

## Review On Tribal Education Issues And Challenges

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*Abstract: Education is one of the means of the development which transfer society from backward to develop one. The nation's culture, socio- economic progress is based on educational status of the citizen. Since India is pluralistic country which inhabited large variety of cultures, religions, languages and economic stages. Some of the communities notably, Scheduled Tribe is economically marginalized and educationally stands at the bottom stage among the total population of the country. Educational empowerment is the most effective parameter to economic development and to bring out people from poverty trap. The tribal communities all over India have been subjected to various forms of deprivation such as alienation from land and other resources. Although certain constitutional safeguards are provided, there has been no economic, social and political mobility across this community. The Scheduled Tribes remain abysmally backward and socially excluded, still living in harsh environs. Education is one of the most important means to improve tribal personal endowments, build capabilities, overcome constraints and in the process, enlarge available set of opportunities and choices for a sustained improvement in well-being. As per Article 45 of the Constitution of India, Universalisation of Elementary Education is a Directive Principle of State Policy that underlines the need to provide free and compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14 years. In this paper an attempt is made to examine government policies for tribal education and issues and challenges of tribal education.*

**Keyword: Tribal education, issues and challenges, and Scheduled Tribe**

### I. INTRODUCTION

Education is a process of controlling the behavior of an individual. Education is one of the most important means to improve the personal endowments, build capabilities, overcome constraints and in the process, enlarge available set of opportunities and choices for a sustained improvement in well-being. The process of education and attainments thereof has an impact on all aspects of life. It is a critical invasive instrument for bringing about social, economic and political inclusion of people. Education can be used as a tool to empower the individual. Through child centered learning, students are able to see their own role in transformation. Societal change comes from the collective transformation of the individuals within that society. The relationship between education and social change takes a dual form-education as an instrument and education as a product. This implies that education as an instrument which is used as a means for bringing about desired changes in the society and in the later

case changes in the educational structure follows as a consequence of changes which have already taken place in the society. Education is an important parameter for any inclusive growth in an economy and it is an important avenue for upgrading the economic and social conditions of the Scheduled Tribes. Literacy and educational attainment are powerful indicators of social and economic development among the backward groups. The male female gap in literacy and educational attainment among the scheduled tribes is significant. Scheduled Tribes are geographically, socially isolated and economically marginalized communities. In the post-Independence period, sincere and concerted efforts were made for the economic and educational development of trials. Despite of these efforts the performance of the tribes in education is still much lower than the Scheduled Castes. This has led to drop outs and directly impacted their overall educational status.

## PROBLEMS AMONG THE SCHEDULED TRIBES

- ✓ Problems due to basic facilities like lack of laboratory, library and playgrounds where theoretical teaching does not fulfill the real aim of tribal education.
- ✓ The hostels are run in poor, ill-equipped, rented houses, managed by the social welfare department. The students live in these hostels in deplorable condition.
- ✓ The tiring distances encourage the children to play and waste time and energy. A shortage of attendance and heavy drop-outs are visible at this stage.
- ✓ Higher education is very costly; the tribal students face a difficulty at the time of admission, paying for regular expenditure, food, clothing, ration and other stationery.
- ✓ The schools in rural tribal areas are primary and are mostly one teacher school, which is supposed to teach four standards.
- ✓ Parents are least interested in giving education to their children. Hence due to above such problems the literacy rate is very low amongst the scheduled tribes.
- ✓ There are many critical issues and problems in the field of tribal education. They are as follows:
- ✓ Medium of language: Language is one of the important constraints of tribal children which prevents them access to education.
- ✓ The Location of the Village: The physical barrier creates a hindrance for the children of a tribal village to attend the school in a neighboring village.
- ✓ Economic Condition: The economic condition of tribal people is so poor that they do not desire to spare their children or their labour power and allow them to attend schools.
- ✓ Attitude of the parents: As education does not yield any immediate economic return, the tribal parents prefer to engage their children in remunerative employment which supplements the family income.
- ✓ Teacher Related Problems: In the remote tribal areas the teacher absenteeism is a regular phenomenon and this affects largely the quality of education.
- ✓ Lack of Proper monitoring: Proper monitoring is hindered by poor coordination between the Tribal Welfare Department and School Education Department.

## THE TELANGANA GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHING NEW TRIBAL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR QUALITY OF EDUCATION

The APTWREI Society was established vide G.O.ms.No:51, SW (TW.Edn) Dept., dt: 03-06-1998 to impart quality education to the Tribal Students in A.P State. This Society was bifurcated from APREI Society registered under the Societies Act of A.P. (Telangana Area) Public Societies Registration Act 1350 F (Act I of 1350F) with (65) institutions initially. The Society is an autonomous body functioning from 01-06-1999-2000 onwards As per the Reorganization Act 2014, TTWREI Society was carved out of APTWREI Society with 134 Tribal Welfare Residential Institutions. The TTWREI Society (Gurukulam) is now functioning with (91) Residential Schools, (27) Residential Junior Colleges together and 22 Degree Colleges (140) institutions and maintaining

(29) Mini-Gurukulams for Tribal girls apart from the Residential Institutions. The organization is headed by a Senior All India Service Officer with supporting staff in Headquarters to maintain the above institutions in monitoring the administrative and academic activities from time to time.

