



Role of Government Development Programmes in Uplifting the Socio-Economic status of the Yanadi tribe in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

Government development programmes are essential in uplifting the socio-economic status of the Yanadi tribe, contributing to their gradual progress. With increased access to education, improved sanitation (such as toilet usage), and a shift towards more diverse occupations, the Yanadi people have shown positive changes in their living standards. Initiatives like skill development, financial inclusion, and rural employment schemes have fostered economic growth and enhanced self-reliance.

Key words: Education, Occupation, Sanitation, Self-reliance, Uplifting.

Introduction

India is a country with the most inequalities. The top 10 per cent of the population hold 77 per cent of the total national wealth, and the richest 1 per cent of the population owns 53 per cent of the country's wealth. Focussing on the causes of these inequalities and ensuring the sustainability of the whole population through progressive policies is the need of the hour. Tribals are one of the weaker sections who fell back even before independence, and upholding the sustainability of these tribes will reduce these inequalities drastically.

Before India's tribal communities were largely marginalised and excluded from the mainstream socio-economic and political systems, British colonial administration exploited tribal lands, disrupting their traditional lifestyles through policies that alienated them from their resources. British laws, especially forest policies, restricted tribal access to forests, on which many communities depended for their livelihood. Tribal societies, often living in remote and isolated areas, were subjected to economic exploitation by landlords, moneylenders, and non-tribal settlers.

Later, the Government recognised the need to address the historical injustice faced by tribal communities. The Indian Constitution (1950) formally acknowledged the distinct cultural identity and socio-economic needs of tribals, providing special provisions for their welfare, including affirmative action in the form of reservations in education, jobs, and political representation. Tribals were classified as Scheduled Tribes (STs), and efforts were made to protect their rights through the establishment of Tribal Welfare Departments and the introduction of policies aimed at promoting their socio-economic development.

Uplifting tribal communities is essential to ensure social justice, as they have historically faced marginalisation and discrimination. It helps promote equality, giving them equal access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. Cultural preservation is crucial, as many tribes have unique traditions and languages that must be protected. Upliftment also addresses issues like land alienation and poverty, which affect tribal people disproportionately. Additionally, empowering tribals contributes to national development by improving human capital and social cohesion. By addressing these challenges, we uphold the human rights and dignity of tribal populations. Supporting tribal communities strengthens India's democratic values and ensures inclusive growth. Ultimately, upliftment fosters a more just and equitable society for all.

The Government of India and the Government of Andhra Pradesh have undertaken several initiatives for the upliftment of tribal communities, resulting in positive outcomes. There has been a notable improvement in the education, healthcare, and economic status of tribals. Employment opportunities for tribals have increased, and their rights over land and resources have been strengthened. Social acceptance of tribal communities has grown, and their traditions and cultures are being preserved. Healthcare services, housing facilities, and internet access have become more widely available. These actions have led to increased capacity within tribal communities. As a result, the social status of tribals has improved. There are higher education opportunities for tribal youth. These efforts have promoted self-reliance among tribals, enhancing their standard of living.

Objectives of the study

1. To study the status of the scheduled tribe in Andhra Pradesh
2. To compare the socio-economic status of Yanadi Tribals from 2021 to 2024 due to the implementation of Government tribal development programmes.
3. To suggest certain policy measures to strengthen the implementation process of various development programmes.

Hypothesis of the study

Null Hypothesis (H₀): There is no significant impact of development programmes on income and employment generation, as well as self-development of beneficiaries in Yanadi tribes.

Alternative Hypothesis (H_A): There is a significant impact of development programmes on income and employment generation, as well as self-development of beneficiaries in Yanadi tribes.

Test used: t-Test

Research Methodology

Andhra Pradesh is geographically divided into three main regions: Rayalaseema, South Coastal Andhra, and North Coastal Andhra. For the purpose of this study, Nellore district, situated in the South Coastal Andhra region, was deliberately selected through purposive sampling.

Nellore district has the highest tribal population of 2,15,452, out of which the Yanadi population is 1,76,341. There are 38 mandals in Nellore district, and they reside in all of them. The investigation encompasses four villages from four revenue divisions: Atmakur, Kavali, Kandukur, and Nellore.

Area survey encompasses four communities from four revenue divisions of Nellore district in Andhra Pradesh. A Multi-Stage Random Sampling Method was employed to determine the mandals, villages, and respondents. The following villages were designated for enrollment: Brahmanakraka in Jaladanki mandal, Kavali revenue division; Dachuru in Kaluvoya mandal, Atmakur revenue division; Chevuru in Gudluru mandal, Kandukur revenue division; and Chavatapalem in Venkatachalam mandal, Nellore revenue division. A total of 300 respondents have been selected in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh, with seventy-five respondents randomly selected from each selected village for research.

