

# An Interpretation on the Problems Being Faced By the Tribal Community in India and their Solutions

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**Abstract:** Tribal community have been facing socio-economic problems since ages. Even after the government schemes introduced for the upliftment of tribal educational and economy values, we don't see much improvement in many parts of the country, There are special provisions made in the constitution for the STs, reservation of seats in all sectors, special provisions for the North East tribes, Today many tribe have converted their religion to live peaceful in the urban society. Tribes have been victim of racial and ethnical discrimination, they are becoming landless day by day due to rapid forest been cut down for mining purpose followed by their primitive agriculture practice , they are victims of a number of health issues, the government must introduce schools for tribes in their region , followed by provide them basic forest rights and forest management authority , they help in the Ayurveda development in the country , there knowledge on medical plant is very impressive because of their dependent on traditional products and herbs for health care and living.

**Keywords:** Tribal community, schemes, reservation, racial discrimination, educational, economic, urban society, North East.

## 1. Introduction

Tribal across the world has remained isolated from the mainstream society. There have their own culture, language and religion, they don't prefer the interference of other community or government. They live in the forest or near small islands, they have long hairs and have painted their bodies with some kind of symbol, there are uncountable tribes in the world, and this each tribe have a different language. Africa is home to maximum number of tribal communities in the world where people speak more than 4000 languages, 4000 tribal communities, they depend on nature for their living, still practice hunting and gathering as a means to feed themselves, there is no school among the tribes, they believe in magic and consider it to be their religion, Tribes are exogamy and endogamy, they marry among their groups or outside their groups. The have clans and made tribal people have the same ancestors. Every tribal have their own dance form and festivals they depend on herbal and tradition forms of medicine to cure

themselves and create their own medicine which is even effective , the knowledge on medical plant and other herbs are well known to the tribal community than any other society . They live in an isolated atmosphere and don't prefer to change their way of living and come and be a part of the modern society If anyone tries to come they start killing them or many island and forest have been declared dangerous and people are prohibited to enter those regions , as certain tribes live their which are highly dangerous . There have different kind of weapons and long hairs. No clue about the outside world. During this COVID-19 time, they are tribe who are unaware of the virus and hardly can people enter those regions. The tribal people are among the people who are most vulnerable to proper health care services, even if a service try to reach out to them, they don't prefer and reject it. With deforestation taking place many tribal have been losing their home and there is loss of bio diversity , there are tribes that worship the sun , earth , moon , animals , fire and rain , all the tribes have different believe, some consider the death of a member as a positive sign , where other perform thousand rituals , they believe in ghost , spirit . Many tribes communities today have come out of their homes and are shifting to urban areas, many live in the rural areas also The government across different countries are trying to bring tribes into the mainstream society and provide them with maximum benefits, sociologist have been working on the tribal society, understanding their behavior and culture, As the language we speak, they don't understand and vice versa, interacting with them becomes difficult.

## 2. Research Methodology

For the purpose of this exploration, I have used an amalgamation of two of the archetypical social sciences research tools application –as they are authentic and brilliant method to assemble statistics from multiple appellant in an methodical and convenient way. Question were asked to the common youth, public policy Analyst, urban people ,tribal community, STs, survey, interviews –consisting of several

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interrogation which were dispersed among representative of each contender group .

1) *Objective of the Research Paper*

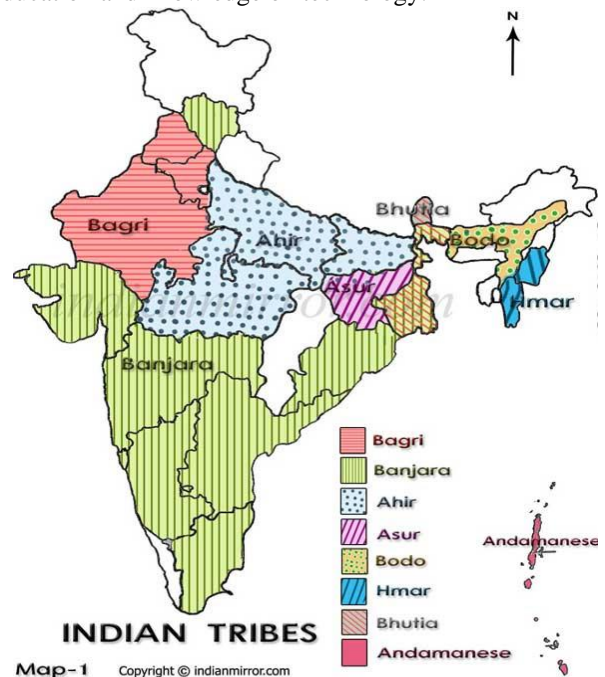
The main areas of exploration in this paper incorporates

1. Understanding the tribal culture, lifestyle and religious beliefs.
2. What are problems of tribal in India.
3. The government schemes for the upliftment of tribal community in India.
4. What can be done to improve the lifestyle of these people.

