

Problems And Prospect Of Socio-Economic Development Of Tribal In Assam

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Abstract: Tribal is the dominant community in Assam. They have possess distinct culture and tradition related with nature which is the store house for wisdom and knowledge for other communities. Their contribution in socio-economic development is not negligible. Mostly state and society in Assam is influenced by Tribals. Their distinct culture and tradition isolated them from other community. The socio-economic condition of tribals is not satisfactory. Though they were hard worker, tribals are still backward in all fields, their working method, way of thinking, all are traditional. Marginal productivity accompanied by traditional method of cultivation of tribals are equal to zero. Illiteracy, poverty, child marriage, chronic illness etc. are also dominant problems of tribals.

In this paper an attempt is made to highlighted the problem and prospect of socio-economic development of tribal people in Assam.

Keywords: Tribal, dominant, community, store-house, socio-economic traditional.

I. INTRODUCTION

A tribe view from historical development consist of social groups existing before the development of civilization or outside of states. Many use the term tribal society to refer to societies largely on the basis of Kingship clan etc.

Half percent people of Assam are tribal. Their socio-economic condition is very distressing. Tribal development is defined as social and economic development of the tribal people through phased manner and time bound integrated area development and other programmes.

In India, the government, foremost concern is to securing the welfare and socio economic enhancement of the tribal people. The policies includes the conservation of culture and tradition of tribal and upliftment of weaker section of society.

The Tribal basically in Assam is very backward in education, technological use, economic, health condition etc. Good quality education to the tribal people has come down tremendously. They are subjected to illiteracy and victims of exploitation from landlords, money lenders and even the state machinery. Though tribals are hard working, their method of working, living, thinking are all traditional. They are far from using high technological knowledge, in agriculture and other

activities. Their investment and capital formation is low, far from reaching of Banking facilities.

The rate of growth of tribal development varies from community to community, place to place, race to race, etc. The socio-economic condition of primitive tribe is also not satisfactory. Because of limited scope of getting accessibility with the external world. They like to retain and preserve their traditional way of life and neglect the trust for renovation from outside. The development in tribal area is uneven. Some tribes are like Bodo, Mising, etc. are now in higher posts in various departments. To deal and mitigate the socio-economic problem of tribal, approach like assimilation, isolation and integration should be applied. Besides high value quality education and rise of production is essential.

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ To study the details socio-economic problem of tribals in Assam.
- ✓ To study the problems and prospect of tribal development.
- ✓ To highlighted the remedial measures.

II. METHODOLOGY

In writing this paper descriptive method is applied and the data is collected by secondary source of books, journal, internet source.

IMPORTANCE

Tribals possess unique culture and tradition. Their contribution in economic development of society is not negligible. But their socio-economic condition is not satisfactory. The government has provided various schemes to uplift the tribes. But no desired result is achieved.

III. SCHEMES FOR TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT

The various tribal development schemes sponsored by Central Government are – Integrated tribal development project (ITDP), Poverty Alleviation Programme (PAP), Employment Generation Schemes Co. EGP (IAY), Indira Awaaz Yojana (IAY), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Gramin Sadak Yojana (GSY), etc.

These programmes are passed through a series of encounters with the problems of tribal people, government failure in implementation, rampant corruption, concentration of benefit in the hands of few better off within tribes and non-tribes. Besides, there are some schemes for Centre and States. These are – The Centrally sponsored schemes are – States get 100 percent central assistance. For state plan schemes, central assistance is available as block grants and loans.

Centrally sponsored schemes are –

- Tribal development blocks.
- Co-operation.
- Girl's hostel.
- Post matric Scholarship
- Coaching and pre-examination training schemes for competitive exam.
- Research and training special projects.

STATE PLAN SCHEMES

- ✓ Education pre-matric scholarships, stipends, boarding grants, hostels, supply of free books, stationery, uniforms, mid-day meals, etc.
- ✓ Economic Development - Subsidy for agricultural implements, seeds, fertilizers etc., cottage industries, rehabilitation, communication, animal husbandry, horticulture, sericulture, cooperation, minor irrigation, soil conservation, etc.
- ✓ Health, housing and others, housing medical and public health social and cultural activities, drinking water aid to voluntary agencies and miscellaneous.

IV. THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF TRIBAL AREAS

Existing agricultural practice and technique in the tribal areas of Assam is inadequate. Marginal productivity of tribals are equal to zero.

- ✓ Illiteracy, poverty, child marriage, chronic illness etc are also dominant problems of tribals.
- ✓ Indebtedness for the cause of agriculture is the main problem of tribals.
- ✓ The condition of infrastructure in Assam is not satisfactory. Banking, marketing facilities, administrative facilities are dependent on communication.
- ✓ Isolation and non political participation is another problem of tribals in Assam.
- ✓ Indebtedness for the cause of agriculture is the main problem of tribals. The poor tribal landless farmers are unable to pay the debt.

V. PROSPECT OF TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT

For socio-economic development of tribal people following approaches are to be applied.

Assimilation

It means mix. It is the way of mitigating tribal problems. This approach deals with problems of tribal culture and tradition by mixing them with other communities of the state. This approach encourages to assimilate the tribals with the mainstream of National Life, which can enhance socio-economic development.

Isolation is another approach which suggested to keep the tribals away from the rest of society. They should be kept in isolation "in National Park" or "Reserved areas" which would solve their problems. (a) The tribal would be in position to maintain their independent identity. (b) They would be free from the exploitation from outsiders. This approach views that tribals should be given time to assimilate themselves with the rest of the community.

INTEGRATION: Integration is another approach of tribal development. Integration can make available to the tribes the benefits of modern society and can preserve their separate identity.

MEASURES - There are some of the measures of Tribal development. Those are -

- ✓ The tribals themselves firstly started to their own socio-economic development by their well being.
- Various credit facilities like spread of education, credit and banking facilities etc. should be.
 - Focus on poverty alleviation.
 - Entrepreneurship
 - Debt relief legislation
 - Legal aid should be provided.
- ✓ The education for tribal should be according to their needs as well as for their socio-economic development.
- ✓ They should be encouraged and given opportunities production in agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, forestry, cottage industry, small industries and employment in all seasons.

- ✓ Adequate legal and administrative support will provide anti-exploitative measures for the tribals.

secure in their other development all implantation of government scheme will be meaningless. So tribals own efforts for development is crucial.

VI. CONCLUSION

The tribal people are very sensitive, their problems are in some respect complex. Tribal possess variety of culture and tradition related with nature which is the need of the hour to preserve and retain for beneficial use in future in the human society. The tribals in Assam are now in the way of development. But still needs large government supports for development schemes to be utilize for fuller and better development. But if, people are not active, conscious and

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