to improving their status. Empowerment includes higher literacy levels, education, better healthcare, equal ownership of productive resources and increased participation in the economic and business sectors, awareness of rights and responsibilities, improved living conditions, self-reliance, self-esteem and confidence. Uplifting the status of tribal women is not only a moral imperative but also an age-old industrial and progressive imperative.

The following points must be fulfilled for the development of tribal's women.

- 1. Within the framework of democratic policies, tribal laws, development policies, schemes and programs are aimed at the advancement of women in various fields.
- 2. In order to improve the economic status of tribal women, the government needs to create a framework for the up liftmen of the weaker sections of India.
- 3. Programs run by NGOs should be activated and run in full force to sensitize them to increase the rate of economic growth in the entire sector.
- 4. Special package should be given to the tribal population to increase their economic rate. They should be given employment opportunities in the secondary sector according to their qualifications.
- 5. Women should be given more priority for employment in secondary activities which play an important role in the economic development of tribal society.
- 6. Family planning programs should be run at the grassroots level to check the alarming growth of tribal population.
- 7. Planners, policy makers and academicians are advised to do more research at the micro level to find out the root causes of economic backwardness of the region.

## **Conclusion** -

Tribal women's low level of economic activity, backwardness, poor health conditions necessitates a systematic process of tribal women's development. Tribal's work very hard and contribute significantly to the economic status of the family, but still they remain in poverty because no proper government efforts are made towards them. During the government scheme period, various government scheme programs have been undertaken for the development of tribal's and there has been a lot of improvement in the past, but still, more needs to be done. Tribals must have sufficient income to enable them to cross the poverty level. Since



economic status determines other aspects of life and standard of living, it is extremely important. Business is an essential aspect of development for tribal women. Business is an important tool to change the cultural norms and life patterns of tribal women and to change their attitude and make them economically independent. Business industry will enable them to develop so that they can improve their situation. The social and economic status of a Scheduled Tribe depends to a great extent on business attainment. Tribal women can cope with today's society better than in the past. In the current context, no one can be completely isolated, but they are influenced by the growth of modern society and culture. Awareness of tribal women is assessed to know their occupational health status. Health Sometimes they lack essential nutrients. Many times they face various exploitation due to lack of professional awareness. At such a time the benefit of business run by resident women will be crucial for their development.

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