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**BACKWARD AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES IN BIDAR DISTRICT:
A SOCIAL WORK APPROACH**

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Abstract: India is a secular country covering people from different religions and castes and also the subdivisions of the castes. Based on Vedic faith, Manusmrithi and culture, the castes were formulated according to the occupations. According to ancient Hindu faith many of the castes were regarded as lower and others are higher. The lower castes include the backward communities with lower occupations and people living in forests and have ancient occupations. The term 'Adivasi' is derived from Sanskrit word 'atavika' means forest dwellers. They are also called as Vanavasi or Girijans (hilly people).

Keyword: Backward , Tribal Communities , Social Work , Geographical.

INTRODUCTION

The Constitution of India, Article 366 (25) defines Scheduled Tribes as “such tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to the scheduled Tribes (STs) for the purposes of this Constitution”. In Article 342, the procedure to be followed for specification of a scheduled tribe is prescribed. However, it does not contain the criterion for the specification of any community as scheduled tribe. An often used criterion is based on attributes such as:

1. Geographical isolation - they live in cloistered, exclusive, remote and inhospitable areas such as hills and forests.
2. Backwardness - their livelihood is based on primitive agriculture, a low-value closed economy with a low level of technology that leads to their poverty. They have low levels of literacy and health.
3. Distinctive culture, language and religion - communities have developed their own distinctive culture, language and religion.
4. Shyness of contact – they have a marginal degree of contact with other cultures and people.

Scheduled Tribe is an umbrella term for a heterogeneous set of ethnic and tribal groups claimed to be the aboriginal population of India. They comprise a substantial indigenous minority of the population of India. Adivasi (or Girijans or Hilly People) societies are particularly present in the Indian states of Kerala, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Mizoram and other northeastern states, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Due to the degradation of forests, these tribes have become unemployed in their native places. Hence, these tribe people were migrated to urban areas and metropolitan cities in search of employment for livelihood. As such, few of such tribes were also living in Bidar District, All of these people are poor and as such, they

are wandering from place to place in search of good economic opportunities.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The present study is made to:

1. Know the family occupation of tribe people;
2. Look into socio-economic life of tribe people in metro city; and
3. Study whether they have availed benefits from Government.

SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY:

The study was began with the observation of tribe people living on the footpaths and huts in the slum areas of the Bidar District. Further, on the basis of age, 150 respondents from different tribes were interviewed to collect the information on the socio-economic and education of the respondents. The collected primary data is analyzed as under.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION:

The collected primary data is tabulated and discussed as under.

1. Age of the Respondents:

Age plays an important role in work nature and knowledge of every human being. As such information was collected on the age of the respondents and tabulated as under.

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Table No. 1. Age of the Respondents

| Particulars | Frequency | Percentage |
|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Below 18 Years | 22 | 14.6 |
| 18 to 25 Years | 46 | 30.6 |
| 26 to 40 Years | 41 | 27.3 |
| 41 to 50 Years | 27 | 18.0 |
| Above 50 Years | 14 | 9.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100 |

It is observed that of all the respondents covered under the study, 46 (30.6%) are between 18 to 25 years followed by, 41 (27.3%) are between 26 to 40 years, 27 (18.0%) are between 41 to 50 years, 22 (14.6%) are below 18 years and the remaining 14 (9.3%) are of above 50 years.

2. FAMILY OCCUPATION OF THE RESPONDENTS:

The different tribes have different culture and family occupation. But due to some reasons such as degradation of forests, increase in competition in their family occupation, etc the respondents may have settled in Mumbai and may have taken occupations other than their family occupations. The information collected on the family occupations of the respondents are tabulated as under.

Table No. 2. Family Occupation of the Respondents

| Particulars | Frequency | Percentage |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Agriculture | -- | -- |
| Selling of Forest Products | 83 | 55.3 |
| Preparation of Illicit Liquor | 35 | 23.3 |
| Painting & weaving | 15 | 10.0 |
| Small Business | 17 | 11.3 |
| Any Other | 27 | 18.0 |
| Total | 150 | 100 |

It is noted from the above table that family business of majority of the tribes covered under the study are selling of forest products as expressed by 83 (55.3%) of the respondents, 35 (23.3%) have expressed that their family occupation is preparation of illicit liquor, 17 (11.3%) have stated that their family occupation is small business, family occupation of 15 (10.0%) of the respondents is painting and weaving and the family occupation of the remaining 27 (18.0%) is other than the mentioned above.

3. PRESENT OCCUPATION:

As the respondents have left their family occupation and settled in Mumbai, it was asked to the respondents regarding their present work and occupation. The collected information is presented in the following table.

