

Socio-Economic Development of Tribes and Role of ITDAS (A Study in Visakhapatnam Dist., A.P.)



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Since India got independence, both the government of India and the government of Andhra Pradesh have been introducing a number of schemes and allocating huge amounts in five year plans for overall development of the people who are living in forest areas or tribal areas. Exclusively for the welfare of the tribal people, the government set up Integrated Tribal Development Agencies throughout India. Recently the government of Andhra Pradesh started implementation of Tribal Sub Plans also to curtail the deviations in the allocated funds for the development of tribal communities. Even though all these efforts both at Centre and State Governments are continuing, the tribal people of this country are not in a position to reap the benefits of development of this county which is a fast growing economy. In the rainy season, the tribal areas of this country in general and tribal areas of Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh State in particular are becoming disease prone areas with poor medical facilities, poor transportation facilities, poor sanitation, what not everything. Every year during the rainy season the problems of tribal areas of Visakhapatnam District are hitting the headline of news dailies. Hence, a micro level study to know the ground level loopholes in the tribal welfare administration is an urgent requirement. India is a fast growing economy for the past two and half decades and achieving a number of targets in economic and technological development. Since Independence, the Government of India has been implemented a large number of welfare schemes for the development of this

country. It adopted the Five year plans and successfully implementing the plans with huge amounts on various developmental activities. After 1991, with the introduction of economic reforms viz., Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation (LPG) Policies, India's economic growth accelerated and increased by leaps and bounds. The human resources of this country, especially the productive population of this country is the main asset for the development achieved so far. Recently, some policy makers and administrators are enquiring whether all sections of people and all sectors of economy are equally participating in the development process and enjoying the benefits of faster development of this country or not. As a result of their enquiry, the concept of inclusive growth has become popular and the government is taking initiatives to achieve the inclusiveness in the growth process. The tragedy is that even after sixty Five years of our independence, developmental experience and journey, some sections of people in the Indian society especially from Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes are excluded from the development process due to lack of proper education, sufficient economic support from government and so on. Though the government is implementing a large number of welfare schemes and spending huge amounts, the socio-economic conditions of these excluded sections are not improved. The condition of tribal communities is very poor as they are living in the forest areas which are far away from the developed cities and towns.



There are also not suitable habitation for regular productive livelihood activities. The Schedule Tribe (ST) population accounts for 8.8 per cent of the total population in the country. The conditions of tribal people, has no doubt improved over the years but their situation vis-à-vis of the population in the country has worsened on all counts of development. The tribal people in India are residing in remote areas without any direct contact with the rest of the society, without sufficient medical facilities, without proper educational facilities, without accessibility to the developmental and welfare programmes of the government. Both central and State Governments in our country have initiated so many welfare programmes for upliftment of tribal population in terms of education, health, employment and many more. But the condition of tribal people could not be/has not been improved. The tribals are also the citizens of India and hence promotion of their welfare is of equal importance. Not only the Central and the State Governments have undertaken various steps in this regard, but also various voluntary organisations have evinced interest in this task. Organisations such as the Bharatiya Adim Jati Sevak Sangh, the Bhil Seva Mandal, The Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, the Indian Red Cross Society, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, The Ramakrishna Mission, The Rashtrveeya Swayam Sevak Sangh, etc., carry on welfare activities among the tribals. The Government through its Department of Tribal Welfare and through its Five-Year Plans has been trying to elevate the tribals from the state of ignorance, illiteracy and poverty. The Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs) have been created for the development of tribals in the Tribal Schedule Areas in order to provide single line administration so as to deliver prompt and accessible government services. Legal provisions such as special agency courts were also set up to give speedy justice to the tribals. The main schemes implemented by ITDAs include minor irrigation, soil conservation, horticulture, fisheries, sericulture, health and infrastructure for social support services.

Centrally sponsored schemes are also being implemented to tackle special problems namely, malnutrition, adult literacy and rehabilitation of shifting cultivators. Tribal administration vastly improved after creating these institutions. However, it has not managed to address the crucial issues of basic human and fundamental rights of the tribal people. The Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) was formed, consisting of political representatives and administrators, in order to advise and guide the policies of the state on tribal matters.

