

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

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This chapter deals with the review of existing literature related to socio economic status of various tribe. Since early 1990s there has been greater focus on enhancement of human well-being and reduction in inequities along with growth of per capita income. The concept of well-being encompasses individual attainments in the areas of education, health, nutrition, hygiene, and other amenities like electricity, water supply, housing, etc. On the basis of explanation in the existing literature, social inequalities, for the purpose of implementation and measurement, can be defined as the absence of systematic disparities in health and education (or in their major social determinants) between social groups who have different levels of underlying social advantage/disadvantage-that is, different positions in a social hierarchy. In fact, interdependence between education and health equities are more important in this context. These two are the most critical determinants for human well-being in all its dimensions. Definitely, education can be taken as the most important factor for social equity. “Education then beyond all other devices of human origin is a great equalizer of the conditions of men- the balance wheel of the social machinery” (Goran, 2007).

A study based on primary data, conducted for the Primitive tribal groups (PTGs) and plain tribes of Andhra Pradesh tried to find out the factors that are responsible for their socio-economic status. By using logistic regression analysis, the study analyses the intra tribe and inter tribe variation in the factors influencing the socio-economic conditions of both the PTGs and plain tribe. The result of the study suggests that the intra tribe variation are

prevalent within the selected PTGs as well as among the selected plain tribes relating to socio economic conditions in the study area (Rao and Rao, 2010). Another study carried out by using NFHS III data (2005-06) examines the caste, income and regional inequalities as determinants of health of women and children. Econometric tools such as logistic regression and multinomial regression has been used to perceive the linkage of caste, income and regional inequalities in the child and women's health. The result of the study exhibits that the women and children belong to SC, STs and poor households are more vulnerable and at greater risk of neonatal and infant death as compared to upper caste and prosperous households (Jungari and Chauhan, 2017). In the same way Desai and Dubey, 2011 conducted a study on caste in 21st century, in which they attempt to find out the caste disparity in income, expenditure, education and social network. For the sake of analysis, they used secondary data collected through IHDS (India Human Development Survey) 2005-06. By using logistic regression and multiple regression analysis the study came with the conclusion that caste disparity in income, expenditure, education and social network still exist in India. In other word population belongs to SC and STs are lacking behind in term of their socio-economic status as compared to OBCs and Forward caste. More pointedly the study elucidates that access to productive resources, particularly education and skills remains closely related to caste. Lower caste children continued to educationally disadvantage when compared to upper caste children.

A working paper discussed the effect of family and community background on an individual economic status. By using intergenerational data of USA from Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), the study summarizes that black individual, individual from lower income family and individual from more welfare dependent family are more

disadvantageous in terms of their economic status. Moreover, education of parent does not have any impact on economic status of individual (Corcoran, et al., 1989). A review article of similar kind state that “caste may be considered broadly as a proxy for socio-economic status and poverty. In the identification of the poor, scheduled caste and scheduled tribes and in some cases the other backward castes are considered as socially disadvantaged groups and such groups have a higher probability of living under adverse conditions and poverty. The health status and utilization patterns of such groups give an indication of their social exclusion as well as an idea of the linkages between poverty and health” (Nayar, 2007). A study went one step ahead and explore convergence in occupational structure among SCs and STs. The objective of study to investigate that whether the occupational structure change over time. This study uses five round of NSSO data from 1983 to 2004 to fulfill the targeted objective. For the purpose of analysis this paper uses various statistical and econometric tools as descriptive statistics, multinomial logit and Duncan Index for occupational dis-similarity. The study conclude that employees belong to SC category are able to come out of occupation with highest instance of poverty i.e. agriculture labour, over the period of time and leading to convergence of occupational type between SCs and OCCs (Other caste and classes). In contrast to this, the scenario for STs are still same as most of them are still working as the agricultural labourer. The two main reason for this dis-similarity are the geographical location of STs and political economy of public good provisioning in India. In nutshell it can be accepted that even after various effort of government, lower caste people are still at the margin in terms of their socioeconomic factors such as education, health, occupation, income, employment and poverty (Garg, et al., 2012).

