

# Tribal Welfare and Development Schemes – Impact on the Scheduled Tribes of Sittheri Hills Dharmapuri District in Tamilnadu

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***Abstract--**Most of the areas occupied by the tribes are remote and immature. There are countless constraints dependable for minor pace of tribal development process than desired. The Tribals have been given many rights and concessions under different statutes of central as well as State Governments but they remain deprived of the benefits arising out of such constitutional provisions due to their unawareness and indifference of enforcing agencies. The tribal people are unaware about various developmental programmes launched by Government of India and States, therefore reluctant in their use. In malice of the labors made by the Government, the reimbursements are not disbursed to the really deprived poor people. The basic difficulty is not of the shortage of income but that of misconduct. The multiplicity of the agencies which transport out these programmes has compounded the difficulty. Many times they are not able to organize their efforts or fail to follow up the programmes over a longer extent. Against this environment, the study reviews the impact of different developmental programmes of the Central and the State Governments on the Scheduled Tribes of Sittheri Hills Dharmapuri District in Tamilnadu*

***Keywords--**Tribal People, Rural Development, Scheduled Tribes, Developmental programmes*

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Tribe is a term used to describe certain human social groups. Some scholars dislike the term because it lacks a precise meaning and has been applied to many widely different groups. In addition, many of the peoples called tribes consider the term offensive or inaccurate. A tribe viewed traditionally or developmentally, consists of a social group obtainable before the improvement of, or outside of, states. Many anthropologists use the word to refer to society's prepared largely on the basis of kinship particularly corporate fall groups.

### **Tribal Development Department in Tamil Nadu**

The Directorate of Tribal Welfare was bifurcated from the erstwhile Directorate of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare with effect from 01.04.2000 exclusively for the welfare of tribal people. It is functioning as an independent unit having full powers in terms of administration and finance towards the subjects pertaining to tribal welfare as ordered in G.O. (Ms.) No.56, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare (ADW1) Department, Dated: 28.08.2017. A variety of new schemes are implemented by this department for increasing and bringing the tribals on par with the social, economic and educational position of the State. The Government of Tamil Nadu pays special interest for the improvement of tribal people in 18 districts i.e. Ariyalur, Salem, Villupuram, Tirunelveli, Vellore, Namakkal, Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Tiruvannamalai, Erode, Tiruchirappalli, Dharmapuri, Cuddalore, Madurai, Krishnagiri, and Chennai.

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## **Scheduled Tribes of Tamil Nadu**

As per the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act 1976, there are 36 Tribal communities in Tamil Nadu. They are 1. Adiyar 2. Aranadan 3. Kanikaran or Kanikkar 4. Irular 5. Kadar 6. Kammara 7. Malai Vedan 8. Kaniyan or Kanyan 9. Kattunayakan 10. Kochuvelan 11. KondaKapus 12. Kondareddis 13. Koraga 14. Mannan 15. Kudiya or Melakudi 16. Kurichechan 17. Kurumbas 18. Kurumans 19. MahaMalasar 20. Malai Arayan 21, Malai Pandaram 22, Eravallan 23, Malaikkuravan 24, Malasar 25, Malayali 26. Malayakandi 27. Kota 28. Mudugaror Muduvan 29. Muthuvan 30. Pallayan 31. Palliyan 32. Palliyar 33. Paniyan 34. Sholaga 35. Toda 36. Uraly.

## **Tribal Development Schemes in Tamilnadu**

### **1. Tribal Sub-plan (TSP)**

The Tribal Sub-Plan was implemented in Tamil Nadu from the year 1976-77, which paved the way for flow of funds from the State Annual Plan Outlay to TSP for the socio-economic & educational development of the Scheduled Tribes in proportion to their population (1.10%) in the State.

This Department has been designated as the Nodal Department and the Additional Chief Secretary to Government of this Department is the Nodal Officer for the formulation and implementation of TSP at State Level. The Director, Tribal Welfare is entrusted with monitoring and reviewing of the schemes at District level.

