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Factor influencing the particularly vulnerable tribal groups livelihood towards tribal co-operative marketing development federation: A study with reference to Nilgiris District

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***Abstract*---**India has the largest concentration of tribal communities after Africa. They are often called autochthonous people. There has been a considerable increase in tribal population from 40.22 million in 1972 to 208.7 million in 2016. Out of this 28 percent are considered Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups(PVTGs). They are small in groups confined to comprehensive inaccessible areas with perilous living styles. To a larger extent, they have perpetuated their cultural group identity with their typical living condition. Several factors also have a major influence on the Primitive tribe's household, income, and food security. The literacy level, income, and living conditions of the PVTGs in comparison with others are deteriorating. Hence, TRIFED has made an attempt to ameliorate the tribal's with retail marketing development. Thus, the study has made to examine the factors affecting the particularly vulnerable tribal people's livelihood with special reference to the Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu by using factor analysis. The study profound that factor analysis imposes reduced poverty ,enhance House-hold(HH) Income, Benefits of Financial Inclusion and profit on MFP has a significant impact on livelihood of the tribal's. Thus, TRIFED helps in improving the tribal's by giving assistance on VAN DHAN YOJANA scheme and Cooperative development. The proper management of developmental programme and implementation might uplift them to that stage where they become free from categorization as PVTGs.

***Keywords*---**PVTGs, financial assistance, co-operative, reduced poverty.

Introduction

India has the largest concentration of tribal communities after Africa. They are often called autochthonous people. They are socially and economically deprived ethnic groups which are popularly called Scheduled tribes. They constitute an important portion of the Indian population and are geographically isolated, marginalized, and economically poor in India. They spread over 15 percent in ecological and geo climate conditions varying from forest, hills, plateau, and plains. They are still longing for primitive agricultural practices with stagnant population, and stunted literacy, and are at the lowest chime of the human index. Most of the tribals are exploited by outsiders and the income level is low due to literacy. So, the planning commission made an initiative on socio-economic development of tribals by the way called TRIFED (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India) by incorporating the trade of minor forest products. TRIFED helps in providing surplus agricultural products at a fair price. Thus, enhancing the tribals helps in the overall development of the economy.

Statement of the Problem

The economic circumstances are significant for an individual's life. It appears to be the most critical part for the primitive tribes as they fail to meet their day-to-day obligations due to insignificant income levels. They are entirely different from the way of life of the civilized people in the categorization of isolated ethnic groups, stagnant population, and lack of script knowledge. Based on the census report of 2016, 906 ethnic groups in India are notable as Scheduled Tribes, which is the sum of 12.56 crores of the population is 9.5% of the overall population. Of this only 2.04 crores, 10.09% of the total tribal population live in the urban areas whereas the rest 90% are still dependent on the rural economy. There has been a considerable increase in tribal population from 40.22 million in 1972 to 208.7 million in 2016. Out of this 28 percent are considered primitive tribes. They are small in groups confined to comprehensive inaccessible areas with perilous living styles. To a larger extent, they have perpetuated their cultural group identity with their typical living condition. Several factors also have a major influence on the Primitive tribe's household, income, and food security. Some of the initiatives made by the government for enriching their living conditions by bringing them into the mainstream of development. But suddenly all these changes are reduced and do not match with the allocations made. The literacy level, income, and living conditions of the primitive tribes in comparison with others are deteriorating. Hence the TRIFED has made an attempt to ameliorate the tribals with retail marketing development. Thus, the researcher should clear the issue, and this study has made to examine the factors affecting the particularly vulnerable tribal people's livelihood with reference to the Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu.

Review Of Literature

Prabhakara Reddy (2018) examined that the tribal development measures of Andhra Pradesh and problems of tribal such as Land problems, Cultural and present strategies of tribal development. The study discussed that the concept of culture and Indus valley civilization in relation to tribal culture. The author made an interesting observation that the tribal women should be given appropriate skill to prepare leaf plates with 'adda' leaves and deciding of tamarind lead to value addition and increase in their income. Government reservation was increased education and economic status of scheduled tribes. The author provided details of policies and their approaches, in each five-year plan separately. The author also focused on the empowerment of tribal communities.

