

A STUDY ON CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS AND THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF MALAYALI TRIBES IN YERCAUD TALUK, SALEM DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

The tribal people are the marginalised group in the country due to various features like geographical isolation and inability to access to the basic needs for their life. The constitution of India provides social and economic justice, equality of status and opportunity to all the citizens in the country. The government at the centre and the state made various efforts to uplift the living conditions of tribes thorough various measures. The Government of Tamil Nadu presented a number of benefit schemes for the STs, but the schemes have not reached the tribal groups. In this context, the comprehensive literature review seeks to provide a contemporary overview of the socio- economic development of Tamil Nadu Scheduled Tribes. The aim of the paper is to analyse the socio economic conditions of the scheduled tribes in Tamil Nadu and the constitutional safeguards for the welfare of the tribal communities in general through literature survey. This paper presents a brief description of the socio-economic characteristics of the Malayali Tribal people of Yercaud Taluk, Salem District of Tamil Nadu, on the basis of data collected through a field survey and second-hand information from various research studies.

Key Words: Socio-Economic Conditions, Welfare schemes, Scheduled Tribes,

Abbreviations: ST: Scheduled Tribes SC: Scheduled Caste UT: Union Territories

INTRODUCTION

India is country comprises of many States and Union Territories. The people of India have unique culture, language,¹ caste, creed etc. In the midst of different people in the country, tribal people are one such group that needs to be prioritized. The Prehistoric and primitive literature mentioned that a large number of tribes living in India. India has one of the largest and multifarious tribal populations in the world next to Africa. The scheduled Tribes are living in various natural and environmental surroundings such as plains, hills and Forests. As per the 2011 Census, the Scheduled Tribes are notified in 30 States/UTs and their population is 10.45 crore constitutes 8.6 percent of the country's total population.¹Under Article 342 clause 9 (i) of the Constitution specified there are over 700 Scheduled Tribal communities spread over in different States and Union Territories of the country.²Tamil Nadu is eleventh largest state and seventh most populous state in India.³Out of 84.51 million tribal population the Tamil Nadu has 70.21 lakhs of tribal people which constitutes 1.10% of the total population.⁴Most of the tribal in Tamil Nadu are cultivators, agriculture labourers or dependent on forests for their livelihood. In almost all the districts in TamilNadu the tribal communities are distributed and from the 36 tribal communities, six tribal communities are identified as Primitive Tribal. The Scheduled Tribe population

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exceeds 50% of the total population than the area is declared as Integrated Tribal Development Programme Area.⁵The census of 2011 reveals that 36.8 % of the rural tribal population and 2.8% of the ST population of TamilNadu is living below the Poverty Line.⁶There is a gap of about 14 percentage points in literacy rate of STs as compared to the all India literacy rate States, particularly Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Kerala have revealed gap of more than 18 % in literacy rate of STs as compared to total population during 2011.⁷ This article attempt to focus on the socio-economic conditions of the tribes of Tamil Nadu and the constitutional safeguards for the welfare of the tribal communities.

CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS FOR STs

The preamble of the Indian Constitution encompasses the term justice in three different forms, social, economic and political, which have been achieved through provisions of rights and Directive principles of State Policy. The Preamble of the Constitution of India provides equal status and opportunity for all the people in the country. The constitution of India provides various safeguards to the marginalized people in the country and for the scheduled tribes the following are the important safeguards under the following articles, Article 15(1): Article 15(1), prohibits the state from discriminating any citizen on the basis of these following 5 categories such as Religion, Race, Caste, Sex and Place of Birth. Article 15(2), explains that no Indian citizen can be discriminated against on basis of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth. It states that no citizen shall be denied access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and palaces of Public Entertainment.⁸Article 15(4), capacitates the state to create special arrangements for promoting the interests and welfare of socially and educationally backward classes of the society such as SC and STs.⁹**Art. 29** Protection of Interests of Minorities (which includes STs).¹⁰Under Article 46, the State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.¹¹In Article 244 dealt with the Administration of Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas.¹²