The schemes under Tribal Sub Plan are implemented through 17 Sectoral Departments comprising 38 Heads of Departments for the Welfare and Development of the Tribes. For effective implementation of the schemes, the Nodal Officers of sectoral departments are closely coordinating with the Tribal Welfare Department. For the year 2018-19, a sum of Rs.794.25 crore (1.43%) has been allocated under TSP (Expenditure on Tribal Welfare) out of the State's Total Annual Plan Outlay (Welfare Expenditure of the State) of Rs.55498.16 crore, which is over and above the percentage of Scheduled Tribes population in Tamil Nadu.

### **2. Grants-in-aid**

The Government of India is allocating funds under the following schemes:-

- (i) Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan of India
- (ii) Article-275(1) of the Constitution of India and
- (iii) Scheme for Principally Vulnerable Tribal Groups.

#### **(i) Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP)**

Under this scheme 60% of the fund is utilized for income generating activities such as Provision of Power Tillers, Construction of Houses, Provision of Beehive Boxes, Implementation of Forest Rights Act, Provision of Petty Shops and 30% of the above fund is utilized for creating infrastructure facilities in tribal areas such as repair and maintenance of school buildings, construction of toilet blocks and provision of bore well. The remaining 10% of the fund is utilized for creating employment opportunities to tribal people.

#### **(ii) Article 275 (1) of Constitution of India**

Provision of Foot Over Bridges, Link Roads, Electrification, Check Dams, Screening Test for Sickle Cell Anaemia etc., are the schemes implemented in Tribal areas from the Grant-in-aid released by the

Government of India under Article 275(1) of Constitution of India. This fund is also being utilized for the completion of “The Scheduled Tribes and additional customary Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

Funds have also been earmarked for the recurring expenditure for the existing six Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) functioning at Vellimalai in Villupuram, Abinavam in Salem, Athipattu in Tiruvannamalai District, Kodappamandhu in The Nilgiris District, Athanavur in Vellore District and Sengarai in Namakkal District. A new Eklavya Model Residential School has been started in Pattipulam village, Kancheepuram District.

### **(iii) Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)**

The Government of India is sanctioning Grants-in-aid every year for the development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.

Facilities like construction of traditional houses, distribution of milch animals, provision of drinking water facilities, street lights, construction of Primary Health Centers and for economic activities, providing Fishing Nets and Two Wheelers, Provision of Beehive boxes, Construction of Brick kiln, Provision of Borewells, construction of check dam for irrigation facility, Road facilities, Baseline survey of PVTGs, etc., are undertaken under this scheme. Steps have been taken for the construction of school buildings for the EMR School started in June 2018 at Pattipulam in Kancheepuram District.

Shuttle services of two Eicher Cabs have been provided in the Nilgiris District for the conveyance of people and students from the hill to plain area and vice versa.

### **(iv) Implementation of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006**

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 was enacted by Government of India and came into existence on 29.12.2006. Tribals residing in the forests prior to 13.12.2005 and other traditional forest dwellers residing in the forests for 3 generations i.e. for 75 years as on 13.12.2005 are eligible for rights under this Act.

Implementation of this Act is being monitored by the following Committees:

- i) State Level Monitoring Committee headed by the Chief Secretary.
- ii) District Level Committee headed by the District Collector.
- iii) Sub-Divisional Level Committee headed by the Revenue Divisional Officer.

To protect and legitimize the land ownership of the Scheduled Tribes in the forest areas, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been implemented in 17 Districts. Action is being taken by the District Collectors for the issuance of individual and community rights under the Forest Rights Act 2006. So far 5170 Individual Rights and 254 Community Rights have been distributed to the beneficiaries.

### 3. Education

#### (i) Schools

In order to develop the literacy of Tribal people in the course of education, this Department has recognized and is running Residential schools close to their habitations.