Sinu E (2019) made an extensive study on Living condition of Irula tribes in Villupuram District, TN. The researcher finding revealed that 66percent irulas were illiterates, negative attitude towards education and girl children education, 84 percent of irulas lives in adequate housing conditions, farming, better job security, indebtness.

P.Chellasamy & K.V.Lige (2021) examined that the factors influencing private entrepreneurs to invest in grinding and blending units on cement manufacturing. This study showed that investors give more importance to economic factors and production factors rather than possessing industrial status, providing huge employment opportunities and environment protection which were given least importance while investing in cement manufacturing units.

Research Objective

1. To identify the factor influencing the livelihood of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) with the help of Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED)

Research Methodology

Primary data were collected through a structured interview schedule. The respondents selected for this study were PVTGs of Nilgiris Districts. The survey was conducted among six PVTGs Toda, Kota, Irulas, Kurumbas, Paniyan, and Kattunayaken in Nilgiris District. The interview Schedule method is adopted to assess the significance of sixteen variables. All the select variables have been identified by conducting a pilot study among 120 respondents and thus the Cronbach alpha value is more than 0.7 the interview schedule is accepted for the data collection. The variables were expressed as close-ended questions measured on a five-point Likert-like scale which ranged from Point 1 (Strongly disagree) to Point 5 (Strongly agree). The select variables are enclosed in the interview schedule attached below.

Tools and Techniques

Factor analysis was applied to determine the principal factor and the number of dimensions that exist in the set of factors influenced by TRIFED among the PVTGs. By this method, similar variables were grouped into dimensions. To determine whether the 16 variables are considered relevant for factor analysis, the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure of sampling adequacy and Bartlett's test of sphericity were calculated.

Limitations of the Study

- The survey is contextual and geographical, hence the findings may not be applicable to other areas.
- It is assumed that respondents are true and honest in expressing their views and have registered their response without any bias,

Results and Discussion

Table: 1 - Cronbach's Alpha Test

Cronbach's Alpha	N of items
0.721	16

Table 1 explores the reliability of the interview schedule tested using Cronbach's Alpha. Through this study, Cronbach's Alpha of overall principal factors had value 0.721 and individually it has above 0.50. Hence the reliability of the questions is proved, i.e., the value is greater than 0.60 and the questionnaire is reliable for the purpose of data collection.

Factor analysis

This technique is used to condense a huge number of variables into fewer ones. This techniques combines the largest common variance of all variable into a single score. We can use this score as an indicator of all factors for the further study. Factor analysis is part of the general linear model (GLM) and it makes numerous assumption; there is a linear relationship, no multicollinearity, important variables are included in the analysis, and variables and factor have a real association.

The most prevalent method employed by researchers is Principal Common Analysis(PCA). The maximum variance is extracted by PCA and placed in the first factor. Then it minimizes the variance explained by the first two factors and begins extracting the maximum variance for the second factor. This procedure leads to the final factor. The correlation coefficient for the variable and factor is known as factor loading. The variance explained by the variable on that particular factor is shown by factor loading. In the SEM technique, a factor loading of 0.7 or greater indicates that the factor extracts enough variables from the variables.

KMO and Bartlett's test

Table: 2 - KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.681
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	1251.476
	df	120
	Sig.	.000

Table 2 measures Kaisir- Meyer-Olkin is an index which define of Sampling Adequacy. The KMO test value is 0.681 which is more than 0.5, can be considered and acceptable and valid to conduct data reduction techniques. The Bartlett's Test of Sphericity helps to decide, whether the result of factor analysis are worth for considering and whether we should continue analyzing the research work. Bartlett's Test of Sphericity significant to a level of significance is < 0.001 which shows that there is a high level of correlation between variables, which make it adequate to apply factor analysis.

