

“Impact of Financial Assistance on Living Standard of Tribes in Rajasthan”

***Dr. Vishal Gauttam**

Abstract

India is a developing country and for the better development of any country it is necessary to develop the backward areas and various scheduled tribes and others. But the problems of development in Tribal Areas are of a different kind than those encountered ordinarily. Tribal people have long been living in far-flung hilly and forest habitations somewhat cut off from the mainstream of Indian society. And it is not this physical isolation alone which planners of development have to consider. These people have their own distinctive culture and they are legitimately proud of it. Their cultures add an important element to the totality of the Indian culture as it is known today. The administration of our tribal population has acquired a new significance after independence.

Keywords: Scheduled Tribes, Development, Living Standard, Socio-Economic Conditions

Introduction

Today after 72 year of Independence, development of tribes is a basic question which has to gain the attention of the Government. Development is an elusive concept which consists of an aspect of change, a plan or prediction and involvement of the government for the achievement of that planned or predicted goal for attainment of constantly rising national goals, higher living standards and the change over from a traditional to a modern society. Development means allowing and encouraging people to meet their own aspirations.

India is a very vast country with the largest tribal population in the world. According to the 15th National census survey i.e. census 2011 out of the total population of 1,21,08,54,977 in India, there are 10,45,45,716 belong to the category of scheduled tribes and they constitute about 8.6 of the population of the country. The social thinkers considered the ‘tribe’ as a social group usually with a definite area, dialect, cultural humanity and unifying social organization. The Scheduled tribes are the original inhabitants of India and amongst them some groups are very old. They are distributed all over the India. Generally tribes prefer to remain in isolation and inhabiting either in forest or in case of village or towns outside the village, by establishing their own community locality as a separate one. Due to lack of education, they are ignorant of their past history. They have their own language, institutions, beliefs and customs. They practice primitive religion and have great faith on mythology, ghosts and witches. Formerly, they were solely dependent on the forest produce and at present some of them doing farming or working as a labour. Most of them are non-vegetarians and have get the nomadic habits specially of dances and drinks. These people have a very low level of technical

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economic development.

Thus, the tribes are the people who differ in physical features, talk in diverse languages and belong to different types of economic systems, starting from food gathering stage and ramifying into settled agricultural and industrial groups.

The tribes form a very important segment of Rajasthan society. According to 2011 Census of India, the tribal population in Rajasthan is 92,38,534. It accounts for 8.84% of the total tribal population of the country. According to census 2011, scheduled area in Rajasthan was formed by combining 31 Tehsil of 8 districts in which tribals population in dense. According to Census, population of this area is 64.63 lakh in which tribal population is 45.51 lakh which is 70.42% of population of this area. 8 districts of scheduled area consist villages of Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh, Udaipur, 252 villages of Girwa tehsil, 22 villages of Vallabharh tehsil, 4 villages of Malvi tehsil, 51 villages of Aburoad tehsil and Pindwara tehsil of Sirohi district. 15 villages of Nathdwara tehsil of Rajsamand district, 16 villages of Kumbhalgarh tehsil, 51 villages of Badi Sadri tehsil of Chittorgarh district and 33 villages of Bali tehsil of Pali district. Main tribal community of this area are Bhil, Meena, Damour, Garasia. The literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes in Rajasthan is around 52.80 %, as against the national average of 58.95 %.