**Table 1** Details of schools functioning under Tribal Welfare Department and student's strength

Sl. No	Classification of Schools	No. of School	No. of Students
1	Government Tribal Residential School (GTR)	308	26,388
2	Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)	7	1,553
	Total	315	27,941

**Source:** Tribal Welfare Department Government of Tamil Nadu

#### (ii) Hostel

This department has constructed and is running hostels with many facilities close to the schools and colleges for the benefit of the tribal students.

**Table 2** Details of Hostels functioning under Tribal Welfare Department and student's strength

Sl. No	Classification	No. of School/ Hostels	No. of Students
1	Tribal Hostels	43	2,325
2	GTR Schools	315	2,7943
	Total	358	30,266

#### **Assistance to the Schools and Hostels run by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)**

The Government is providing feeding charges as grant to the hostels run by 6 NGOs through which 887 tribal students are benefitted. Moreover, miscellaneous charges and other allowances are also provided to the hostels run by the NGOs as provided to the inmates of the Government hostels.

#### **Grants by State Government to the NGO for the Welfare of Tribals**

##### (i) Murugu Trust

For the Educational advancement of Tribal students, the NGO named Murugu Trust is running a Middle School and Hostel in Kalrayan Hills in Villupuram District. A sum of Rs.2,55,930/- has been sanctioned as food & miscellaneous charges for 50 Tribal students staying in the above hostel for the year 2017-18.

##### (ii) Society for Rural Development (SFRD)

The Society for Rural Development is running a school and hostel at Jawadhu hills in Tiruvannamalai District for tribal students. In this school, 2560 students are studying from 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Standard. Teaching grant is being sanctioned since 2005. A sum of Rs. 2.31 Crore has been sanctioned as grant by the Government towards salary for 36 teaching and 7 non teaching posts. Moreover, food charges and miscellaneous charges for 550 Tribal students staying in the Trust's hostel is also provided by this Government.

## **Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP)**

Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP) is implemented in 10 areas covering the following 7 Districts, where the Tribal population is 50% or more.

1	Salem	Yercaud, Pachamalai, Aranuthumalai & Kalrayan Hills.
2	Namakkal	Kolli Hills
3	Villupuram	Kalrayan Hills
4	Tiruvannamalai	Jawadhu Hills
5	Tiruchirappalli	Pachamalai
6	Dharmapuri	Sittheri Hills
7	Vellore	Jawadhu & Yelagiri Hills

To implement the Tribal Welfare Schemes in the Integrated Tribal Development Programme areas in the above districts, 7 Project Offices have been established and are functioning under the control of Project Officers, vide G.O. Ms. No.34, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, Dated: 25.04.2017

## **II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To discuss the status of tribals in India in general and Tamil Nadu in particular.
2. To narrate the socio-economic dimensions and resource endowment of Dharmapuri District.
3. To critically analyse the various governmental programmes introduced and implemented for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.
4. To assess the impact of development and welfare programmes on the generation of additional income and employment among the sample households; and
5. To suggest measures, in the light of the empirical study, for the effective Implementation of Scheduled tribes developmental and welfare programmes for enhancement of livelihood opportunities of tribals.

## **III. METHODOLOGY**

Keeping in view of the objectives of the study in mind a combination of historical and personal interview methods are employed in this study. To understand the concept of Scheduled Tribe, to study the demographic profile and growth of STs, to study the programmes initiated for the development of Scheduled Tribes and to study the profile of sample area, the method followed is historical and descriptive. To examine the socio-economic profile of sample ST respondents, to study the knowledge and awareness of respondents on various schemes and to assess the impact governmental programmes, the method followed is personal interview method.

## Sampling

For effective study of the impact of the welfare and developmental programmes on Scheduled Tribe population, multi-stage random sampling method was followed. In the first stage three income divisions in the district are selected. In the second stage two rural Mandals which registered maximum Scheduled Tribe population in the individual revenue division was selected. In the third stage one village or hamlet which was exclusively inhabited by Scheduled Tribe community and another village or hamlet where more than 50 per cent of populations belonging to Scheduled Tribe community were selected. In the fourth stage from each selected village or hamlet 30 Scheduled Tribe beneficiary respondents were selected by simple random sampling method. So the universe of the sample constitutes 350.