Rotated Component Matrix

Table: 3 - Rotated Component Matrix of factor influencing PVTGs Livelihood towards TRIFED

Variables	Components			
	1	2	3	4
Economic Security	0.583			
Assured Employment	0.671			
Enhanced HH Income	0.619			
Reduced Poverty	0.610			
Supporting Financial Literacy		0.513		
Benefits of Financial Inclusion		0.780		
Availability of Credit facility		0.759		
Profit on MFP		0.675		
Receiving Subsidy from Government		0.705		
Better Relationship with Officials			0.534	
Enhanced Knowledge of Natural Resource Management			0.661	
Enhanced Social Networking			0.561	
Employment Opportunity			0.797	
Running Social Development Institution like NGO's, training Center.			0.652	
Enhanced Self-Confidence				0.528
Enhanced position in the family & Society				0.573

Source: Calculated and Compiled from Primary Data
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis
Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization

Factors Loaded

Factor loading shows the variance explained by the variables on that particular factor. Another criterion for determining the number of factor is Eigen Value. If the Eigen value is greater than one, the factor should be considered. If less than one, then that factor should be ignored.

Table - 4 Result of Factor Loading

Principal Factor	Factor Loading	Eigen Value	% of Variance	Cronbach's Alpha
Factor I Economic Factor		6.26	26.44	0.569
Economic Security	0.583			
Assured Employment	0.671			
Enhanced HH Income	0.619			
Reduced Poverty	0.610			
Factor II Financial Factor		2.807	19.94	0.619
Supporting Financial Literacy	0.513			
Benefits of Financial Inclusion	0.780			
Availability of Credit facility	0.759			
Profit on MFP	0.675			
Receiving Subsidy from Government	0.705			
Factor III Social Factor		5.252	11.89	0.622
Better Relationship with Officials	0.534			
Enhanced Knowledge of Natural Resource Management	0.661			
Enhanced Social Networking	0.561			
Employment Opportunity	0.797			
Running Social Development Institution like NGO's, training Center.	0.652			
Factor IV Psychological Factors		1.68	8.23	0.531
Enhanced Self-Confidence	0.528			
Enhanced position in the family & Society	0.573			
Total Variance Explained : 66.50 % of Variance				

Source: Calculated and Compiled from Primary Data

Table 4, The factors are extraction from the loaded items. 16 parameters were loaded to extract 4 factor using principal compound method. The total variance explained is 66.50 percent, it shows that four factors are extracted from the loaded statements.

Factor I was identified as "Economic Factor" with 4 variables and accounted with 26.44 percent of total variance , Factor II as "Financial Factor" with 5 variables and accounted with 19.94 percent of total variance, Factor III include 5 variables items named as Social Factor and accounted for 11.89 percent and the last factor IV identified as "Psychological factor" which comprised with 2 items and accounted for 8.23 percent of total variance. First Four components are considered whose Eigen Values are 6.26, 5.25, 1.68 and 2.80. Since all the four factors having Eigen Value greater than 1 and sharing maximum variance.

Conclusion

Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) are one of the underprivileged occupants of the current world. They are at a dead stop in the antique stage and distinct from the touch and contact of contemporary development intent society at large. After the interventions made by the Government of India through planning commission, GOI exercise and disburse millions of amount on tribal welfare programs, the main result of development has not reached the weaker section of primitive tribal communities. Hence, the study focused on wither-away impact on primitive tribal's livelihood and financial impact on Nilgiris District. The result of factor analysis imposes that reduced poverty and enhance HH Income and similarly Financial factors of Benefits of Financial Inclusion and Profit of MFP has a significant impact on livelihood of the tribal's. Thus, TRIFED helps in improving the tribals by giving assistance on VAN DHAN YOJANA scheme and Cooperative development. But the tribal peoples from extremely remote areas still remain unaware about such development schemes. Thus proper management of developmental programme and implementation might uplift the tribals to that stage, where they become free from categorization as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups, though it is genuinely a time-taking process and they have to keep patience for those days.

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