Tools of Data Collection

Data for this investigation will be collected from both primary and secondary sources. Primary data will be collected using a structured schedule, focusing on the socio-economic profile of beneficiaries and assessing the impact of various development programs on their income and employment. Secondary data will be sourced from official records available at the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) and the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) in Nellore district, as well as from the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) in Telangana. Additional insights will be drawn from various published and unpublished reports.

Tools of Analysis

Basic statistical tools like averages and percentages will be utilised for analysing collected data. The primary aim of the current paper is to examine key socio-demographic characteristics of selected beneficiary households, with particular focus on their social, educational, and economic development.

Data analysis

Null Hypothesis (H₀): There is no significant impact of development programmes on the level of education among beneficiaries in Yanadi tribes.

Alternative Hypothesis (H_A): There is a significant impact of development programmes on the level of education among beneficiaries in Yanadi tribes.

Table - 1**Paired Samples Statistics on Education**

Factors of Impact	Mean	N	SD	Std. Error Mean
Before	1.5267	300	.93033	.05371
After	1.5933	300	.94389	.05450

The above Table-1 shows the scores of education before and after beneficiaries availed themselves of the benefits of development programmes. It shows that the score of education before availing the benefits of development programmes is 1.52, and it has increased to 1.59 after availing the development programmes by the beneficiaries. Thus, it may be concluded that there's a significant difference in the education of beneficiaries, and for testing the impact of development programmes on the education of beneficiaries, the above null hypothesis is rejected.

Paired Samples Correlations

	N	Correlation	Sig.
Education- Before & After	300	.946	.000

The correlation coefficient between two factors is calculated, and it is found that the significance value is .000, which is less than 0.05. Thus, it is concluded that both factors are significantly correlated.

Paired Samples Test

Education	Paired Differences					t	df	Sig.(2-tailed)
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
				Lower	Upper			
Before	-	.30964	.01788	-	-	-	299	.000
After	.06667	-	-	.10185	.03149	3.729	-	-

This test was conducted to examine the differences between the two factors and found that, over the last three years, there has been a significant increase in education among the Yanadi tribals in the study area.

Table - 2
Paired Samples Statistics on types of houses

	Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Before	1.6067	300	.84913	.04902
After	1.6567	300	.86096	.04971

Table 2 shows the scores of different types of houses before and after the beneficiaries availed themselves of the benefits of development programmes. It shows that the score of types of houses before availing the benefits of development programmes is 1.60, and it has increased to 1.65 after availing the development programmes by the beneficiaries. Consequently, it may be concluded that there's a significant difference in the type of houses in beneficiaries, and for testing the impact of development programmes on the type of houses beneficiaries, the above null hypothesis is rejected.

Paired Samples Correlations

	N	Correlation	Sig.
House type Before & After	300	.945	.000

The correlation coefficient between two factors is calculated, and it is found that the significance value is .000, which is less than 0.05. Thus, it is concluded that both factors are significantly correlated.

Paired Samples Test

House type	Paired Differences					t	df	Sig.(2-tailed)
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
				Lower	Upper			
Before	-	.28479	.01644	-	-	-	299	.003
After	.05000	-	-	.08236	.01764	3.041	-	-

This test is conducted to examine differences between both factors and found that in last three years, there is a significant increase in the houses of the Yanadi tribes in the study area.

Table - 3
Paired Samples Statistics on the Toilet Facility

	Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Before	1.7167	300	.43937	.02537
After	1.7400	300	.45137	.02606

The above Table 3 shows the sort of toilet facility before and after availing the benefits of development programmes by the beneficiaries. It shows that the score of the toilet facility was 1.71 before, and it has increased to 1.74 after availing the development programmes by the beneficiaries. Consequently, it may be determined that there's a significant difference in toilet facilities of beneficiaries, and for testing the impact of development programmes on toilet facilities of beneficiaries, the above null hypothesis is rejected.

Paired Samples Correlations

	N	Correlation	Sig.
Toilet facility Before & After	300	.943	.000

The correlation coefficient between two factors is calculated, and it is found that the significance value is .000, which is less than 0.05. Thus, it is concluded that both factors are significantly correlated.

Paired Samples Test

Toilet facility	Paired Differences					t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
				Lower	Upper			
Before	-	.15121	.00873	-	-	-	299	.008
After	.02333	-	-	.00615	.04051	2.673	-	-

This test is concluded to examine differences between both factors and found that in the last three years, there is a significant increase in the toilet facilities of the Yanadi tribes in the study area.