### Heterogeneous Village/ Hamlet

For the present study a homogeneous village/hamlet is one, where all the inhabitants belong to Scheduled Tribe community. These are popularly known as ‘Tandas’ in local parlance.

### Heterogeneous Village/ Hamlet

For the present study a heterogeneous village/hamlet, where the Scheduled Tribe population lives along with other categories of population is selected.

## IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### Impact on Income of Sample Respondent Households

The opinions of sample respondents on the impact of tribal developmental programmes on income levels of their households are presented in table 3.

**Table 3:** Impact on Income generation

Responses	Habitation Wise Coverage of Respondents				Total	
	Homogeneous		Heterogeneous			
	No of Respondents	Percentage	No of Respondents	percentage	No of Respondents	Percentage
Significantly Increased	47	26.85	44	25.14	91	26
Marginally Increased	79	45.14	75	42.86	154	44
Status Quo/ No Change	31	17.72	39	22.29	70	20
No Response	18	10.29	17	9.71	35	10
Total	175	100	175	100	350	100

**Source:** Field Data

The data in table 3 shows that majority of the homogeneous habitation and heterogeneous habitation respondents declared that there is marginal increase in income generation due to tribal developmental

programmes. In this regard homogeneous habitation respondents are quite ahead with 45.14 per cent. Nearly 26.85 per cent of homogeneous habitation respondents reported significant change in income generation due to tribal developmental programmes. With regard to status quo in income levels heterogeneous habitation respondents are ahead with 22.29 per cent. About 9.71 per cent of heterogeneous habitation respondents and 10.29 per cent of homogeneous habitation respondents denied answering.

The study indicates that as many as 44 per cent of the sample respondents reported marginal increase in their income by being beneficiaries of rural development programmes. About 26 per cent of the total sample reported significant change and 20 per cent of the respondents reported status quo in their income levels. Around 10 per cent of the respondents have no opinion on the impact of tribal developmental programmes on their income levels.

### Chi-Square Test

The tabulated value of  $\chi^2_{\alpha}$  for 3 degrees of freedom and  $\alpha=0.05$  is 7.81. The calculated value of  $\chi^2_{\alpha}$  is 1.14562, the calculated value is less than the tabulated value. So the hypothesis is proved. This means there is close relationship between tribal development programmes and income generation of respondents in Dharmapuri district.

**Table 4:** Chi-Square Test on Income Generation

	Oij	eij	oij-eij	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup>	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup> /eij
91	47	45.5	1.5	2.25	0.04945
91	44	45.5	-1.5	2.25	0.04945
154	79	77	2	4	0.05194
154	75	77	-2	4	0.05194
70	31	35	-4	16	0.45714
70	39	35	4	16	0.45714
35	18	17.5	0.5	0.25	0.01428
35	17	17.5	-0.5	0.25	0.01428
	350	350			1.14562

Calculated Value:1.14562

Table value:7.815

### Impact on Permanent Assets

**Table 5:** Impact on Permanent Assets

Responses	Habitation Wise Coverage of Respondents				Total	
	Homogeneous		Heterogeneous			
	No of Respondents	Percentage	No of Respondents	percentage	No of Respondents	Percentage
Significantly Increased	40	22.86	42	24	82	23.43
Marginally	69	39.43	50	28.57	119	34

Increased						
Status Quo/ No Change	50	28.57	65	37.14	115	32.86
No Response	16	9.14	18	10.29	34	9.71
Total	175	100	175	100	350	100

**Source:** Field Data

The impact of tribal developmental programmes on the creation of permanent assets like land, building etc in the households of sample respondents was presented in table 5 as registered during field survey. As per table 5, there are wider variations among homogeneous and heterogeneous habitation respondents with regard to their possession of permanent assets. Among the homogeneous habitation respondents nearly 39.43 per cent declared that there is a marginal increase in their possession of permanent assets.