The Central and State Government provides various tribal welfare measures for the economic development of tribes in Tamil Nadu are, Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India guarantees grants-in-aid from the Consolidated Fund of India each year for promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.¹³Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan, Comprehensive Tribal Development Programme (CTDP), Schools and Hostels including (Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) and Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools (EMDBS), Provision of Drinking water facility, Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006., Industrial Training Institutes, Development of Horticulture, Sericulture Scheme, Provision of Minor Irrigation, Animal Husbandry, Development of Agricultural lands, Supply of Beehives, Afforestation Programmes, LAMP Societies, Street Lights, Formation of Link Road, Free houses, Vocational Guidance, Employment Opportunities, Providing training for women development, Special Area Development Programme (SADP) Tribal Research Centre.¹⁴

LITERATURE REVIEW

Shankar et.al.(2013), in the study of Socio- economic conditions of Pachamalai Tribes, explores the measures taken by the development of tribes in the form of transportation and education, but at the same time still the development of tribes are affected due to several factors such as isolation of the community, exploitation by non-tribes, traders, money lenders, illiteracy, not aware about the banking Facilities.¹⁵Thangamani (2014), in the analysis of Socio-economic conditions of Tribes in Thalamalai Hills, identified the various factors that affects the socioeconomic conditions of the tribes in the study area are the lack of infrastructure like roads, schools, hospitals and the interference of wild animals, exploitation of and the poor implementation of the government welfare programmes for the tribal Community.¹⁶PremNazeer (2015), in the study he reveals that the socio economic

status of the tribes in the Pachamalai Hills is only partial still they have to go for long way to achieve improvement in their life as like others in the Society.¹⁷Jayakumar et.al.(2016), in the investigation of the Socio-economic status of Scheduled Tribes in Kalrayan Hills, observed that the economic status of the community is low when compared to non-tribes even after various measures taken by the government for their development.¹⁸Jyaprakash et.al. (2016), in the research and e by the authors about the Health status of Tribal women in Kalvarayan Hills, Villupuram District Tamil Nadu pointed out that the tribal women's are not shown much care for their health issues including delivery of child due to distance of hospitals from their living place and moreover the women's feel comfort in the organic form of treatment available in their place, but in the present days some of them wish to come to hospitals for their health issues.¹⁹Yoganandham et.al.(2019), in the assessment of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu, noticed that the education level of the tribes is low and it needs a distinctive strategy in various areas such as to enhance the literacy rate , to relieve the tribal group from the poverty through the arrangement of proper credit facilities, formulate suitable policies to raise the productivity in the agricultural and allied activities, proper administration and legal support is compulsory for the development of the tribal community.²⁰Mahalakshmi (2020), in the field analysis made by the author in the to find out the Socio-economic conditions of Tribes dwelling at Anamalai hills exhibits that the living conditions of the tribal community are very poor and they do not have even the basic household amenities like electricity. The supporting measures provided by the government are insufficient to make them economically well.²¹Prabhu.et.al. (2020), the study examined the gap between tribal and the non-tribal economic, educational and social status Tribes in Valparai, pointed out that the degradation of the forest is the main cause that affects the living conditions of the tribals.²²Chithra (2020), she focused on the Tribal economy stated that the tribes in the Tiruchirapalli District are mainly depends agriculture and minor forest produce for their income. Majority of them are in indebtedness and the grant of various forms of loans from the banking sector even jewel loan was very difficult.²³Chenna Krishnan (2021), in his investigation on the Socio-economic status of the Tribal peoples in Dharmapuri District, identified the main cause for the poor economic status of the tribes in the district is land alienation and the low level of education.²⁴