**3. Literature Review**

Tribal communities in India, a tribe possess certain qualities and characteristics that make it a unique cultural, social and political entity, what comprise a tribe in India the concept has changed over the years, there are around 645 distinct tribes in India, and the government provides special rights and provisions for the tribes. They live in cloistered, exclusive, remote and inhospitable area such as hills and forests, they practice primitive agriculture with less knowledge about their techniques, they live in poverty, unaware of the development taking place in the world, lack of illiterate and have a marginal degree of contact with other cultures and people, there are many tribes in India like the Bhils tribe which is found in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat. Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tripura, Munda tribe there are mainly found in the Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and other eastern region , Santhal tribe is one of the largest tribe in India and found in West Bengal , Bihar , Jharkhand , Assam Odisha , engaging in hunting , fishing and gathering for their livelihood. Gonds tribe found in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh Telegana, Maharashtra and Odisha. Khasi tribe which is found in the Assam , Meghalaya , Jammu and Kashmir , Punjab , Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal , there are many other tribes , based on the geographical spread the tribes are divided into five distinct regions mainly the Himalaya where you find tribes like Gaddi , Jaunsari , the Naga , Middle India where you find Munda, the Santhal etc , in Western India who have Bhil , the Grasia , South Indian region like Toda , Chenchu , Islands region who have the Onge in Bay of Bengal the Mnicoyans. On the basis of racial features we have the Proto-Australoids, the Monogoloids there are light skin people, the Negrito they are dark skinned people the tribal in India speak in 105 different languages and 225 subsidiary languages we have Austro-Asiatic family, Tibeto- Chinese family, Indo-European family, Dravidian Family, there are more than 500 tribes in India speaking different language and having different cultures. The North -East region comprises of maximum number of tribes in India and are heterogenous. Out of these 500 tribal groups, we have 75 Primitive vulnerable tribal group in India, in 17 states and 1 union territories, there are considered to be more vulnerable than the tribal community as a whole. In 1973 The Primitive Tribal Groups was created which was replaced by Primitive Vulnerable Tribes groups in 2006, the highest number of people are found in Odisha , they are a some community and have the same problems like the other tribal communities , they are homogenous and have a small population , isolated and have

no education and knowledge on technology.



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Fig. 1. Indian tribes

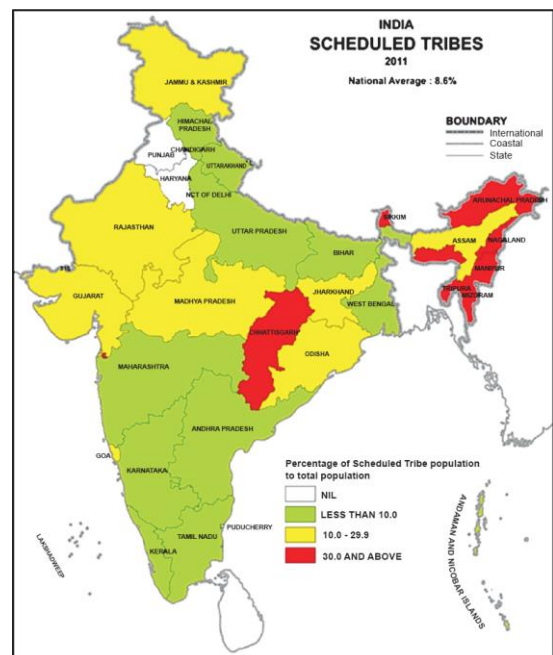


Fig. 1. Indian Scheduled tribes

**4. Findings**

The tribes suffer from a number of problems like Land Alienation, poverty, Low literacy and educational provisions, unemployment and health and Nutrition. If we talk about Land Alienation , we can see that today most of the land or forest area is being taken away for construction purposes leaving the tribal population homeless, for instance Bhilai steel plant in Chattisgarh is an example of Tribal Displacement , the original indigenous people are becoming landless , Jharkhand , Raipur are also facing the same problem , forest are being cut down for mining and logging purpose, Coming to poverty and Indebt , As

they have become landless, they have nothing to survive on, they have become poor and working in harmful locations with no proper mechanism, their agriculture land has been taken away, the tribal areas moreover have low literacy or poor educational facilities, there are no teachers in the tribal school and maximum drop out because of poor infrastructure and no maintenance. They also suffer from health issues and nutrition problems, tribes are primarily practice primitive agriculture and depend on forest for their food, unaware of the new advancement and machine brought in, with no knowledge they have been following the old methods of agriculture.

