



Changing trends in the Tribal Population of Andhra Pradesh – A note

KEYWORDS

Tribal, Population Trends, Sex Ratio

Dr. M. Rani

Assistant Professor, Sri Rama Krishna Degree & P.G College, Nandyal – 518501

ABSTRACT Tribals are the most neglected social group in the Indian society. This paper highlights the changing trends in tribal population in India vis-à-vis Andhra Pradesh. The paper also focuses on the contribution of different castes in tribes in Andhra Pradesh and changing sex ratio among tribals as per 2001 census.

Introduction

In India development of backward regions and communities has assumed greater significance. Indian constitutions provided several amenities for the welfare of backward communities. Among such backward communities, Tribals record high intensity in their backwardness. The Tribal population of the country as per 2001 Census is 8.34 Cr, constituting 8.2 percent of the total population with 91.7 percent of them living in rural areas and 8.3 percent in urban areas. The population of tribes had grown at the growth rate 24.45 percent during the period of 1991 – 2001. More than half of the Tribal Population is concentrated in the states, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Jharkhand and Gujarat. The main concentration of the tribal population is in central India and Eastern States; however they have their presence in all states and Union Territories except in the states of Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Pondicherry and Chandigarh.

Definition of Scheduled Tribe

The term **Scheduled Tribes** first appeared in the constitution of India. Article 366 (25) defines Scheduled Tribes as "such tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution". Hill tops, slopes, dense forests and other isolated areas being their normal places of inhabitation, the tribals remain segregated from the normal civic life.

Objectives of the Paper

The Present paper purports to focus on the following:

To identify the trends in ST Population of India vis-à-vis Andhra Pradesh.

To state and express the changing trends in different castes of Tribal Population of Andhra Pradesh.

To highlight the differences in sex ratios of different castes in Tribes of Andhra Pradesh.

Table 1. Trends in Proportion of Scheduled Tribe Population in the total population of India.

Census Year	Total Population (In Millions)	ST Population (In Millions)	Proportion of ST's Population
1961	439.2	30.1	6.9
1971	547.9	38.0	6.9
1981	665.3	51.6	7.8
1991	838.6	67.8	8.1
2001	1028.6	84.3	8.2

Source: Census of India, 2001.

Table 1. illustrates ST population which was just 30.1 million in 1961, and constituting 6.9 percentage of the total population later increased to 84.3 million by 2001, with a share of 8.2 percentage of the total population. From the Census, 2001 it also clear that more than two thirds of ST population reside in seven states namely Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. In two states Punjab and Haryana and in the three Union Territories, Puducherry, Delhi and Chandigarh it is noticed nil ST population, where as in 16 states and 4 Union Territories record a higher percentage of ST population when compared to the National average i.e., 8.2 percentage.

The Tribes in Andhra Pradesh

The Tribes in Andhra Pradesh varied in ethnic composition and cultural patterns. The Scheduled Areas spread over in 9 districts of the state, ranges 31, 485.34 sq.kms. The details of the Tribes living in the state are outlined in the table below.

Table 2. Details of Tribes in Andhra Pradesh

S. No.	Name of the Tribe	Population
1.	Andh	9,735
2.	Bagata	1,33,434
3.	Bhil	421
4.	Chenchu	49,232
5.	Gadaba	36,078
6.	Gond, Naikpod	2,52,038
7.	Goudu	7,749
8.	Hill Reddy	77
9.	Jatputs	1,18,613
10.	Kammara	45,010
11.	Kattunayakan	161
12.	Kolam, Mannervaru	45,671
13.	Konda Dora	2,06,381
14.	Konda Reddi	83,096
15.	Khonds	85,324
16.	Kotia	48,408
17.	Koya	5,68,019
18.	Kulia (Mulias)	368
19.	Mali	2513
20.	Manne Dora	13,579
21.	Mukha	37,983
22.	Nayak	14,222
23.	Pardhan	23,724
24.	Porja	32,669
25.	Reddidora	1,721

26.	Rona	200
27.	Savara	1,22,979
28.	Lambada	20,77,947
29.	Thoti	2,074
30.	Valmiki	66,814
31.	Yanadi	4,62,167
32.	Yerukala	4,37,459
	Total	50,24,104

Source: Census of India, 2001.

From the table 2 It can be deduced that Lambadas dominate in population followed by Koyas, Yanadi, Yerukala respectively. Coming to least population Hill Reddy, Kattunayakan, Rona occupy the last places. ST's shown in total population amounted to 6.59 percent of the total population and it was just 3.68 percent in 1961.

Table 3. Details of Percentage of ST Population in total Population of Andhra Pradesh

Census Year	Total Population	Tribal Population	%of ST population of Total population
1961	3,59,83,447	13,24,368	3.68
1971	4,35,02,708	16,57,657	3.81
1981	5,35,49,673	31,76,001	5.92
1991	6,65,08,008	41,99,481	6.31
2001	7,62,10,007	50,24,104	6.59

Source: Census of India, 2001.

From the table 3 it can be observed that the tribal population in the year 1961 was 13, 24,368 and representing only 3.68 percent of the total population. Census report 1971, reveals that Tribal population recorded 16, 57,657 and was slightly higher than the preceding census. Coming to 1981 Census, the Tribal Population almost doubled and the percentage rose to 5.92 percentage. According to 1991 Census, ST population was 41, 99,481, constituting 6.31 percentage of the total population; finally the 2001 Census registered ST population as 6.59 percentage, of the total population. In total Population as per 2001 census the ST population represents 8.2 percent in National wise while it is 6.59 percent in Andhra Pradesh.