Looking to the local conditions of tribes and in order to create a unified administrative structure for implementing the intensive and integrated tribal development programmes and for better and efficient control and administration of tribal development activities, the Government of Rajasthan established a separate department of Tribal Area Development in the year 1975 with the objective of Planning for integrated development of Tribal Areas, upliftment of living standard of Tribal population, Development of the socio-economic conditions of tribal population and to relieve them from evil customs and exploitation etc. Under the jurisdiction of the commissioner, Tribal areas formed for Tribal Area Development are (1) SCHEDULED AREA which is formed by combining 5034 village of 23 tehsil of 5 Districts. According to census 2011, total population of area is 57.24 lakhs which includes 41.88 lakh tribal population which is 73.17% of total population of this area, This area covers 13 Tehsil of Udaipur, 11 tehsil of Banswara, 9 tehsil of Dungarpur, 5 tehsil of Pratapgarh and 5 tehsil of Sirohi districts. Entire districts of Banswara, Dungarpur, eight tehsils of Udaipur districts i.e. Kotra, Phalasia (Jhadol), Lasadia (Dharyavad), Salumber, Sarada, Hrishabhdev, Kherwara, Semari, 2 partial tehsil and 123 villages of Girwa, 52 villages of Gogunda, Pratapgarh and Arnod tehsils of Chittorgarh district and Abu-Road tehsil of Sirohi district; (2) MODIFIED AREA DEVELOPMENT APPROACH (MADA) is the area where total population is 10000 or more and the total population of tribes residing in the area should be 50% and should be compact. The total population is 32.95 lakh which includes tribal population 18.30 lakh which is 55.55 % of total population of this area. It includes 18 districts of the states i.e. Alwar, Dholpur, Bhilwara, Bundi, Chittorgarh & Pratapgarh, Jaipur & Dausa, Jhalawar, Kota & Baran, Pali, Sawai Madhopur, Sirohi, Tonk and Udaipur & Rajsamand (3) MADA CLUSTER are such clusters where total population is 5000 or more and 50% of total population is of tribes. 11 Mada clusters are permitted in the 8 districts of the state which includes 159 villages. According to census 2011 population of Mada clusters area is 1.21 lakh out of which 0.68 lakh is the tribal population which is 55.84% of total population of Mada clusters. (4) SAHARIYA AREA is the only tribes which reside in Kishanganj and Shahbad tehsil of Baran districts. According to census 2011, total population of the area is 2.72 lakh which includes 1.02 lakh tribal population which is 37.44% of total population of the area and remaining 0.73 lakh Sahariya population which is 27.132 of total population of the area Sahariya and Kishanganj tehsils of the Baran district.

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(5) SCATTERED TRIBAL POPULATION area is the area other than Scheduled Area, MADA, MADA Cluster and Sahariya Area.

The population of scheduled tribes in the states is 9238534 out of which 41.88 lakhs population is covered under Scheduled area, 18.30 lakhs under MADA area, 0.68 lakhs under MADA cluster area 1.02 and 0.34 lakh under Sahariya Development project. Thus out of total population of the scheduled tribes in the state, 61.88 Lakh (38.94% population has been covered under the above four areas and remaining 30.50 lakh. ST population is scattered in 31 district of the state

M.L.V. Tribal Research & Training Institute was established in the year 1964 at Udaipur (Rajasthan). It is the leading institute in the research field, working under the administrative control of commissioner, Tribal Area Development Department, Government of Rajasthan. In the field of research, training, policymaking, and evaluation and as counselling body for the tribal development. Other than this, Keeping in view the tribal sub-plan strategy and with a view to avoid centralization in decision-making, the Rajasthan Tribal Areas Development Cooperative Corporation or Rajasthan Janjati Khsetriya Vikas Sahakari Nigam was established and registered as such under the Rajasthan Cooperative Societies Act, 1965 on 27th March, 1976 to speed up tribal development and with a view to further ensure the association of the tribal people in its activities which was further converted in corporation federation. Many other institutions, NGOs, organizations are also working for the welfare of tribes and are providing various facilities and financial assistance for the upliftment of tribes which helps in increasing their living standard in the society. Financial assistance is any type of financial aid or support which is received by an individual, institute, government or organization. It may be in the type of grants, guarantees, loans, cost-sharing arrangements, subsidies, or welfare payments, tax allowances and government bailouts. This is the important facility which is provided by the Government or any other institution working for the welfare of tribes.