The constitution of India provides special provisions for the Scheduled tribes for educational and cultural safeguards we have article 15(4) -special provisions for the advancement of backward classes, Article 29 -which talk about the interest of minority rights, Article 46 – the state shall provide special care for the education and economic interest of the SCs and STs, Article 350 - right to preserve the language and literature. For Social Safeguard we have article 23 and article 24 for protection against Human being and against child labour. Economic safeguards, article 244 and article 275. Political safeguards includes Article 164(1)-Supplies for Tribal affairs in the state of Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, Article 330 – Reservation of seats for STs in Lok Sabha, Article 337 – Reservation in the state legislature, Article 243-Reservation of seats in Panchayat. Article 371 special provision for the tribes of North East states and Sikkim. Service safeguards include 16(4), 16(4A), Article 335, Article 320(40).

The government has launched schemes for tribal population which includes Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum support Price followed by Upgradation of Merit of ST Students, Vocational Training centres in Tribal areas, National overseas scholarship for Scheduled Tribe Students. Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students, Post Matric Scholarship for ST Students, Creation of Ashram School in Tribal and Sub-Plan areas, pre-Matric Scholarships, centrally sponsored schemes of hostels for ST boys and ST girls. There are public cooperation and NGO – scheme for coaching for scheduled tribes, scheme of Grant in aid to voluntary organization working for welfare of STs, Scheme of strengthening education among the STs girls in low literacy rate. We have The Eklavya Model Residential School and Development of Forest Villages and any other schemes have come into existing for uplifting tribal communities, many communities have no entered the mainstream society. Tribal population are learning the local language of the states along with migrating to the urban areas, there are seats reserved for the tribal population in schools, colleges and employment sector to make them part of our modern society. The government has opened tribal schools in the region, we are upgrading them with the new agriculture techniques and knowledge, creating an educational atmosphere which will suit them. Discrimination against the tribes are seen in the society, especially in schools and colleges, they find it difficult to communicate due to their class mates and many people make fun of them due to their physical appearance, they have faced racial and ethnical discrimination. In spite of reservation they

are not accepted in private schools and colleges followed by private companies. Which needs to be taken into account and we need to change and bring positive changes in the society.

### States With Most Crimes Recorded Against SCs/STs, 2014

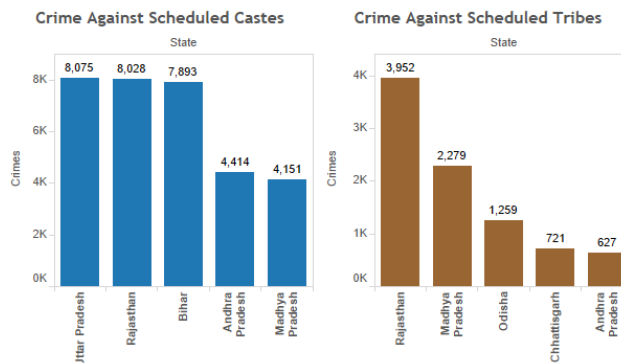


Fig. 3. States with most crime records

#### 1) Way Forward

Tribes constitutes 8.6 % of the population in India. Every tribe has its own culture and languages. We did should propaganda tribal culture and language into the main stream, their folk music and dance which can also become a part of cultural exchange programmes. We should introduce tribal schools in an open atmosphere as tribes live in the forest and hilly areas, learning in an open environment will help them to intake knowledge faster and their mode of teaching should be in their own language, learning in a different language so fast become difficult for students and we find many drop outs, a common language of the state and their own language should be the mode of communicating along. Forest management and rights should be legally granted to the tribes as forest are their homes and only source of livelihood. Forests can best be preserved and protected by the tribes. Forest also provide 90 % of the raw material for construction and other items which we use in our daily life. For instance the Amazon rainforest tribes used tradition herbs to cure themselves from COVID-19. The government has introduced many schemes for the upliftment of ST, however many have not yet reached the people we need to take care of it and avail all the facilities to its people. Racial discrimination against the tribes should end and there should be treated equality with all the other section of the people like in South Indian states the Scheduled tribes are given equal treatment and privileges like the other people.

#### 5. Conclusion

Tribes are most vulnerable sector of the society, aloop from the rest of the parts. Providing tribes with benefits and opportunities is very important first to uplift their position and second they can play a significant role in the promotion of Indian handicrafts and Ayurveda medicine. Their knowledge about herbs and medical plant can't be compared with rest of the people. Forest tourism and management can be well protected and managed by the tribals. The government has introduced various schemes for the protection of tribes taking care of the pedagogy and economy interest, reservation in

parliament, school and employment sector are there. Special constitution provisions for the preservation of their languages and culture exist, however racial discrimination and caste problem in India keep them left behind even after so many provisions which need to be looked after to provide maximum benefit to the tribal community.

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