Table 4 changing trends in share of different tribes in the total tribal population of Andhra Pradesh.

Sl. No.	TRIBE	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
1.	Andh	0.110	0.145	0.188	0.195	0.193
2.	Bagata	4.164	4.322	2.770	2.611	2.655
3.	Bhil	0.006	0.033	0.008	0.007	0.008
4.	Chenchu	1.329	1.458	0.895	0.973	0.979
5.	Gadaba	1.649	1.514	0.873	0.788	0.718
6.	Gond, Naik-pod	10.848	9.500	5.336	5.049	5.016
7.	Goudu	0.256	0	0.282	0.268	0.154
8.	Hill Reddy	0.294	0.259	0.012	0.010	0.001
9.	Jatputs	4.741	4.482	2.723	2.495	2.360
10.	Kammara	1.859	2.152	1.150	1.062	0.895
11.	Kattunayakan	0.005	0.017	0.0125	0.015	0.003
12.	Kolam, Man-nervaru	1.263	1.598	0.687	0.982	0.909
13.	Konda Dora	6.562	6.126	4.384	4.270	4.107
14.	Konda Kapu	2.251	2.299	0.882	0.830	0.234
15.	Konda Reddi	2.675	2.580	1.721	1.819	1.653
16.	Khonds	1.642	2.073	1.240	1.586	1.698
17.	Kotia	0.831	1.079	0.990	0.990	0.963
18.	Koya	16.622	17.206	11.328	10.870	11.305
19.	Kulia (Mulias)	0.006	0.011	0.013	0.012	0.007
20.	Mali	0.108	0.119	0.077	0.069	0.050
21.	Manne Dora	0.640	0.565	0.597	0.507	0.270
22.	MukhaDora	0.752	0.798	0.549	0.706	0.756

23.	Nayak	0.219	0.239	0.205	0.561	0.283
24.	Pardhan	0.732	0.688	0.504	0.485	0.472
25.	Porja	0.705	0.745	0.518	0.575	0.650
26.	Reddidora	0.236	0.316	0.166	0.135	0.034
27.	Rona	0.001	0.001	0.007	0.008	0.003
28.	Savara	5.148	4.900	2.585	2.511	2.447
29.	Lambada	7.261	7.991	36.471	39.097	41.359
30.	Thoti	0.041	0.107	0.044	0.087	0.041
31.	Valmiki	1.687	1.747	1.352	1.329	1.329
32.	Yanadi	15.507	14.442	10.089	9.423	9.198
33.	Yerukala	9.666	9.806	9.463	9.236	8.707
34.	Unspecified	0.165	0.666	1.862	0.423	0.526

Source: Census of India.

From the forgoing table 4 it is clear that there are 33 specified tribes residing in Andhra Pradesh. The table illustrates the percentage of a specific tribe in the total ST population. The tribe Andh population represents only 0.11 percent of the total ST population in 1961, gradually rose to 0.188 percent and 0.195 percent during the decades 1981 and 1991, but the tribe noticed a negative growth during the decade 2001 and registers 0.193 percentage of the total ST population. In particular the tribe Hill Reddy with 0.001percentage, records least share in overall tribal population followed by the tribes Rona (0.003), Kattunayakan (0.003) and Bhil (0.008). The tribe Lambada record 7.261 percent in 1961, the same tribe rose to 36.471 percent by 1981 and finally the share reached to 41.359 percent by 2001 census. According to the 1961 census tribes Bagata, Gond and Naikpod records 4.164 percent and 10.848 percent respectively the same tribes records only half of their share namely 2.655 and 5.016.

Table 5 District wise Sex Ratio of scheduled Tribe population is as follows:

Sl.No	District	1981	1991	2001
1	Srikakulam	988	994	1009
2	Vizianagaram	995	1002	1025
3	Visakapatnam	967	987	1003
4	EastGodavari	982	995	1011
5	West Godavari	997	1007	1018
6	Krishna	957	948	949
7	Guntur	949	939	962
8	Prakasham	945	936	949
9	Nellore	939	946	961
10	Chittoor	937	939	969
11	Kadapa	918	926	939
12	Ananthapur	960	935	935
13	Kurnool	947	933	929
14	Mahaboobnagar	958	945	947
15	RangaReddy	952	938	946
16	Hyderabad	912	922	935
17	Medak	953	941	951
18	Nizamabad	958	934	994
19	Adilabad	988	973	987
20	Karimnagar	957	962	979
21	Warangal	937	935	944
22	Khammam	972	967	984
23	Nalgonda	944	925	921
Total		962	960	972

Source: Census of India, 2001.

The table 5 illustrates that the sex ratio which was 962 in 1981, decreased to 960 by 1991, and by 2001 it rose to 972. Vizianagaram district recorded very high sex ratio compared to all other Districts both in 1981 and 2001 census and also very high when compared to National and State wide Sex ratio. According to 1991 census West Godavari recorded highest sex ratio. Vizianagaram, East Godavari, Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam had higher sex ratios according to 2001 census.

Conclusion

Tribal population in India is increasing in quantity as well as a share of total population in India. Though ST population represents a smaller share in Andhra Pradesh as compared to Indian population, the trends show that the share of ST population in Andhra Pradesh is increasing census after census. A noticeable factor is the changing sex ratio in tribal population of Andhra Pradesh. Different districts of Andhra Pradesh witnessed different sex ratios. The trends may be attributed to the social cultural factors and the traditions and superstitions they believe and practice. The increasing in quantity and share of ST population is augur well feature if it is healthy and resourceful.

REFERENCE

- Census of India, 2001.
Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Annual Report 2006 – 07.
Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Annual Report 2011 – 12.