Table - 4
Paired Samples Statistics on Cooking Fuel

	Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Before	1.1833	300	.38759	.02238
After	1.2033	300	.40315	.02328

Table 4 above shows the scores of cooking fuel before and after beneficiaries availed themselves of the benefits of development programs. It shows that the score of cooking fuel before availing the benefits of development programmes is 1.18, and it has increased to 1.20 after the beneficiaries availed themselves of the development programmes. Consequently, it can be concluded that there's a significant difference in cooking fuel among beneficiaries. To test the impact of development programmes on the cooking fuel of beneficiaries, the above null hypothesis is rejected.

Paired Samples Correlations

	N	Correlation	Sig.
Cooking fuel Before & Cooking fuel After	300	.938	.000

The correlation coefficient between two factors is calculated, and it is found that the significance value is .000, which is less than 0.05. Thus, it is concluded that both factors are significantly correlated.

Paired Samples Test

Cooking fuel	Paired Differences					t	df	Sig.(2-tailed)
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
				Lower	Upper			
Before	-	.14023	.00810	-	-	-	299	.014
After	.02000	-	-	.03593	.00407	2.470	-	-

This test is conducted to examine differences between both factors and found that in the last three years, there is a significant increase in the cooking fuel of the Yanadi tribe in the study area.

Table - 5
Paired Samples Statistics on Occupation

	Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Before	2.2467	300	1.26933	.07328
After	2.3067	300	1.34113	.07743

Table 5 above shows the scores of occupations before and after beneficiaries availed themselves of the benefits of development programs. It shows that the score of occupation before availing the benefits of development programmes is 2.24, and it has increased to 2.30 after the beneficiaries have availed themselves of the development programmes. Consequently, it may be assessed that there's a significant difference in occupation of beneficiaries, and for testing the impact on development programmes on occupation of beneficiaries, the above null hypothesis is rejected.

Paired Samples Correlations

	N	Correlation	Sig.
Occupation Before & Occupation After	300	.938	.000

The correlation coefficient between two factors is calculated, and it is found that the significance value is .000, which is less than .05. Thus, it is concluded that both factors are significantly correlated.

Paired Samples Test

Occupation	Paired Differences					t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
				Lower	Upper			
Before	-	.46597	.02690	-	-	-	299	.026
After	.06000	-	-	.11294	.00706	2.230	-	-

The test was conducted to examine the differences between the two factors and found that, over the last three years, there has been a significant increase in the occupation of the Yanadi tribe in the study area.

Findings of the study

These Tests were conducted to examine differences between both factors and found that the Yanadi tribes are significantly increasing in the study area.

- From the analysis, it is found that the mean value of the education has increased slightly from 1.52 to 1.59. Though the increase seems to be nominal, it helps Jagananna Vidya Deevena (JVD), Jagananna Ammavodi, etc.
- From the analysis, it is found that the mean value of the type of house has increased from 1.60 to 1.65. Three years ago, most people lived in huts and semi-built houses, but now more people live in constructed houses. They are able to build houses through schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) and Pedalandariki Illu (Navaratnalu), all implemented by the government.
- From the analysis, it is found that the mean value of the Toilet facility has increased slightly from 1.71 to 1.74 with the help of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM).
- From the analysis, it is found that the mean value of the cooking fuel has slightly increased from 1.18 to 1.20. The government program called Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) offers women living below the poverty line (BPL) free LPG connections.
- From the analysis, it is found that the mean value of the change of occupation (employment from the primary sector) has increased slightly from 2.24 to 2.30. Government programmes like YSR Cheyutha, YSR Asara (Navaratnalu), and Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) have led to an increased role of tribals in society and a change in occupation.

Suggestions of the study

- Although the government is implementing Ammavodi and Vidya Divena schemes, literacy is not increasing at the expected level, compared to mainstream society. So, in the tribal schools' focus should be on developing communication skills and also providing aid to the tribals in getting good jobs.
- Sewerage facilities are very limited in tribal areas. As part of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), the

government should organise awareness camps on sewage facilities and collect dry and wet waste from tribal areas as well.

- Government schemes are still not reaching the people below the Poverty Line (BPL), so the government should identify them and provide housing to them.
- There are nominal resources in the tribal areas for business development. But Apiculture could be a successful business plan in these areas. The ITDA should train tribals in Apiculture, and the Central Government should provide loans through Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY).
- The majority of the Yanadis still depend on agriculture and its allied sectors for their livelihood. Moreover, their income is low as they are daily wage and unskilled labourers. So, handicraft jobs should be increased, skill training classes should be provided to the youth, and businesses should be set up by them, and if loans are granted on full subsidy, their income level will increase.

CONCLUSION

The government's current programs have brought significant changes in the status of tribal communities. Tribals have made progress in areas like education, healthcare, and economic independence. These government efforts have contributed to improving their social status and standard of living. Through community-based initiatives and local awareness, tribals have gained better opportunities. If government programs are effectively implemented, they can contribute to the socio-economic and cultural development of tribals. This leads to improved living standards and overall holistic progress.

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