NEED FOR THE STUDY:

The government has been designing and implementing a number of welfare schemes for the welfare of the tribal people throughout India but the living styles and socio-economic conditions of tribal people have not improved. The Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh is also not exception to this. So that a lot of research is of utmost important to study the tribal welfare measures of the governments of both state and centre. Most of the existing studies on tribal welfare measures are at district level and state level. These studies mostly concentrated on the socio-economic profile of the tribal people and neglected the functioning of the administrative set up i.e., Integrated Tribal Development Agency, Paderu, Visakhapatnam Dist., which is the implementation agency for all the tribal welfare schemes of both State and Central Government. Hence, it can be said that there is dearth of studies on the functioning of ITDA, Paderu and its welfare measures. In reality, the Integrated Tribal Development Agencies take important decisions that are useful to the dwellers of the tribal areas. Thus, it is an urgent need to study the activities of ITDA, Paderu, Visakhapatnam and how the ITDA has been organizing various tribal welfare measures viz., nutrition programmes, agriculture, educational programmes, horticulture, training programmes, immunization programmes, medical facilities etc. With this background, an attempt has been made to study the tribal welfare measures of Integrated Tribal Welfare Agency, Paderu, Visakhapatnam District of

Andhra Pradesh in the present study which entitled “Socio-economic development of tribal and role of ITDAs (A study in Visakhapatnam Dist., A.P.)

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The Objective of the present study is to analyze the perceptions of respondents on various issues related to the Welfare Programmes for upliftment of Tribal people that are being implemented by the ITDA, Paderu.

METHODOLOGY:

The present study was confined to the selected organisation i.e., Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu, Visakhapatnam District. This study is based on both primary and Secondary Data.

Primary Sources:

The primary data have collected through a well structured and pre tested interview schedule specially designed for the purpose of the study. The data on various issues related to the welfare measures that are being taken up by the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu were collected with help of interview schedule.

Secondary Sources:

The major source for the secondary data which was extensively used in this study is the Annual Reports of ITDA, Paderu. In addition to that the secondary data were collected from various published and unpublished sources like Journals, News Dailies available from the different libraries and other records and reports of Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu.

SAMPLING:

For the purpose of selecting respondents, a multi stage random sampling technique has been adopted. In the first Stage, the Integrated Tribal Development Agency has been selected purposively for the study. In the second stage the total 11 tribal mandals which comes under the administrative jurisdiction of Integrated

Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu have been divided into four areas i.e., Area – I, Area –II, Area – III and Area – IV and three mandals from each area have been selected except area – III. Area – III comprises only two mandals. So that the total number of total Sample Mandals are 11. The details of mandals selected from each area have been presented in table – 1.1. In the third stage, three villages from each sample mandal based on the distance from mandal head quarter have been selected which constitutes 33 sample villages. In the fourth stage, 20 sample households have been selected randomly from each village which constitutes 60 sample households from each mandal and 660 sample from the entire study area.

TABLE 1 Distribution of Respondents by their Mandals

| S.No. | Area | Mandal | Frequency | Per cent |
|-------|-------------|--------------|------------|-------------|
| 01 | Area – I | Ananthagiri | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Arakuvally | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Dumbriguda | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Total | 180 | 27.3 |
| 02 | Area – II | Hukumpeta | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Muncingiput | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Pedabayalu | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Total | 180 | 27.3 |
| 03 | Area – III | Paderu | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | G Madugula | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Total | 120 | 18.2 |
| 04 | Area – IV | Chinthapalli | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Koyyuru | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | G.K.Veedhi | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Total | 180 | 27.3 |
| 05 | Grand Total | | 660 | 100.0 |

PERCEPTIONS OF THE RESPONDENTS ON VARIOUS WELFARE SCHEMES IMPLEMENTED BY ITDA, PADERU

In this section an attempt has been made to present the perceptions of respondents on various welfare schemes implemented by ITDA, Paderu, Visakhapatnam Dist., A.P. In this paper attention is focused on the social security measures like insurance through Indira Kranthi Patham (IKP), Abhayastham pension scheme, Rajeev Yuva Kiranalu (RYK) and housing schemes etc.

SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES

TABLE 2 Area wise Particulars of Insurance to the Respondents through IKP

| S No | Yes/No | Area | | | | Total |
|------|--------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1 | No | 12 (6.70) | 19 (10.60) | 5 (4.20) | 40 (22.20) | 76 (11.50) |
| 2 | Yes | 72 (40.00) | 23 (12.80) | 69 (57.50) | 2 (1.10) | 166 (25.20) |
| 3 | N/A | 96 (53.30) | 138 (76.70) | 46 (38.80) | 138 (76.70) | 418 (63.30) |
| 4 | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.000) | 120 (100.000) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

Table – 2 furnishes the area wise particulars of insurance to the respondents through IKP. It can be observed from the table that around 25 per cent of the total respondents have reported that they have benefitted from the insurance facility provided by the government through Indira Kranthi Patham. Area wise analysis exhibits a quite different picture. The percentage of respondents who got benefitted from IKP insurance is 40 percent in area-I, around 13 per cent in area-II, around 57 in area-III and only 1 per cent in area-IV.