Special programmes for these areas, therefore, were taken up by the Government which were in the form of various development schemes which are being executed in different tribal areas are (1) TRIBAL WELFARE FUND (*Janjati Kalyan Nidhi* which is the plan of state in which lump sum amount is allocated by planning department to the department of tribal area development for Tribal Sub Plan under Janjati Kalyan Nidhi. The TAD Department fixes the priorities of development programmes and finalises amount for different departments to implement the activities under this scheme head; (2) SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE is the scheme with the main goal of filling up critical gaps in the family based income generating activities provided by the government. The ultimate objective of extending SCA to TSP is to boost the demand based income generation programmes and thus, raise the economic and social status of tribes; (3) SCHEMES UNDER ARTICLE 275(1) is the grant of the constitution of India as an additional amount to Normal Central Assistance to State Plans to meet the cost of such schemes/projects as may be undertaken by the States and approved by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the purpose of the welfare and development of the Scheduled Tribes or raising the level of administration of the Scheduled Areas.

Performance Audit, Social Audit and efficiency audit is the essential tool for assessment of any activity of any organization or Government to analyze their contribution to society and what they take from society. It recommends that how an institution has to use limited resources in most efficient way. It evaluates performance of a individual or an organization, any program activities, corporate societies or federations to calculate about their social and cost benefits. It can be done by studying or analyzing the work done for the upliftment and welfare of society by the said concern.

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This is the process used in this study to access the work done by the Government and any other institution or NGOs for the upliftment of tribes and increase the living standard of tribes in Rajasthan.

Objectives of Study

1. To study and analyze a package of services provided to the tribes for upliftment of their living standard.
2. To study about the facilities provided to tribes in form of financial assistance through Government schemes or any other institution or NGOs.
3. To analyze the facilities in form of infra-structure to reduce the development gap and help in abolishment of poverty of Tribes through cooperative organizations.
4. One of the main objectives of study is to observe the problem of the scheduled area and to recommend it to the Government.

Hypothesis of Study

1. Performance in the different areas is in the favour of tribes and the plans made for the upliftment for tribes have been executed efficiently.
2. Expenditures have been properly sanctioned and following the prescribed procedure they are rightly used for the benefit of tribes
3. The performance of the financial assistance provided to the tribes by the government is very good and there is the rightness in the results and the management of funds and financial assistance provided to the tribes are giving the optimum results.

Methodology

The data taken for study is based on secondary data but partially primary data were also collected for study purpose. The Primary data were collected by the inquiry from employees, other people, effective persons and other concerned parties. For more collection of primary data schedules and personal oral investigation methods were used. For the collection of Secondary data published Annual Reports, Journals, Newspapers, other published Books, Websites and other offices Published Reports were taken. The study of period is taken for research work is 5 years i.e from 2012-13 to 2016-17.

Limitations of Study

1. A lot of time was consumed in traveling and making efforts to pick up the appropriate persons who could respond properly. The researcher had to pursue at several times to the officers to provide annual reports and statistical abstracts.
2. Time, money and distance factors were also a constraint. The research work was to be completed within the prescribed period and investigations were to be made in a stipulated time.
3. Majority of the respondents in the sample was not well educated. These respondents could not fill up the schedule themselves.

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4. During the survey, it was felt that field respondents were suspicious towards the investigator. They thought that some inquiry was going on, so, they were hesitant to answer the questions. Most of them agreed to co-operate only after detailed explanations. Many were of the view that such field survey was fruitless as no result could be yielded.