The type of work done by an individual is also correlated with the caste which the individual belongs to. This fact can be understood in better sense by considering the relationship of caste and ownership of enterprises. The result of Fourth All India Economic Census 2005 reveals that 95 percent of total enterprises belongs to private sector. In rural India, 10 percentage of private enterprises belongs to SCs, 4.6 percent to STs and remaining 85 percent to other castes. More or less same situation exists in case of urban India. This shows the discrimination based on caste in ownership of private enterprises which is still exists in India even after 55 year of Independence. Further there is also a discrimination in type of enterprises hold by the entrepreneur. SC and ST households not only owned a smaller proportion of private enterprises, but among them they operate more of household enterprises which are with family labour. Own account enterprises are generally operated with low capital and use traditional techniques. The low turnover generates low income and results in high poverty among these households. Economic census divided the private enterprises in two category namely own account enterprises and establishment. The percentage share of hired worker-based enterprises was 33% for SC, 38 percentage of ST, 40 percentage for OBC and 51 percentage for higher caste (HC) (Thorat and Sadana, 2009). Tribal communities, women, minorities, disabled and certain other groups have always been in focus for researchers due to their higher levels of deprivation and discrimination from the ongoing process of development. The well-established “capability” and “entitlements” approach emphasizes upon the link between equity and development and propagates for social inequities to be an integral part of policy making and implementation. This study has further elaborated upon the exclusion process, emerging out of the growing liberalization and market-based growth policies, and importantly, he distinguishes between

active and passive exclusion. Exclusion has been accepted as one important implication of the development process, which has historical, social, cultural and political and many other contexts. Many instances of inequality exist in social and economic life and mainly in access and opportunities related to education, healthcare, land rights, employment and livelihood, nutrition and hygiene levels and more importantly, political representation. The development policy strategy has always laid emphasis on promoting equity in health and education between different social and occupational group not only in India but at the International level. World Bank, United Nations, OECD, in general and UNICEF, World Health Organization in particular always propagates for social equity as an essential prerequisite for development strategy. Equity is an important concern because it can reduce the risk faced by different social and occupational groups. Moreover, inequities are due to social, economic or behavioral factors and are in no way biological or natural for any society (Sen, 2006). Various studies have been conducted in context of socio-economic status all over the world, so it is quite relevant for this study to review this type of literature. A study carried out in Lebanon to explore the impact of socio-economic status on life expectancy. Socio-economic status is defined by the factors as food availability, per capita income, population growth, CO₂ emission and secondary school enrollment. The time period of study is from 1974 to 2014. The result of Johnson co-integration shows that socio-economic variables have significant impact on life expectancy in long run. In order to enhance the life expectancy at birth, government have to focus on enhancing the socio-economic status of the masses (Audi, et al., 2016). A state wise study of child labour have been conducted for India which tries to find out the demographic and socio-economic impact on child labor. The result of multivariate logit model suggests that labour

participation rate is negatively associated with wealth status and educational level of child as well as parent. The study also revealed that children belong to SC and ST community are more likely to be part of child labour as compared to other category. Moreover, states with low level of socio-economic status have more number of child labour as compared to states with high socio-economic status (Barman, 2011). A study is conducted to access the socio-economic status of Bhaxa Tribal farmer of Bijnor district of Uttar Pradesh. The study is based on primary data collected through the personal interviews using structured questionnaire. The outcome of the study depict that all tribal household has three acre of land which is given by government. The cultivated land of tribal farmers is without any form of irrigation which resulted in very low yield of crop per acre. The attitudinal analysis stipulates that tribal farmer are very keen to have new development in agriculture but they are facing difficulties in adopting new technology and irrigation facilities. Apart from that extension agencies should visit to the villages and interact with the farmer on regular basis to educate them about crop production technology (Awais and Singh, 2007). A study carried out to assess quality of life and socio-economic condition of the Oran tribe of Orissa. The study has taken 120 sample household to fulfil the objective out of which 60 are native and 60 are migrant. Quality of life Index have been worked out with the help of parameters such as housing, source of water used, sanitary facility, food nutrients intake, health and safety status, educational status, fuel and energy availability, assets possessed, own transportation means and per capita income. The minimum desired level of score for the mentioned parameters for a fair living condition was defined with a value of 40 on a scale of 0 to 100. The classification on the basis of total score used for an analysis is as follows: 1. <20- Poor, 2. 20-40 Average, 3. 40-60- Fair/Satisfactory and 4. >60 Good. The

influence of factors such as caste, age, sex, marital status, family type, per capita income, family size, nature of job has been seen on the quality of life of the respondent. The finding of the study shows that lack of money and interest along with alcoholism has led to the undoing of natives in their educational and occupational status. Thus, there is an urgent need to aware them about the education and health so that they will able to grasp the opportunities given by government and non-government organizations (Beck and Mishra, 2010). In West Bengal there is a study conducted for the socio-economic status of Toto tribe. The sample of 90 household has been taken and analyses by mean, S.E of mean and C.V. The result of the analysis suggest that they are basically dependent on cultivation but there landholding is very low and further most of them are illiterate and because of this they are forced to work only as labour. Due to all these factors most of the families comes under below poverty line. The study suggests that there is a need of more intensive development policy for the tribes (Das, 2011).