March (2017), The Hindu, reported that the Scheduled tribes living in Dindugal demand the basic amenities such as shelters, power connection, road connectivity, communication, community certificate and that they could not avail any facilities meant for the STs.²⁵April (2018), The Hindu, reported that the lack of community certificate takes away the chance of higher studies among the Kurumba Tribes in the Dharmapuri district .To seek the attention of the government officials they went on protest for community certificate.²⁶December (2021),The Times of India, reported that about 25 tribal associations gathered in Chennai to discuss their welfare Demands such as library facilities, filling up vacancies in tribal schools, to increase the funding for construction of Houses.²⁷Renuka Singh Saruta (2021), The Times of India Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, stated in the Lokhsabha, almost half of the Scheduled Tribe Population in Tamil Nadu is illiterates according to 2011 Census.²⁸

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

The tribal development measures adopted during the second half of this century are found to be insufficient in improving the economic conditions of the tribes. Even after the introduction of several welfare measures, the tribes are still facing several economic and social constraints an over view of the constitutional safeguards and the socio-economic conditions of tribes Yercaud Taluk, Salem District

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the socio-economic and infrastructure conditions of scheduled tribes.
2. To examine the law and legal acts for promoting their development activities.
3. To study of implementation of tribal development programmes in the study area.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

1. There is a relationship between socio-economic and infrastructure conditions of scheduled tribes.
2. There is a relationship between socio-economic and tribal development programmes of scheduled tribes.

AREA OF THE STUDY

The study is conducted in Yercaud Taluk, Salem District. Yercaud is a hill station near Salem, in the Servarayan range of hills (anglicized as Shevaroy) in the Eastern Ghats. It is at an altitude of 1515 metres (4969 feet) above the sea level. The total extent of Yercaud Taluk is 382.67 Sq.kms. including Reserve Forest. The entire Taluk is a Township. Yercaud has also a Panchayat Union with its Head Quarters at Yercaud and its Jurisdiction is the same as for Yercaud Taluk. Popular as the "Poor man's Ooty". Yercaud is one of the low cost hill station destinations in India.

SAMPLING DESIGN

The present study is constitutional safeguards and the socio-economic conditions of tribes in Yercaud Taluk, Salem District of Tamilnadu. The sample Yercaud Taluk are Anakkadu, Aramanaikadu, Chinnamadur, Kadugamarathur, Kakkambadi, Kolagur Keeraikkadu, Kelaiyur, Kombaikkadu, Kottachchedu, and Veppadi researcher selected from each Village and population size of the selected tribal people in the study area. The data's are collected in 11 tribal villages from Yercaud Taluk, and 150 sample tribal populations are covered for the present study

STATISTICAL TOOLS

The primary data obtained from constitutional safeguards and the socio-economic conditions of tribes Yercaud Taluk, Salem District was analysed. The most efficient statistical tools relevant to this study were selected based on the objectives framed earlier for this study. The statistical tools employed to analyse the primary data and obtain relevant results are given below:

- Percentage Analysis
- Discriminant Analysis: The t-statistics
- Analysis of Variance.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

This survey research has many limitations. Some of them were the sample size that has not represented the entire population of the study and the methodology. The researcher has considered only the simple random sampling technique and selected the respondents. In future research, more valuable constructs may be attempted through the application of other sampling techniques and tools for arriving at different findings that will be useful to the researchers and the audience of the domain.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS PROFILE OF SCHEDULED TRIBES

The tribal people are the marginalized group of the country due to various features like socio-economic conditions isolation and inability to access the basic needs for their life. The socio-economic characteristics of the scheduled tribes are summarized in table-1 which helps to segment the Scheduled Tribes in the constitutional safeguards. Percentage analysis was used to understand the scheduled tribes in constitutional safeguards.