TABLE 3 Area wise Particulars of ABHAYAHASTHAM Pension Sanctioned to the Respondents.

| S No | Yes/No | Area | | | | Total |
|------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1 | No | 11 (6.10) | 14 (7.80) | 2 (1.70) | 17 (9.40) | 44 (6.70) |
| 2 | Yes | 73 (40.60) | 28 (15.60) | 72 (60.00) | 25 (13.90) | 189 (30.00) |
| 3 | N/A | 96 (53.30) | 138 (76.70) | 46 (38.30) | 138 (76.70) | 418 (63.30) |
| 4 | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

Area wise particulars of Abhayahastham pensions sanctioned to the respondents have been presented in table – 3. It is apparent from the table that 30 percent of the respondents reported that they have been receiving Abhayahastham Pensions. Area wise analysis exhibits a different picture in this regard. The percentage of respondents who are receiving the Abhayahastham Pensions is around 41 per cent in area-I, around 15 per cent in area-II, 60 percent in area-III and around 14 percent in area-IV.

TABLE 4 Area wise Particulars of Awareness of Respondents on Rajiv Yuva Kiranalu Programme

| S No | Yes/No | Area | | | | Total |
|------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1 | No | 78 (43.30) | 29 (16.10) | 73 (60.80) | 32 (17.80) | 212 (32.10) |
| 2 | Yes | 6 (3.30) | 13 (7.20) | 1 (0.80) | 10 (5.60) | 30 (4.50) |
| 3 | N/A | 96 (53.30) | 138 (76.70) | 46 (38.30) | 138 (76.70) | 418 (63.30) |
| 4 | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.000) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

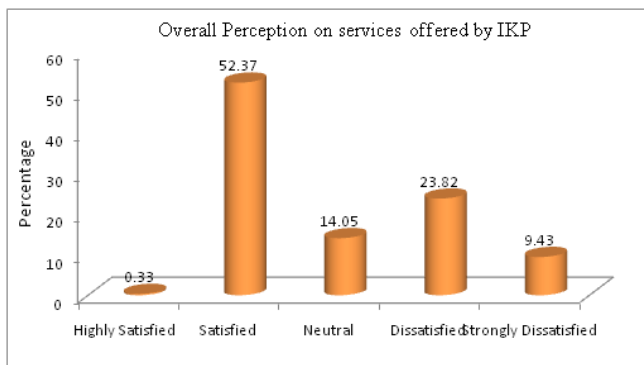
Area wise particulars of awareness of respondents on Rajiv Yuva Kiranalu Programme of the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh have been presented in table – 4. It can be observed from the table that only around 4 per cent of the respondents have reported that they are aware of the Programme, 32 per cent reported that they are not aware of this programme and the remaining 63 per cent have not perceived on this issue.

TABLE 5 Particulars of Satisfaction levels of Respondents on the Various Social Service Schemes of ITDA, Paderu through Indira Kranthi Patham(IKP).

| S. No | Name of the services offered by ITDA, Paderu through IKP | Highly Satisfied | Satisfied | Neutral | Disatisfied | Strongly Disatisfied |
|--------------------|--|------------------|-----------|---------|-------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Bank Linkage / pavala vaddi | 1.10 | 69.40 | 7.30 | 21.40 | 0.90 |
| 2 | Food security | 0.30 | 55.00 | 21.10 | 23.00 | 0.60 |
| 3 | ESS programmes | 0.00 | 17.90 | 20.80 | 51.80 | 9.50 |
| 4 | Health risk fund | 0.30 | 42.90 | 22.60 | 33.00 | 1.20 |
| 5 | Insurances | 0.20 | 38.60 | 21.40 | 36.80 | 3.00 |
| 6 | Marketing services | 0.20 | 2.70 | 2.90 | 19.70 | 74.50 |
| 7 | Rajiv Yeva Kiranalu | 0.20 | 55.90 | 13.80 | 27.40 | 2.70 |
| 8 | Are you aware of SHG / VO / MMS / GMS | 0.20 | 76.40 | 11.10 | 11.70 | 0.80 |
| 9 | Service satisfaction on staff performance | 0.20 | 81.10 | 10.80 | 7.40 | 0.60 |
| 10 | Abhaya Hashtham | 0.60 | 84.10 | 8.80 | 6.10 | 0.50 |
| Average percentage | | 0.33 | 52.37 | 14.05 | 23.82 | 9.43 |

Particulars of satisfaction levels of respondents on various social service schemes of ITDA, Paderu offered through IKP have been presented in table – 5. The table unveils that the overall opinion of the respondents on a five point scale. It is evident from the table that a around 53 per cent of the respondents have reported that they have satisfied with the services mentioned above, around 14 per cent of the total

respondents are neutral, around 24 per cent of the respondents reported that they are dissatisfied with the services and around 9 per cent of the respondents have reported that they have strongly dissatisfied with these services. The graphical representation is shown below as a bar chart.