A theoretical research is conducted to understand the social and economic status of tribal women in India. The study discussed the fact that tribal women are very hard working and they are contributing significantly to the support their family but still they got stuck in the vicious circle of poverty because of no proper oriented toward them. Because of low educational status and poor health infrastructure in tribal areas these women are not able to gain sufficient income which can help them to move out of poverty. So, there is a serious need to enhance the literacy rate, health facility and opportunities to gain employment that will bring help to change the poor socio-economic status and to handle the challenge of poverty (Chatterjee, 2014).

(Chalam, 2017) questions the ongoing development discourse and strategies where tribal population have to face serious discrimination; displacement and marginalization from the mainstream process. Although, all the five year plans adopted an integrated and participatory approach for the tribal population through programmes aimed at socio-economic infrastructure creation to empowerment, collective welfare schemes to beneficiary oriented schemes; social justice to rights based approach, and many tribal specific institutions but the gap between tribal and non-tribal population has been a major concern in terms of landlessness; employment opportunities; monthly per capita expenditure; political participation and mobilization of tribal population in certain states in India. The author discusses some of the prominent welfare economists, and development thinkers to emphasize upon the issue of extraction of resources from underdeveloped tribal periphery to developed urban and agricultural centres in respective states. The author further discusses the benefits of the government programmes in the tribal areas of Jharkhand state related to investment in natural resources use, employment generation, poverty alleviation, food security, irrigation, marketing of local products, and establishes that these programmes have marginally successful in terms of resources non-diversion, implementation, suitability, integration and overall effectiveness.

Health deprivation is very common in case of indigenous people. The health inequalities between indigenous and non-indigenous is surely somewhere affected by respective socioeconomic status. Indigenous groups are facing spare mortality as compared to non-indigenous group. Moreover, they are more likely the inhaler of smoke and alcohol which ultimately results in the excess mortality among indigenous. Further health inequality also prevalence within the indigenous group and it can be understood by the fact that indigenous

people belonging to bottom quintile of specific standard of living index have an odds ratio for mortality of 1.61 (95% confidence interval 1.33–1.95) compared to indigenous peoples in the top fifth. More specifically, educational attainment and quality of life are the major factor for health-related diversity within the indigenous group (Subrmanian, et al., 2006). Inequalities and social exclusion in India, like in most of the developing countries, has been structural in nature and restricts the groups such as tribal and women to participate in the growth process. These disadvantaged groups are caught in an inequality trap. The report emphasizes upon social exclusion on the basis of Amartya Sen’s idea of “relational roots of deprivation” as a limiting force to acquisition or use of capabilities. Social exclusion, thus, have to be analyzed not only on the basis of outcomes but also on the basis of those processes leading to the outcomes. Income based poverty is seen as one among many causes of social exclusion. It broadly measures individual well-being, income, consumption, or human development levels in absolute terms. For the purpose of understanding social exclusion, non-economic determinants for equal access of basic goods and services like health, education, and livelihood are more critical. Certain groups in every society face unequal access to social protection policies implemented by formal and informal institutions which affect their well-being skill and human capital formation. Exclusion in this manner most of the time also affects their exercise and protection of basic human rights and liberties. The report observes that the geographical and cultural isolation of tribal groups has made them inaccessible. Moreover, it states that traditional patterns of landownership or asset ownership among the tribal communities are confronting the emerging development pattern and challenges. There is a location specific existence disadvantage for the tribal communities which are very much beyond health and education

facilities. This disadvantage/discrimination is quite different from the disadvantages faced by the SC communities and not based on historical or cultural factors. In certain parts of the country though landholdings are larger for STs but they have been restricted from selling their land-based products and continue to be in poverty, particularly in rural areas. As a consequence, forced migration and casual jobs increases the vulnerability and deprivation. The report highlights upon two important aspects of deprivation and rising poverty rates among STs in already underdeveloped states, “poverty levels, which are higher than the national average and in comparison with other groups (including SCs), and child mortality which is higher for STs not at birth level but at the age of 5, i.e., survival disadvantage”. Thus, physical segregation, poor delivery of health and education services, displacement from land and forests have emerged as the main factors for underdevelopment of tribal communities (World Bank Human Development Report, 2011).

