



AN ENQUIRY OF LAMBADI WOMEN'S UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES A CASE STUDY OF TTWRDCS IN ERSTWHILE WARANGAL DISTRICT.

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Abstract

In modern times education occupied an important place in human life. One of the human development indexes is literacy rate among others. Global human development reports consisting the literacy rate of hundreds of countries. To declare a country as a developed one, that country should literacy rate and educational infrastructure according to the index. Human Development reports website says that Human Development Index (HDI) was created to emphasize that people and their capabilities should be the ultimate criteria for assessing the development of a country, not economic growth alone.

It further says the human development index (HDI) is a summery in key dimensions at human development a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and having a decent standard of living. The HDI is the geometric mean of normalized indices for each of the three dimensions. The health dimension is assessed by life expectancy at birth; the education dimension is measured by mean of years of schooling for adults aged 25 years and more and expected years of schooling for children of school entering age. The standard of living dimension is measured by gross national income per capita. The HDI uses the logarithm of income, to reflect the diminishing importance of income with increasing GNI. The scores for the three HDI dimension indices are then aggregated into a composite index using geometric mean.

India ranked by 132 out of 191 countries. This is an unfortunate situation in fact. Though Indian literacy is 74% asper 2011 census its rank in 2022 is 132. Female literacy is 65.46% in India. Comparatively it's a great development where as 54% overall literacy in 2001. India still unable to reach the minimum stands of global index. It has been considered that India is a fast growing and fast developing country in the world. Government of India is working to realize the target of 5 trillion dollar economy by 2024. India witnessing a drastic transformation in rural and urban areas but it is not up to the standards of human development index.

Introduction

There are a few richest states in India and one among them is Telangana, a newly formed state (2014). Telangana has 3,51,93, 978 population according to 2011 census. According to the Census 2021 data, the Literacy rate of **Telangana** is above the national average of **74.04%**. In the year 2011, **Telangana's** literacy rate was 76.26%. But it's important to note that literacy among tribal communities is very low. Tribal Literacy rate in Telangana is 49.5% only. It has a good demography consisting of various tribal groups like Koya, Gondi, Kolami, Lambadi and others. Lambadi's population is 20.44 lakhs. Tribes like Koya, Gondi, Konda Reddy and Kolami live in the agency area and Lambadi's, Yerukala and Yanadis live in the plain areas of Telangana. Lambadi's are the largest tribal group among other tribal communities. But their education development is a matter of concern. Lambadi women is very backward in the education sector. A few girl students are entering into schools and dropout rate is very high among them. Degree education for Lambadi women is a dream to make it a true. To encourage tribal women into higher education Telangana government took a holistic decision to establish Tribal Welfare Residential Colleges for women along with men.



Telangana Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TTWREIS) work under aegis of Tribal Welfare Department, Government of Telangana has been passionately working to place the poorest among the Scheduled Tribes in the prosperous orbit through quality education for the last 35 years. This Society with 180 institutions (from 1st standard to Degree) more than 50,000 students has been providing quality education in English medium up to graduation.

Its principal objective is that education is the right medium by which the lives of the marginalized children can be transformed in social and economic spheres thereby cultivating a new generation of marginalized students in Telangana, who can lead the country in the 21st century.

According to official portal of TTWREIS, “The Government of Telangana has been giving major impetus to educational empowerment of marginalized children by launching Tribal welfare residential degree colleges.

As a part of this initiative 22 Tribal Welfare Residential Degree Colleges are established in Telangana state by The Government of Telangana in 2017”. Among these 22 Colleges 7 colleges are allotted for Men and 15 for Women.

Finding and conclusion

Against the ambition of government of Telangana, number of students joined in 15 colleges is not satisfactory. The aim of government is not yet fulfilled. From 2017 to 2022 9709 students (men and women) are studying in these colleges. A gradual development in admitting the students can be seen from 1044 (men and women) to 9709. Men are 2909 in 07 colleges and women 6800 in 15 colleges. Colleges for women is double to men. But only 55 % of the sanctioned seats are filled so far in all the colleges.