Table No. 3. Present Occupation

| Particulars | Frequency | Percentage |
|---------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Fishing | 25 | 16.6 |
| Street Vendor | 41 | 27.3 |
| Supply of Meals/ Tiffin Corners | 21 | 14.0 |
| Domestic Servants | 31 | 20.6 |
| Labour (Coolie) | 25 | 16.6 |
| Any Other | 07 | 4.6 |
| Total | 150 | 100 |

Above table made it clear that 25 (16.6%) are engaged in fishing, 41 (27.3%) are working as street vendors, 21 (14.0%) are preparing and supplying meals and Tiffin at footpaths, 31 (20.6%) are working as domestic servants, 25 (16.6%) are working as labour and the remaining 07 (4.6%) are engaged in other occupations.

4. REASONS FOR MIGRATION:

As discussed above, all the respondents are from different tribes based on the their caste based occupations, due to globalization and urbanizations, they have migrated to Mumbai. The reasons for migration of respondents to Mumbai are disclosed as under.

Table No. 4. Reasons for Migration

| Particulars | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|-----------|------------|
| End of Caste based occupations | 36 | 24.0 |
| Lower Income in Caste based Occupations | 57 | 38.0 |
| In Search of New Employment Opportunities | 29 | 19.3 |
| To avail Government Facilities | 11 | 7.3 |
| Any Other | 17 | 11.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100 |

As the respondents belongs to small tribes and are migrated to Mumbai in search of employment, information was collected from the respondents on the reasons for such migration. Among the respondents, 36 (24.0%) have stated that they migrated to Mumbai as their caste based occupation were ended in their native places, 57 (38.0%) have expressed that the feel that there is lower income in their caste based occupations, 29 (19.3%) have stated that they have come to Mumbai in search of employment opportunities, 17 (11.3%) have migrated to Mumbai for other reasons and the remaining 11 (7.3%) have migrated to Mumbai to avail the Government facilities.

5. MONTHLY INCOME OF FAMILY:

To assess the livelihood of the families of the tribes migrated to Mumbai, information on the monthly income of their families was collected and presented in the following table.

Table No. 5. Monthly Income of Family

| Particulars | Frequency | Percentage |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Below Rs. 2500 | 49 | 32.6 |
| Rs. 2501 to Rs. 5000 | 78 | 52.0 |
| Rs. 5001 to Rs. 7500 | 12 | 8.0 |
| Rs. 7501 to Rs. 10000 | 11 | 7.3 |
| Above Rs. 10000 | -- | -- |
| Total | 150 | 100 |

It is noted from the above table that of the respondents, 78 (52.0%) have monthly income between Rs. 2501 to Rs. 5000 followed by, 49 (32.6%) have monthly income below Rs. 2500, about 12 (8.0%) have monthly income between Rs. 5001 to Rs. 7500 and the monthly income of the remaining 11 (7.3%) of the respondents is between Rs. 7501 to Rs. 10000 respectively.

6. AVAILED BENEFIT FROM GOVERNMENT WELFARE SCHEMES:

Government has formulated many policies for the welfare of poor, backward and tribe people. As such information was collected from the respondents that whether they have availed benefit from such schemes and the collected information is disclosed as under.

Table No. 6. Availed Benefit from Government Welfare Schemes

| Particulars | Frequency | Percentage |
|-------------|-----------|------------|
| Yes | 41 | 27.3 |
| No | 109 | 72.6 |
| Total | 150 | 100 |

It is noted from the above table that only 41 (27.3%) of the respondents have availed benefits from the Government welfare schemes, whereas the remaining an overwhelming majority, that is 109 (72.6%) of the respondents have not availed benefits from these schemes.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. There is need to rehabilitate the tribe in metro cities;
2. As many of these communities have caste based artistic occupation and due to urbanization, such artistic occupations are disappearing. Hence, there is need to assist these communities to revive the artistic work.
3. As expressed by the respondents, a greater majority of the respondents have not availed benefits from government welfare schemes. Hence, there is need to identify these communities for their personal and social development.

CONCLUSION:

Globalization policies has transformed India, but due to such transformation, many of caste based occupations and artistic crafts were become disappeared and such artistic crafts show our ancient culture and heritage. Hence, there is need to revamp such ancient and old artistic crafts. For this purpose, there is need to develop the people engaged in such artistic works. As revealed in the study, a great majority of the respondents are backward, but not availed benefits from any of the welfare policies of the government. Hence, there is need to rehabilitate such people.

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