While 37.14 per cent of heterogeneous habitation respondents stated that there is no change in their possession of permanent assets. With regard to significant increase, heterogeneous habitation respondents are ahead with 23.33 per cent, followed by homogeneous habitation respondents with 22.86 per cent. About 10.29 per cent of heterogeneous and 9.14 per cent of homogeneous habitation respondents have not responded.

The study makes it clear that as many as 32.86 per cent of the sample respondents reported a marginal increase in their permanent assets by being beneficiaries of tribal development programmes. About 23.43 per cent of the total sample reported significant change and 32.86 per cent of the respondents reported status quo in their permanent assets. Around 9.71 per cent of the respondents have no opinion on the impact of tribal developmental programmes on their permanent assets.

### Chi-Square Test

**Table 6:** Chi-Square Test on Possession of Permanent Assets

	Oij	eij	oij-eij	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup>	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup> /eij
82	40	41	-1	1	0.0243
82	42	41	1	1	0.0243
119	69	59.5	9.5	90.25	1.5168
119	50	59.5	-9.5	90.25	1.5168
115	50	57.5	-7.5	56.25	0.9782
115	65	57.5	7.5	56.25	0.9782
34	16	17	-1	1	0.0588
34	18	17	1	1	0.0588

Calculated Value: 5.1562                      Table value: 7.815

The critical value of the chi-square with 3 degrees of freedom at 5 percent level of significance equals 7.81. Since the sample value of  $\chi^2$  is less than the critical value; there is no sufficient data to reject the null hypothesis. Therefore, the hypothesis is proved. That is, there is a close relationship between tribal development programmes and possession of permanent assets of respondents in Dharmapuri district.



### Impact on Possessing of Household Durables

The improved economic status and purchasing capacity of the respondents is expected to encourage the tribals to acquire more and more household comforts. The opinions of the sample respondents on the impact of tribal development programmes on the possession of household assets are presented in table 7.

**Table 7:** Impact on Household Durables of the Family

Responses	Habitation Wise Coverage of Respondents				Total	
	Homogeneous		Heterogeneous			
	No of Respondents	Percentage	No of Respondents	percentage	No of Respondents	Percentage
Significantly Increased	65	37.14	51	29.14	116	33.14
Marginally Increased	71	40.57	67	38.29	138	39.43
Status Quo/ No Change	25	14.29	40	22.86	65	18.57
No Response	14	8	17	9.71	31	8.86
Total	175	100	175	100	350	100

Source: Field Data

It is evident from table 7 that nearly 77.71 per cent of homogeneous habitation respondents stated that there is some kind of improvement in their possession of household durables. To be precise 40.57 per cent reported marginal increase and 37.14 per cent reported significant increase in their possession of household durables. But it declined to 67.43 per cent in case of heterogeneous habitation respondents. Among them 38.29 per cent reported marginal increase and 29.14 per cent reported significant increase in their possession of household durables. With regard to status quo in the possession of household durables heterogeneous habitation respondents tops the list with 22.86 per cent. However, it declined to 14.29 per cent in case of homogeneous habitation respondents. Neither increase nor status quo was reported by 9.71 per cent and 8 per cent of heterogeneous and homogeneous habitation respondents respectively.

The study indicates that nearly 39.43 per cent of total sample declared that there is marginal increase in their possession of household durables. About 33.14 per cent reported significant increase. No change was reported by 18.57 per cent of total sample. Negligible percentage respondents have not responded.