Table – 1 Socio-Economic Conditions of Scheduled Tribes

| | Profile | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|---------|-----------|------------|
| Gender | Male | 80 | 53 |
| | Female | 70 | 47 |

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------------|-----|-------|
| Age | Below 25 years | 55 | 37 |
| | 26 - 35 years | 47 | 31 |
| | 36 – 45 years | 29 | 19 |
| | Above 45 years | 19 | 13 |
| Education | Graduation | 28 | 19 |
| | Post-Graduation | 65 | 43 |
| | Professional | 48 | 32 |
| | Others | 9 | 6.0 |
| Family | Nuclear family | 110 | 73 |
| | Joint family | 40 | 27 |
| Annual Income | Less than 2,00,000 | 50 | 33 |
| | 2,00,000 to 5,00,000 | 50 | 33 |
| | 5,00,000 to 8,00,000 | 27 | 18 |
| | 8,00,000 and above | 23 | 15 |
| Total | | 150 | 100.0 |

Source: Primary data

The socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents show that majority of respondents (53%) were Male. It is further revealed that most of the respondents (37%) belonged to the age group of less than 20 years, with 31 % of the respondents falling in the age group of 26-35 year. Post-Graduation comprise of a maximum portion of (43%), followed by professionals with (32%). This revealed that education level also plays a leading role in the preference of constitutional safeguards. Among them most of the respondent 73% belongs to nuclear family. 33% of the respondents fall under the income group of less than Rs.2, 00,000.

Table – 2 Test of constitutional safeguards towards gender of scheduled tribes

| Constitutional Safeguards | Gender | | Total |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| | Male | Female | |
| Highly Satisfied | 47 | 33 | 80 |
| Highly Dissatisfied | 42 | 28 | 70 |
| Total | 89 | 61 | 150 |

Source: Primary Data

H_0 = There is no significance difference between constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions towards gender of scheduled tribes

H_1 = There is significance difference between constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions towards gender of scheduled tribes

Table-3 Chi-square – Test of constitutional safeguards towards gender of scheduled tribes

| Chi-square | Value | Degrees of freedom | Significance |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Pearson Chi-Square | 1.663 ^a | 1 | 0.197 (NS) |

Source: Output generated from SPSS

NS – Not Significant

In the above obtained result, since the significance value is more than 0.05 the null hypothesis is accepted and alternate hypothesis is rejected and it is concluded that there is no significance difference between constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions towards gender of scheduled tribes.

Table – 4 Test of constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions towards age group of scheduled tribes

| socio-economic conditions | Age group of Scheduled Tribes | | | | Total |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------|
| | Below 25 years | 26 -35 Years | 36 -45 years | Above 46 Years | |
| Highly Satisfied | 26 | 23 | 14 | 10 | 73 |
| Highly Dissatisfied | 29 | 24 | 15 | 9 | 77 |
| Total | 55 | 47 | 29 | 19 | 150 |

H_0 = There is no significance difference between constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions towards age group of scheduled tribes

H_1 = There is significance difference between constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions towards age group of scheduled tribes

Table -5 Chi-square Test
Constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions towards age group of scheduled tribes

| Chi-square | Value | Degrees of freedom | Significance |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Pearson Chi-Square | 1.663 ^a | 1 | 0.197 |

Source: Output generated from SPSS

NS – Not Significant

In the above obtained result, since the significance value is more than 0.05 the null hypothesis is accepted and alternate hypothesis is rejected and it is concluded that there is no significance difference between constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions towards age group of scheduled tribes.

Table-6 Reliability statistics for constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions

| Reliability Statistics | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Cronbach's Alpha | No. of items |
| 0.955 | 17 |

The above table suggested that an acceptable level of reliability for psychometric test starts from .65 in this analysis most of the reliability value is above .65. The dimension wise result of Cronbach's alpha values for the study is .955 (95.5%)

Table – 7 KMO and bartlett's test for constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions

| KMO and Bartlett's Test | | |
|--|--------------------|----------|
| Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy. | | .929 |
| Bartlett's Test of Sphericity | Approx. Chi-Square | 3650.467 |
| | Df | 496 |
| | Sig. | .000 |

The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure of sampling adequacy is a statistics that indicates the proportion of variance which is caused by underlying factors. If the value is closer to 1.0 then that indicates, the data are more adequate and if it is less than 0.50, then the result of factor analysis is inadequate. In this study, the value of Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure of sampling adequacy is 0.929(92.5%) which is more adequate