Interpretation & Analysis

An analysis of the tribal population shows 13.48 % of total tribal population in the state. It reveals that Banswara alone has 76.38 % of the total tribal population in the district. Dungarpur, Pratapgarh, Udaipur, Sirohi and Nagaur have 70.82%, 63.42%, 49.70%, 28.22% and 31.49% respectively of the tribal population. Another district namely, Dausa, Baran, Sawai Madhopur, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand, Tonk and Jhalawar has 26.51%, 22.64%, 21.40%, 20.57%, 13.05%, 13.90%, 12.53%, and 12.91%, of total population in Rajasthan. The remaining districts have very small population ranging from 0.33% to 9.77% of the total population of their respective districts. For upliftment and welfare of tribes Government provides different financial assistance which help tribes to increase their living standard. They utilize money and other resources in various activities such as medical, residential, education, agriculture. In Scheduled Area various tribal programs are run by the government under various schemes. The amount of expenditure incurred in various programs under Special Central Assistance scheme are Rs. 1259.00 lakh, Rs.1918.85 lakh and Rs. 476.76 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 3393.00 lakh, Rs.2832.00 lakh and 2400.00 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively under Agriculture Development Project, Rs. 35.94 lakh, Rs.202.82 lakh and Rs. 105.60 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 56.53 lakh, Rs.67.83 lakh and Rs.150.00 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively under Horticulture Development Project., Rs. 103.83 lakh, Rs.325.26 lakh and Rs. 152.22 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 300.00 lakh, Rs. 500.00 lakh and Rs. 370.33 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively under Animal Husbandry Programme Dairy Development Programme: For this, Rs. 355.60 lakh and Rs.296.85 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 400.00 lakh, and Rs. 450.00 lakh in the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under Forest Development, Rs. 239.88 lakh, Rs. 27.63 lakh and Rs. 37.60 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 800.00 lakh, Rs. 799.46 lakh and Rs. 442.21 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under this Program, 13955, 37585 and 16729 tribal families were benefited in the year 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively. Under Assistance for Self Employment Rs. 32.10 lakh, Rs. 7.79 lakh and Rs. 68.10 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 100 lakh, Rs. 200 lakh and Rs 300 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under this Program, 3225, 1620, 280, 681 families were benefited in the year 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. The amount of expenditure incurred in various programs under Janjati Kalyan Nidhi (Tribal Welfare Fund) are Rs. 2152.70 lakh, Rs. 2106.33 lakh and Rs. 2251.47 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 3443.10 lakh, Rs. 4003.53 lakh and Rs 4178.60 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively under Ashram Hostel Program. Under Running of Residential School Rs. 133.78 lakh, Rs. 171.01, lakh and Rs. 129.25 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Scholarship of Rs. 6.57 lakh, Rs. 0.53 lakh and Rs. 5.36 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively under Scholarships to talented Tribal Boys Students who passed Board / University Examinations in First Division program. Financial help of Rs. 358.20 lakh, Rs. 238.56 lakh and Rs. 337.65 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively under Financial Assistance to tribal girls for higher education at College Level program. Under Financial Assistance to tribal girls for higher secondary education at School Level program Rs. 232.62 lakh, Rs. 24.72 lakh and Rs. 115.51lakh were spent in the year 2014-

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15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under Free Distribution of Scooty to Scheduled Tribes girl students 168, 172, 145, 455 and 592 tribal girls got free scooties under this scheme in the year 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Many activities were started under Article 275 (1) of Constitution such as construction of community centres, pump and tanks schemes, road constructions anicuts, construction and completion of residential school buildings etc. For this, Rs. 4406.70 lakh, Rs. 44841.39 lakh and Rs. 4461.24 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.

In MADA (Modified Area Development Approach) Area the programs under Janjati Kalyan Nidhi (Tribal Welfare Fund) scheme were Running of Ashram Hostels in which Rs. 341.18 lakh, Rs. 517.31 lakh and Rs. 577.27 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 849.78 lakh, Rs. 1276.04 lakh and Rs. 1324.61 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under Educational Incentives assistance, 2326, 2133, 1599, 2777 and 828 students were benefited in the year 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under Residential Schools assistance, 638, 318, 317, 313 and 345 boys/girls were benefited by getting admitted in the year 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. In Special Central Assistance scheme government spent Rs. 870.38 lakh, Rs. 810.25 lakh and Rs. 217.73 lakh against the provision of Rs. 899 lakh, Rs. 1000 lakh and Rs. 1260.01 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.