In 1970s, there is no significant difference in socioeconomic condition defined by asset holding, income, occupation, consumption and poverty between the SCs and STs. But later on, the speed of poverty reduction among tribes is quite slow as compared to SCs and others. This is apparent with the fact that tribals seems clearly deprived in terms of education and health with their limited approachability to schools, hospitals, doctors and medicines (Maharatna, 2011). A study focused on the socioeconomic status of STs of Kalrayan hills of Tamil Nadu. Based on the sample size of 150 household the study resulted that most of the tribes are indulge in agricultural activities. Among them more than 50 percent have 2 to 3 acres of land and 30 percent have land below 1 acre. Further the study also expressed that most of the respondent have dependency on bank loan and among

which more than 50 percent are taking loan from co-operative bank, 24 percent from nationalized bank and 17 percent are taking from the private bank. The major purpose of loan is for agricultural related activities. Despite, this fact most of the respondent under the study are either illiterate or having only primary education. These are factors are responsible for their poor economic status. After considering several factors the study suggests that the Government has to provide provisions like loan facility and other development programme to improve their economic level (Jayakumar and Palaniyammal, 2016).

(Mehrotra and Delamonica, 2007) analyzed the question of differences in health and education outcomes within a country and access to equitable shares of public spending on social services for different groups in society based on income, gender, ethnicity, geographic distribution. Inequities in health and education systematically place people already socially disadvantaged at further disadvantage with respect to their health and education access; availability and outcomes. In developing countries, government often requires to provide social provisions on the basis of population size, while the quality of services and utilization of services are likely to depend on economic development in the region; it is often difficult to situate responsive private facilities in backwards regions. Moreover, in countries such as India, although, there has been a rapid rise in private providers of healthcare and education facilities, but the lack of quality and inadequacy of public facilities directly affects the development in poor regions. Deprived sections of the population restrict themselves from the use of essential services such as education, health care, hygiene etc. due to the lack of quality or assurance from the public social infrastructure. Such issues merit analytical and empirical investigations; poor quality of

public services in backward regions and increased role of private providers have different implications for health and education related outcomes.

Table 2.1 Brief Review of Literature

Author and Year	Data Source	Approach	Key Findings
Rao and Rao, (2010)	Primary Data	Logistic Regression	The result of the study suggests that the intra tribe variation are prevalent within the selected PTGs as well as among the selected plain tribes relating to socio economic conditions in the study area.
Jungari and Chauhan, (2017)	NFHS III Data (2005-06)	Logistic regression and Multinomial regression	The result of the study exhibits that the women and children belong to SC, STs and poor households are more vulnerable and at greater risk of neonatal and infant death as compared to upper caste and prosperous households.
Garg, et al., (2012)	NSSO Data (1983-2004)	Descriptive Statistics, Multinomial Logit and Duncan Index	It can be accepted that even after various effort of government, lower caste people are still at the margin in terms of their socioeconomic factors such as education, health, occupation, income, employment and poverty
Audi, et al., (2016)	Secondary Source	Johnson co-integration	Socio-economic variables have significant impact on life expectancy in long run
Awais and Singh, (2007)	Primary Data	Index	The finding of the study shows that lack of money and interest along with alcoholism has led to the undoing of natives in their educational and occupational status.
Das, (2011)	Primary Data	Mean, S.E of mean and C.V.	The result of the analysis suggest that they are basically dependent on cultivation but there landholding is very low and further most of them are illiterate and because of this they are forced to work only as labour. Due to all these factors most of the families comes under below poverty line.
Jayakumar and Palaniyammal, (2016)	Primary Data	Frequency and Percentage	The study suggests that the Government has to provide provisions like loan facility and other development programme to improve their economic level.

2.1 Research Gap

There have been many studies conducted for the tribes in India. But these are basically in the state where the percentage of tribal are high. In case of Uttar Pradesh none of the study focuses on tribes because only 0.6 percent of the total population belongs to schedule tribe. Tharu tribe is one of the oldest tribe of the Uttar Pradesh that got the status of schedule tribe in 1967. But, still there is lack of study in the literature concentrated on economic behavior on Tharu. Therefore, it is relevant to study the socio-economic status of Tharu tribe with economic point of view as they are also contributing to the economy.