### Chi-Square Test

**Table 8:** Chi-Square Test on Possession of Household Durables

	Oij	eij	oij-eij	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup>	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup> /eij
116	65	58	7	49	0.8448
116	51	58	-7	49	0.8448

138	71	69	2	4	0.0579
138	67	69	-2	4	0.0579
65	25	32.5	-7.5	56.25	1.7307
65	40	32.5	7.5	56.25	1.7307
31	14	15.5	-1.5	2.25	0.1451
31	17	15.5	1.5	2.25	0.1451

Calculated Value: 5.557                      Table value: 7.81

The critical value of the chi-square at 5 per cent level of significance with 3 degrees of freedom is given by 7.81. The calculated value of the chi-square falls in the rejection region. Therefore, the hypothesis is disproved and one can conclude that there is no close relationship between tribal development programmes and possession of household durables of respondents in Dharmapuri district.

### Impact on the Livestock income

**Table 9:** Impact on Livestock Income

Responses	Habitation Wise Coverage of Respondents				Total	
	Homogeneous		Heterogeneous			
	No of Respondents	Percentage	No of Respondents	percentage	No of Respondents	Percentage
Significantly Increased	46	26.29	42	24	88	25.14
Marginally Increased	50	28.57	40	22.86	90	25.71
Status Quo/ No Change	65	37.14	68	38.86	133	38
No Response	14	8	25	14.28	39	11.15
Total	175	100	175	100	350	100

**Source:** Field Data

As the study area is drought prone district, it is observed that farmers used to sell away the livestock during summer season due to lack of fodder. This study has made an attempt to know that this practice is continuing even after undertaking specific tribal development programmes. The opinions of the sample respondents on the impact of water harvesting structures on the livestock are presented in table 9.

It is important to note that more than 38.86 per cent of homogeneous as well as heterogeneous habitation respondents reported that the tribal development programmes have no impact on the income from livestock. However, 26.29 per cent of homogeneous and 24 per cent of heterogeneous habitation respondents stated that there is a significant improvement in their income from livestock. Marginal increase in livestock income is reported by 28.57 per cent and 22.26 per cent of homogeneous and heterogeneous habitation respondents respectively. About 14.28 per cent and 8 per cent of heterogeneous and homogeneous habitation respondents denied responding.

The study indicates that as many as 38 per cent of the respondents reported status quo in their livestock income. Around 25.71 per cent of the sample respondents reported marginal increase in their livestock income by being beneficiaries of rural development programmes and 25.14 per cent of the total sample reported significant change. Around 11.15 per cent of the respondents have no opinion on the impact of tribal developmental programmes on their livestock income.

### Chi-Square Test

The critical value of the chi-square at 5 per cent level of significance with 3 degrees of freedom is given by 7.81. The calculated value of the chi-square falls in the rejection region. Therefore, the hypothesis is disproved and one can conclude that there is no close relationship between tribal development programmes and livestock income of respondent families in Dharmapuri district.

**Table 10:** Chi-Square Test on Livestock Income

	Oij	eij	oij-eij	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup>	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup> /eij
88	46	44	2	4	0.0909
88	42	44	-2	4	0.0909
90	50	45	5	25	0.5555
90	40	45	-5	25	0.5555
133	65	66.5	-1.5	2.25	0.0338
133	68	66.5	1.5	2.25	0.0338
39	14	19.5	-5.5	30.25	1.5512
39	25	19.5	5.5	30.25	1.5512

Calculated Value: 4.4628 Table value: 7.81

The testing result of the third hypothesis is disproved. The 3 out of 4 parameters i.e impact on income, impact on possession of household durables and impact on livestock income are disproved. Only the parameter, impact on possession of permanent assets is proved. This makes it clear that the hypothesis is disapproved.

### Impact on Children's Education

The opinions of the sample respondents on the impact of tribal developmental programmes on their expenditure pattern on children's education in the study area are given in table 11.