In MADA (Modified Area Development Approach) Cluster the programs under Janjati Kalyan Nidhi (Tribal Welfare Fund) scheme were Janjati Kalyan Nidhi (Tribal Welfare Fund) under which Rs. 4.15 lakh, Rs. 0.98 lakh and Rs. 0.97 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 13.05 lakh, Rs. 4.49 lakh and Rs. 13.46 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under Special Central Assistance the government had spent Rs. 25.43 lakh, Rs. 20.22 lakh and Rs. 5.94 lakh against the provision of Rs. 34.50 lakh, Rs. 20 lakh and Rs. 20.01 lakh in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.

In Scattered Tribal Population Area, Under Janjati Kalyan Nidhi (Tribal Welfare Fund) scheme in the year 2012-13 and 2013-14, 1412 and 1357 girls were benefited. 719 and 609 girls were benefited under higher education motivation scheme in the year 2012-13 and 2013-14. 471 and 251 students were benefited with the scholarship to talented student scheme in the year 2012-13 and 2013-14. 80 and 21 students were benefited in the PMT/PET/IIT training scheme in the year 2012-13 and 2013-14. Under Special Central Assistance scheme Rs. 984.32 lakh, Rs. 1022.31 lakh, Rs. 595.07 lakh and Rs. 1206.44 lakh were spent against the provision of Rs. 1143.85 lakh, Rs. 1116.75 lakh, Rs. 999 lakh and Rs. 1536.26 lakh in the year 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.

In Sahariya Development Area under Janjati Kalyan Nidhi (Tribal Welfare Fund) scheme 1208, 1347 and 1380 students were benefited by getting admitted in the hostels in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. For this Rs. 116.32 lakh, Rs. 173.24 lakh and Rs. 304.95 lakh were spent on management and running of hostels and educational incentives in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. 12553, 11101, 9225, 7178 and 10204 students were benefited by this scheme in the year 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively with the assistance of free distribution of stationary. For this Rs. 20.30 lakh, Rs. 44.10 lakh and Rs. 22.28 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Rs. 85.27 lakh, Rs. 101.82 lakh and Rs. 29.49 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively under free uniform and school fees distribution program. Under scholarship to talented sahariya students program 1563, 25 and 31 students were benefited by this scheme in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. For

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this Rs. 12.25 lakh, Rs. 1.68 lakh and Rs. 1.86 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under Financial assistance to college students program, 292, 307, 295, 318 and 145 students were benefited by this scheme in the year 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. For this Rs. 59 lakh, Rs. 63.60 lakh and Rs. 28.60 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under Special Central Assistance scheme Rs. 20 lakh, Rs. 3.50 lakh and Rs. 32.97 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively. Under grant Article 275 (1) of Constitution Rs. 64.33 lakh, Rs. 99.91 lakh and Rs. 125.58 lakh were spent in the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.

Conclusion

To conclude it can be said that there is a great necessity to remove first the poverty of the tribes. The educational facilities should be extended to the maximum possible villages. Central & State Government transfers money to Department and Agencies/ DRDA (District Rural Development Agency/ Panchayat Samiti, Jila Parishad which show the expenditure without actually spending. Therefore, the Tribals are not benefitted. The system of distribution of financial assistance to tribe is not effective because Government is providing assistance but the mediators through whom the assistance is given to tribes are not doing their work properly. Other than this efforts made by the various agencies, organizations and NGO's for the upliftment of living standard of tribes have not been upto marks. The hypothesis drawn is not correct upto a limit because the assistance is being provided to the tribes but they are not able to avail all the facilities provided to them due to lack of education and lack of awareness towards the assistance and this is the main reason of slow growth or development of living standard of tribes in Rajasthan. Though, the State Government of Rajasthan has taken various steps for the development of the tribal community, but still there is a great scope for their uplifting and betterment for which there is necessity of taking special efforts.

***Lecturer,
Department of ABST
S.S. Jain Subodh P.G Autonomous College
Jaipur (Raj)**

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