Factor Analysis

Table-8 Total variance explained for Constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions

| |
|--------------------------|
| Total Variance Explained |
|--------------------------|

| Factor | Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings | | | Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings | | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Total | % of Variance | Cumulative % | Total | % of Variance | Cumulative % |
| 1 | 15.586 | 31.522 | 31.522 | 5.953 | 28.138 | 28.138 |
| 2 | 1.975 | 8.248 | 39.770 | 5.714 | 8.114 | 36.251 |
| 3 | 1.540 | 6.487 | 46.257 | 4.273 | 7.409 | 43.661 |
| 4 | 1.333 | 6.012 | 52.269 | 2.980 | 6.413 | 50.074 |
| 5 | 1.138 | 5.665 | 57.935 | 2.651 | 6.359 | 56.433 |

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

The above table shows that the total variance explained is 57.935% for the 5 extracted components

Rotated Component Matrix

Based on these loadings 17 items reduced into 5 significant factors that affect the study. The positive values show positive loadings on the factors extracted and the negative values show inverse relationships. The factors can be explained by arranging variables from the questionnaire, into 5 groups based on highest Component Matrix loadings per statement, as below:

Table – 9 Rotated component matrix

| | Components | Rotated component matrix | | | | |
|----|---|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | To promote the welfare of the people | .822 | | | | |
| 2 | Socio-Economic Goals | .769 | | | | |
| 3 | Interpretation of Bill of Rights | .767 | | | | |
| 4 | To minimize inequalities in income, status, facilities and Opportunities | .742 | | | | |
| 5 | To adequate means of livelihood | | .842 | | | |
| 6 | To Secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice, | | .766 | | | |
| 7 | To humane conditions of work and for maternity relief. | | .719 | | | |
| 8 | To compulsory education for all | | .216 | | | |
| 9 | To provides for the promotion, with special care of, the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and in particular of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes | | .173 | | | |
| 10 | To raising of the level of nutrition and standards of living of the people and to improve public health | | | .708 | | |
| 11 | Indian Constitution indeed makes a strong commitment to promoting the wellbeing of citizens | | | .684 | | |
| 12 | Deprived must be provided lands of quality as nearly as may be equal to the lands such persons were previously occupying or otherwise adequately rehabilitated | | | .584 | | |
| 13 | To the duty of the State to direct its policy to see that Children of tender age are not abused. | | | .568 | | |

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|----------|--|
| 14 | Every child shall have the right to care and assistance in basic needs and protection from all forms of neglect, harm and exploitation | | | | .77 0 | |
| 15 | Right to safe drinking water, prevention of pollution, conservation of ecology and sustainable development | | | | .70 2 | |
| 16 | secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development | | | | .73 1 | |
| 17 | providing for social welfare and reform or the throwing open of Hindu, Sikh, Jaina or Buddhist religious Institutions of a public character to all classes and sections of these religions.” | | | | .11 3 | |

The major five independent set of factors associated with the constitutional safeguards on socio-economic conditions features are extracted from the factor analysis and explained in brief:

WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE

Welfare of the people is about Welfare refers to a range of government programs that provide financial or other aid to individuals or groups who cannot support themselves. Welfare programs are typically funded by taxpayers and allow people to cope with financial stress during rough periods of their lives.,etc.

Table 10 Welfare of the People

| | |
|--|------|
| To promote the welfare of the people | .822 |
| To Socio-Economic Goals | .769 |
| To Interpretation of Bill of Rights | .767 |
| To minimize inequalities in income, status, facilities and Opportunities | .742 |

ADEQUATE MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD

Live without the means of living, that is, the means of livelihood. The right to livelihood is not treated. State to secure to the citizens an adequate means of livelihood and the right to work, it would be sheer Supreme Court of India. Cites 36 - Cited by 593

Table 11 Adequate Means of Livelihood

| | |
|---|------|
| To adequate means of livelihood | .842 |
| To Secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice, | .766 |
| To humane conditions of work and for maternity relief. | .719 |
| To compulsory education for all | .216 |
| To provides for the promotion, with special care of, the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and in particular of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes | .173 |

STANDARD OF LIVING

The Standard of living generally refers to wealth, comfort, material goods, and necessities of certain classes in certain areas or more objective characteristics whereas quality of life is more subjective and intangible, such as personal liberty or environmental quality.