| S.no | Particulars | Area | | | | Total |
|------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1 | No | 1 (0.60) | 5 (2.80) | 10 (8.30) | 0 (0.00) | 16 (2.40) |
| 2 | Yes | 179 (99.40) | 175 (97.20) | 110 (91.70) | 180 (100.00) | 644 (97.60) |
| 3 | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

TABLE 6 Area wise Particulars of Familiarity of Respondents about RIAD

| S No | Particulars | Area | | | | Total |
|------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1 | No | 37 (20.60) | 69 (38.30) | 50 (41.70) | 74 (41.10) | 230 (34.80) |
| 2 | Yes | 143 (79.40) | 111 (61.70) | 70 (58.30) | 106 (58.90) | 430 (65.20) |
| 3 | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

Table – 6 furnishes the area wise particulars of familiarity of respondents about RAID. It is evident from the table around 65 per cent of the respondents reported that they are familiar with RAID scheme and the remaining 35 percent have reported that they are not familiar with said scheme. Area wise analysis depicts the fact that the percentage of respondents who are familiar with the RAID is more in area-I with around 79 per cent when compare to the other areas of the study.

HOUSING

TABLE 7 Distribution of Respondents According to their Familiarity with Indiramma Programme

| S.no | Particulars | Area | | | | Total |
|------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1 | No | 1 (0.60) | 5 (2.80) | 10 (8.30) | 0 (0.00) | 16 (2.40) |
| 2 | Yes | 179 (99.40) | 175 (97.20) | 110 (91.70) | 180 (100.00) | 644 (97.60) |
| 3 | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

Indiramma Programme is a housing programme for below poverty line households. The particulars of awareness of respondents on Indiramma Programme have been presented in table – 7. It is evident from the table that around 98 percent of the respondents have reported that they are aware of the programme and the remaining 2 per cent are not aware of the programme. It implies there is wide publicity on this programme by the government.

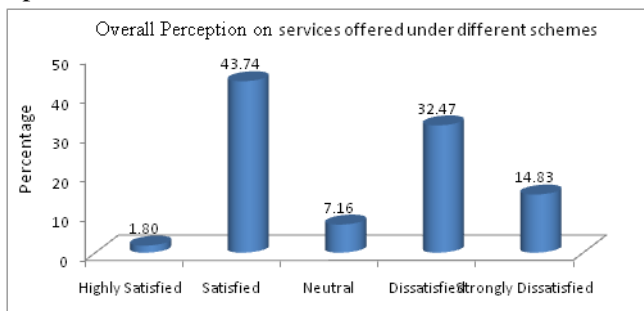
TABLE 8 Area wise Particulars Satisfaction Levels of Respondents Regarding Important Utility and other Services

| S. No | Name of the services offered under the scheme | Highly Satisfied | Satisfied | Neutral | Dissatisfied | Strongly Dissatisfied |
|-------|---|------------------|-----------|---------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Pensions | 1.50 | 65.20 | 8.30 | 24.80 | 0.20 |
| 2 | Drinking water in primary schools | 5.80 | 76.80 | 4.40 | 11.20 | 1.80 |
| 3 | Drinking water in anganwadi buildings | 1.20 | 51.80 | 8.90 | 30.30 | 7.70 |
| 4 | Toilet facility in primary schools | 0.20 | 18.90 | 9.20 | 51.20 | 20.50 |
| 5 | Toilet facility in anganwadi buildings | 0.30 | 5.90 | 5.00 | 44.80 | 43.90 |
| | Average percentage | 1.80 | 43.74 | 7.16 | 32.47 | 14.83 |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

The particulars of satisfaction levels of respondents regarding important utility and other services have been measured on a five point scale and presented in table – 8. It is apparent from the table that around 44 per cent of the respondents reported that they have satisfied with the services mentioned in the table, whereas 32 per cent of the respondents have reported

that they are not satisfied with the services. It can also be found from the table that around 7 per cent of the respondents are neutral and around 15 per cent of the respondents are reported that they are strongly dissatisfied with the services. The graphical representation is shown below as a bar chart.



SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

It can be summarized and concluded from the analysis carried out so far that the ITDA is implementing all the government sponsored developmental schemes and welfare schemes for improving the living conditions of tribal population living the study area. But the fruits of all these welfare programmes are not reaching the tribal population efficiently. It may be due to the lack of awareness among the tribal population of the study area on the welfare schemes implemented by the ITDA. Hence, It can be suggested that the ITDA officials should give more publicity on their welfare schemes and should create awareness on how to get benefitted from these programmes and schemes. For this the ITDA can take the help of Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) established in the tribal area of ITDA, Paderu.

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