Its subject to study that why tribal students are backward in erstwhile Warangal district? It was divided into 6 new districts. There are three-tribal residential degree colleges located in Jangaon, Mahabubabad and Mulugu. 43 women Students joined in Jangaon degree college, 88 students joined in Mahabubabad degree college, 54 students joined in Mulugu degree college for 2017-2018 academic year. In 2017-2018 academic year only 2 tribal welfare residential Degree colleges for men are working and 77 students in mulugu college and 87 students in Maripeda college joined. The total admitted students are very low to sanctioned strength 280. In 2018-2019 academic year 161 women students joined in Jangaon college, 233 in Mahabubabad college, and 210 in Mulugu college. In 2019-2020 academic year 285 women students joined Jangaon, 402 in Mahabubabad and 308 in Mulugu college. We can witness an ascending growth in 2021. The total number of 437 women students in Jangaon college, 427 in Mahabubabad college and 383 students in Mulugu college admitted. 462 women students in Jangaon college, 468 in Mahabubabad college and 371 in Mulugu college are admitted for 2021-2022 academic year.

Above figures are revealing the fact there is a backwardness among tribal groups. It is surprising why tribes like Lambadi's of plain area are not enthusiastic in pursuing the higher education? Jangaon and Mahabubabad residential colleges are meant of plain area tribes. Only Mulugu residential college is existing in the agency where primitive tribes' presence occupy major part and their population dominates. Lambadi's of plain area are very active in socio political spheres and mainly depend on agriculture. This agrarian class is good in terms of economy when comparing with other marginalized



sections of the state. But when it comes to education of girl child and women, one can be disappointed with.

Problems

Reasons for this backwardness are rooted in social, political and ideological spheres. Lambadi tribe is fundamentally a patriarchal one. This male dominated society looks its women down. Woman is treated as a supporting person in cultivating the land and producing the paddy. Lambadi man doesn't think of his girl child should attain higher education and see a bright future. Ideologically Lambadi tribe subscribe Hinduism in which doctrinally women is not allowed to study and which treated woman unequal to man. Though the customs and rituals of Lambadi's give more importance to the women, it must be accepted that in practical life she is being treated inferior to the Lambadi men. This is the one of the reasons.

And the other reason is lack of educational infrastructure. Lambadi community as earlier said is based on agriculture, they never go away leaving behind the agriculture fields. They build their homes amidst the paddy fields. Going to distance places for studies is a big task for them. Government of Telangana established a very few residential degree colleges across the state. There are only 3-degree colleges for women covering 6 newly formed districts. The distance between Jangaon and Mahabubabad 106.8 km by road. Mahabubabad to Mulugu is 86.8 km distance. To send their girl child to such a distance is a big psychological task for a Lambadi family. They hence are thinking of nearby colleges to join their daughters. If nearby college is not available they are forcing their children to drop the studies out. This is the reason for the dropouts and absence in higher education. A kind of insecurity feeling influencing the parents to abstain from higher studies. News about sexual assaults on college going students and killings of young girls making a negative impression on the psychology of marginalized sections. Due to social insecurity for the women parents are forcing to get married early in the age. There for early marriages are prevalent in this community. Once get marry Lambadi women shall abandon her studies and joined in the agriculture work. Surprising thing is that mobility for livelihood is encouraged in this community but mobility for education is not appreciable for women. This is a problem to be addressed from various perspectives.

Social reformers from colonial period emphasising the importance of women education but the dreams of our forefathers are yet to be come true. Even after 73 years of republic India still suffering with the gender inequalities and economic disparities. The spirit of Indian constitution which assures educational development of marginalized sections need to be actualized into the public minds. To achieve a good rank in the human development index, it is necessary to impart the higher education among the Lambadi tribal community.

According to Dr. Ambedkar, "The object of primary education is to see that every child that enters the portals of a primary school does leave it only at a stage when it becomes literate and continues to be literate throughout the rest of his life."