## II. CURRENT CHALLENGING ISSUES FOR TRIBAL EDUCATION IN INDIA

There are many challenging issues emerging in the field of tribal education in India, those are mentioned as follows.

### ✓ POOR ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

In India tribal people are depends on agriculture or traditional economic activities for their livelihood. They generate less income from such works through which they can't afford good education for their children. In this situation they send their children to earnable work but not for school.

### ✓ ISOLATION (INTERIOR INHABITATION)

The tribal population in India are located at isolated hilly and forest areas where modern facilities are not available. They have to move to far distance to the schools. Which leads to absenteeism and drop-out and also they will not join to school also.

### ✓ MEDIUM OF TEACHING

English or regional languages are used as the medium of teaching in the schools. The tribal people have their own separate dialect so that their children couldn't understand whatever taught in the class rooms. This phenomena lowers the educational level of tribal children.

### ✓ ATTITUDE OF THE PARENTS

Tribal people are illiterate and ignorant and do not know the value of education. They concentrate only on survival of their family. They thinks that their children also should have earn it would be better. This is the reason tribal parents send their children to work not for school.

### ✓ TEACHER RELATED PROBLEM

Tribal locations do not have proper accommodation facilities so that teachers have to come from far distance city places. This inconvenience will lead to absent or skip of school. Due to this students will be delink from the school. Teachers may not understand tribal language and they teach in specified formal languages. Thus the appointment of untrained outside teachers also diminish the value of tribal education.

## III. SUGGESTIONS FOR ONGOING PROBLEMS

- ✓ *LITERACY CAMPAIGN* - Proper awareness campaign should be organized to create the awareness about the importance of education. Extensive literacy campaign in the tribal dominated districts may be undertaken on a priority basis to literate the tribal.
- ✓ *ATTITUDE OF THE TRIBAL PARENTS* - The attitude of the tribal parents toward education should be improved through proper counseling and guidance.
- ✓ *RELEVANT STUDY MATERIALS IN LOCAL LANGUAGES* - All study materials should be supplied in local languages of tribes.

- ✓ *APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL TEACHERS AND FEMALE TEACHERS* - It is suggested to appoint more tribal teachers and female teachers in the tribal areas. The ecological, cultural, psychological characteristics of tribal children should be considered carefully by the teachers in tribal areas.
- ✓ *STIPENDS AND VARIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS* - Since higher education among the tribes is less, special ST scholarships should be provided to the tribal students perusing higher education, particularly in medical, engineering, and other vocational streams.
- ✓ *RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS* - More residential schools should be established in each states and districts and extended up to PG level in tribal areas.
- ✓ *SOCIAL SECURITY* - Social security of students, especially of adolescent girls is of great concern in residential schools.
- ✓ *PROPER MONITORING* - Higher level officials should check the functioning of schools frequently relating to the teaching methods, working hours, and attendance registers.
- ✓ *PROVISION OF STUDY MATERIALS IN LOCAL LANGUAGES* - Basic level of education is given priority and at this stage, if education is imparted in tribal dialect they will understand teaching in better way. That's why the schools should appoint a trained local teacher who knows local language.
- ✓ *TRIBE RELATED LEARNING ARRANGEMENTS* - The schools should provide learning materials like cloths, note books, stationeries bedding etc.
- ✓ *MOTIVATIONAL PROGRAMMES* - Parents and children are should be provided motivational programmes by experts in various fields. The value of education should teach to tribal parents.
- ✓ *STIPENDS AND VARIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS* - Scholarships will help the students to purchase study related materials and thus present scholarship norm should be revised and rupees should be increased.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Education is the key to tribal development. Tribal children have very low levels of participation. Though the development of the tribes is taking place in India, but the pace of development has been rather slow. If government will not take some drastic steps for the development of tribal education, the status of education among tribes will be a story of distress, despair and death. Hence time has come to think it seriously about tribal education and inclusive growth. So, there is an urgent need for various government interventions, planners and policy makers to address this problem and allocate more funds in the central and state budgets for tribal education. So it is the time to think seriously that the tribal education and inclusive growth. Thus there is an urgent need

of thinkers, planners and policy makers to put efforts to address the problem and allocate more funds from central and state budget for tribal education. Easy access and more opportunities should be given to tribal children in order to bring them to the main stream of economic development.

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