**Table 11:** Impact on the Expenditure Pattern for Children Education

Responses	Habitation Wise Coverage of Respondents				Total	
	Homogeneous		Heterogeneous		No of Respondents	Percentage
	No of Respondents	Percentage	No of Respondents	percentage		
Significantly Increased	59	33.71	41	23.43	100	28.57
Marginally Increased	55	31.43	60	34.28	115	32.86

Status Quo/ No Change	50	28.57	55	31.43	105	30
No Response	11	6.29	19	10.86	30	8.57
Total	175	100	175	100	350	100

Source: Field Data

Table 12: Chi-Square Test on Livestock Income

	Oij	eij	oij-eij	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup>	(oij-eij) <sup>2</sup> /eij
100	59	50	9	81	1.62
100	41	50	-9	81	1.62
115	55	57.5	-2.5	6.25	0.1086
115	60	57.5	2.5	6.25	0.1086
105	50	52.5	-2.5	6.25	0.1190
105	55	52.5	2.5	6.25	0.1190
30	11	15	-4	16	1.0666
30	19	15	4	16	1.0666

Calculated Value: 5.8284 Table value: 7.81

It is evident from table 11 that a majority of 33.71 per cent of homogeneous respondents reported significant and marginal increase in 31.43 their expenditure pattern on children education. On the other hand 23.43 per cent and 34.28 per cent of heterogeneous habitation respondents reported significant and marginal increase in their educational expenditure. No positive increase in educational expenditure is reported by 31.43 per cent and 28.57 per cent of heterogeneous and homogeneous habitation respondents respectively. Around 10.86 per cent of sample respondents from heterogeneous habitations and 6.29 per cent of sample respondents from homogeneous habitations have not responded.

The study indicates that 61.43 per cent of sample respondents acceded that the family expenditure on education increased after being beneficiaries of tribal developmental programmes. Among them 32.86 per cent reported marginal increase and 28.57 per cent reported significant increase. Around 30 per cent of total sample respondents declared that there is no change in their educational expenditure pattern. About 8.57 per cent of total sample have not responded. The statistical Chi-square value is lesser than the table value. This implies that there is a close relationship between tribal development programmes and expenditure pattern of the sample respondent households on education in the study area.

## V. SUGGESTIONS

Many programmes helped tribal to develop their conditions. The following are the major concepts for further improvement.

1. The proper consumption of physical and financial workings of a governmental programme mostly depends on the knowledge of the beneficiaries. As the knowledge level of the Scheduled Tribe respondents is poor, it is

necessary to enhance the information and consciousness levels by consciousness camps in Tandas and other tribal habitations.

2. The unwieldy procedure in government offices for finalization of the list of beneficiaries is to be abridged to encourage the needy to register their names in the governmental programmes. The government shall take all possible steps to decrease the gap between date of recognizing the beneficiaries and date of authorization of loans.

3. In order to stop the mis-utilization of resources by the beneficiaries as far as possible, the government shall expand supervised credit to the beneficiaries.

4. The real growth of a recipient could be expected only when the government provides sufficient financial help. The government establishment shall prepare proper estimates to give financial assistance. This may impede the number of beneficiaries but it helps to convince a number of households to come out of the clutches of scarcity.

5. To guarantee regular refund of loan amount by the beneficiaries, the bankers or the government establishment shall provide chance to repay loan amount beyond the refund period as per the economic circumstances of the beneficiaries.

6. The developmental programmes will defer according to the desired consequences only when the stake holders develop into part and parcel of such programmes at every level. To guarantee the contribution of people, PRA method is to be adopted.

7. To raise the enduring asset position of receiver households, the government shall develop and implement the schemes like land buy scheme, land improvement scheme etc.

## VI. CONCLUSION

The paper attempts to study the socio-economic conditions of the scheduled tribes and the impact of tribal developmental programmes on the selected beneficiaries. The study is mainly confined to Scheduled Tribes of Dharmapuri District in Tamilnadu. The study deals with the various schemes of scheduled tribes and their impact on beneficiaries in the Revenue Villages namely Sitheri, Suriyakadai, Thekkalpatti, Pereriand Seloorin Dharmapuri district. The study examined whether the scheduled tribes have made any real progress with the implementation of various developmental programmes and welfare schemes.

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