Some Tribes in India: In Recent Scenario

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Introduction:

There are many views of way of life in India. There is caste system in Hindu society which is not appropriate to the democratic way of social life. Many differences are as caste, creed, religion, race, tribe etc. But in present era it has been seen that the advancement in knowledge, technology, and science. It caused to impact many aspects of Indian life as cultural, political, and economic, etc. It brought dynamic changes in people's life. Indian tribes are not far away from these changes. In this paper is being studied there 'Tribes in India: In Recent Scenario'. The tribal study is very important to establish social justice, equality, and fraternity in India. We study definition of tribes, there cultural identity and scenario. First is the definition of tribes. India has the largest tribal population in the world. About8.5 crores tribals live over the long corridors of Western, Central and Eastern India. Not only this, India's tribal population constitutes over 8 per cent of Worlds total tribal population of 100 crores and the highest concentration of them are in the States like Jharkhand, Bihar, Carved out of Bihar in Orissa, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, and Assam.

Meaning of tribes and their cultural identity:

Who are tribals? This is very important to determine because there will be easy to identify them. So a view of the tribe is developmentally or historically, as a social group existing before the development of, or outside, states. A tribe is a group of distinct people, dependent on their land for their livelihood, who are largely self-sufficient, and not integrated into the national society.

Stephen Corry defined tribal people as those who "...have followed ways of life for many generations that are largely self-sufficient, and are clearly different from the mainstream and dominant society."[1] There is an estimated one hundred and fifty million tribal individuals worldwide constituting around forty percent of indigenous individuals. Although nearly all tribal people are indigenous, some are not indigenous to the areas where they now live.

After observing the definition of the tribe one point clearly to be noted that these tribes are different from the urban civil society or main stream in their cultural identity, means of production, sources of product, political culture, technology and understanding. So there one thing should remember the cultural identity. The definition of cultural identity is as following.

Cultural identity is the identity or feeling of belonging to a group. It is part of a person's self-conception and self-perception and is related to nationality, ethnicity, religion, social class, generation, locality or any kind of social group that has its own distinct culture. In this way, cultural identity is both characteristic of the individual but also of the culturally identical group of members sharing the same cultural identity.[2]

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The cultural identity of tribes is different from the rest of urban and rural society in India. These factors of differences are location, race, history, nationality, language, sexuality, religious beliefs, ethnicity, aesthetics, and even food but some tribes live in villages. After studying tribes identity some characters appear to be noted these are as following.

Characteristics of Indian tribes:

Many tribes are known to have wandered from place to place, the same tribe has taken deferent names in different areas their language have changed and many tribes have taken a particular occupation…culture is a dynamic process, and invention is a cause of progress. There is seen that tribe faces the changed environment.[3]

Exploitation, malnutrition, poor technology, illiteracy, ignorance and comparatively primitive mode of production, many versions of languages are some main characteristics of the Indian tribes. There dances, songs, social relations, marriage, dialects, wearing, food, and etc. are different, distinguishable from the dominant stream of society. Dominant society thinks, the tribes are so backward, but tribes think, they are so eco-friendly. They love their environment. They do not the destructive work against their environment but, modern development policy destructed the environment. Tribes felt unjust with them, as these some issues are raised in the present scenario. Some aspects of tribes' have been considered in present scenario in this paper.

Tribes in recent scenario:

'..Urbanization have their own role in the differentiation in customary ways of various groups, the uniformity in tribal socio-cultural milieu has been disrupted. We have three stages in tribal living communities some tribes are sufficiently changed, some are in the transitional stage and others remained bogged down within the frame of traditionality'.[4] Many tribes are affected due to the developmental policy of the Indian Government. They had the ownership the natural resources of their areas. The tribes love their physical and biological environment. They dose not snatch from their environment more than their basic needs. They do not want to disrupt form their natural environment. Naturally, by birth they got the fundamental right of the wealth on their environment. From ancient time they are self sufficient and self defended as worriers. Comparatively their needs are very short. They have come in the contact of the modern civil society. It has been seen the educational awareness among the tribal people. Some tribal people are seen participated in Naxlbadi movement to fight for their fundamental needs. Social development did not taken place adequately and some programs are destructive for the environment. They felt unjust by the policy of the land acquisition of the tribal areas' land of the Indian government. Some people are surrendering before the police administration because of their political awareness. Tribes have a self concept and self identity. Their linkage are with the forest resources. In pre-independence India they had a common ownership of land, forest resources and products. After independence, government has taken some initiatives to develop the tribes and the development was seen an important tool to bring in the main stream of recent society. Tribes are seen minorities in their areas and they cannot acquire the adequate opportunities in the employment due to the lack of educational and technical knowledge. The

customary rights of the tribals over resources were to be given. The benefits of large scale of industries and infrastructure, did not reach these tribals. This has contributed to rise of the Naxalite movements as before said. The above policies have also led to the environmental damage and imbalance. This is the social side effects of the development in tribal areas. Earlier, Tribals bring hindrance to development.

Their traditional socio-economic and cultural systems did not fully approved to the general perspectives on development. In the present scenario India where the mining and industrialization in tribal areas is linked with retarded economic performance. Naxalites have hindered both private companies and government institutions. Now tribes have a understanding that democratic way is the best alternative for coming main stream of development.

Forest rights act (2006), any corresponding law for mineral and rights over other kind of resources yet to be formulated. They see it as a "Land Redistribution Exercise". It will be provided a legal right for the communities themselves to protect the forest. The law concerns the rights of forest dwelling communities to land and other resources, denied to them over decades as a result of the continuance of colonial forest laws in India. 'Tribal peoples across India are being illegally evicted from their ancestral homelands in the name of tiger conservation. They're promised alternative land, housing, and money, but these are lies: they often receive little or nothing, and end up living in abject squalor on the edge of their territory'[5]

There are 46 recognized Scheduled Tribes in Madhya Pradesh, India, three of which have been identified as 'Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups' (PTGs) (formerly known as 'Special Primitive Tribal Groups'). The population of Scheduled Tribals (ST) is 21.1% of the state population (15.31 million out of 72.62 million), according to the 2011 census.[6]

The Wikipedia has seen the diversity in the tribes across the state-Madhya Pradesh comes from differences in heredity, lifestyle, cultural traditions, social structure, economic structure, religious beliefs and language and speech. Due to the different linguistic, cultural and geographical environments, the diverse tribal world of Madhya Pradesh has been largely cut off from the mainstream of development. 'Face to face contact is the useful method to social change is seen. People do not accept idea immediately as they listen, it takes time. The problem of communication in under developed tribal areas is that of adopting the agents of change, the media of communication and forms and content of communication to the culture, value system, attitudes and overall view of the community. The degree of success will depend upon the workers ability to recognize the exiting channels of communication, to anticipate the culture direct responses of the people and to adopt the method of communication.'[7] This has been seen the some tribes in India in current scenario.

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