Table -12 Stadard of Living

| | |
|--|------|
| raising of the level of nutrition and standards of living of the people and to improve public health | .708 |
| Indian Constitution indeed makes a strong commitment to promoting the wellbeing of citizens | .684 |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Deprived must be provided lands of quality as nearly as may be equal to the lands such persons were previously occupying or otherwise adequately rehabilitated | .584 |
| To the duty of the State to direct its policy to see that Children of tender age are not abused. | .568 |

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable development is an organizing principle for meeting human development goals while also sustaining the ability of natural systems to provide the natural resources and ecosystem services on which the economy and society depend.

Table -13 Sustainable Development

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Every child shall have the right to care and assistance in basic needs and protection from all forms of neglect, harm and exploitation | .770 |
| Right to safe drinking water, prevention of pollution, conservation of ecology and sustainable development | .702 |
| secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development | .731 |
| Providing for social welfare and reform or the throwing open of Hindu, Sikh, Jaina or Buddhist religious Institutions of a public character to all classes and sections of these religions.” | .113 |

SUGGESTIONS OF THE STUDY

Suggestions on the basis of the major findings, the following suggestions are made to the better living conditions of the scheduled tribes which include Small scale industries may be encouraged in this backward area so as to enable more employment opportunities to the STs. Financial inclusion of tribals by looking them with banking system. Government should select such police, revenue and forest officials who have the training and zeal to work in tribal areas and understand as well as empathise with the population they serve. A national plan of action for comprehensive development which would serve as a road map for the welfare of the tribals should be prepared and implemented. There should be convergence of regulatory and development programmes in the scheduled tribes. For the purpose, a decadal development plan should be prepared and implemented in a mission mode with appropriate mechanism for resolution of conflicts and adjustments. The authorities involved in determining the inclusion and exclusion of tribes in the list of Scheduled Tribes should adopt a mechanism of consultation with the major States and those with tribal populations, on the basis of which a comprehensive methodology with clearly defined parameters is arrived at. Education is the primary input for all-round development of individuals; hence top priority may be accorded to fast accelerate literacy among the tribals; if they are well educated the whole family catalyses the pace of economic development in the district. To accomplish this government may suitably direct banks and financial institutions to provide finances liberally so as to save the tribals from the clutches of local money-lenders who use to charge high rates of interest. Special employment strategies may be designed work to provide additional employment days which generate and contribute additional income which can effectively check less education and reduce the migration and thus improve the quality of life of tribal households in the district. Suitable steps should be taken by the Government so as to educate the tribal farmers about the importance of crop loan and crop insurance facility. In this context, the procedural formalities should be simplified, keeping in view of the literacy status of tribal farmers

CONCLUSION

Thus, the scheduled tribes in the state and the district need a focused attention. There is a need to formulate an integrated policy for the development of tribal society. The major findings of the study indicate that the constitutional safe-guards protective legislation; introduction of new developmental schemes/agencies like GCC, India Tribal Development Association (ITDA), sub-plan scheme, substantial financial provisions in the successive Five year Plans both at the Union and at the State Government have improved and changed the socioeconomic pattern of scheduled tribes living in Yercaud Taluk, Salem District. However, the improvement in the socio-economic conditions have not been significant except in respect of housing in Yercaud Taluk, Salem District. That means those changes of change agents and modern infrastructure facilities did not achieve the anticipated level of structural change in the living conditions of tribes. Based on observation scheduled tribes are facing problems like education, health, sanitation, socioeconomic facilities in Yercaud Taluk, Salem District. Hence, the Govt. of India, Karnataka and local government should give attention for their upliftment in the Yercaud Taluk, Salem District. It is the responsibility of government to promote the scheduled tribes in the study area than only tribes prevail over from problems.

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