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Problems faced by Lambani women in availing of government programmes

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Abstract

Lambani who call themselves migrants from Rajasthan are a unique community in Karnataka. They live scattered over the state, but they are distinctly noticed by their dresses. There are more than 705 types of tribes, in that Lambani community is one among them. They are well known tribe as carriers of salt food grains on the packed bullock caravans. The Lambani men and women are addressed as Gor Mati and Gor Dasi. The names 'Gor' was given because they were tending and rearing oxen/ cows and were known as "Gor Banjara". The present study was conducted during 2017-18 to understand the livelihood status of Lambanis in Kalghatgi taluk of Dharwad district and Davangere taluk of Davangere district. Totally 120 Lambani women were selected based on the equal random sampling method. The data was collected by using pre-tested interview schedule. Majority of the Lambani women were facing social problems (89.83%), problems in availing Government programmes (86.66%), personal problems (81.49%), financial problems (81.16%) and physical problems (80.49%). The reason behind this maybe they remain backward due to traditional values, illiteracy, superstitions and many other social and cultural factors.

Keywords: Problems Faced, Lambani women, Government programmes

Introduction

India is the home to many tribal communities; they constitute 8.6 per cent of our country's population. India is the second most popular country, as for the tribal population is concerned next to Africa. The word Lambani has originated from Sanskrit word Lavana meaning salt, as their main occupation was salt trading. They are well known tribe as carriers of salt food grains on the packed bullock caravans. Lambanis traditional occupation is agriculture, animal husbandry, salt trading, wage earning through construction works and selling of forest produce besides engaging in petty business. Now they are suffering socially and economically because of deforestation, strict implementation of forest protection measures and declaration of forests as reserved forests. To overcome these problems and improve the livelihood security of Lambanis Government has implemented many programmes. But most of them are won't be able to avail these Government programmes.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted during the year 2017-18 in Dharwad and Davangere districts of Karnataka were purposively selected based on availability of a greater number of respondents in the study areas. Each district, one taluk was selected purposively selected based on maximum availability of Lambani people. Ex-post-facto research design was used for the study.

Totally 120 respondents of Lambani women were interviewed for the study. The number of respondents from each tanda was fixed based on the Proportionate Random Sampling (PRS) method. The data were collected with well-structured pretested interview schedule. The collected data were analyzed and interpreted with frequency and percentage analysis.

Results and Discussion

I. Social problems in tanda

Table 1 shows that majority of the respondents (97.50%) faced problem in high level of migration and 92.50 per cent have expressed lack of extension staff contacts.

II. Financial problems

Among the financial problems, majority of the respondents (97.50%) faced problem of indebtedness and 95.00 per cent of them are having poor economic condition

III. Physical problems

The most prominent physical problems identified by the respondents were inadequate means of transport (95.83%) and poor storage and marketing facilities (85.00%).

IV. Personal problems

The major personal problems in their living place (tanda) were lack of guidance from government official and local leaders (95.00%) and lack of social mobility due to family

with restriction (90.83%).

V. Problems faced in availing Government programmes

Majority of the respondents (97.50%) expressed that conflicts among local leaders and improper communication and 96.67 per cent of them are having problem in waiting hours together in a long queue for getting Government programmes.

Discussion

Majority of the Lambani women were facing social problems (89.83%), problems in availing Government programmes (86.66%), personal problems (81.49%), financial problems (81.16%) and physical problems (80.49%). The reason behind this maybe they remain backward due to traditional values, illiteracy, superstitions and many other social and cultural factors.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their problems faced

Sl. No.	General Problems	Frequency	Percentage
I	Social problems in Tanda		
1.	Lack of information and illiteracy	103	85.83
2.	Gender bias	97	80.83
3.	Less civic amenities	78	65.00
4.	Lack of Primary Health Centre	117	97.50
5.	Lack of school facility	98	81.67
6.	Lack of accessibility to nearby markets	78	65.00
II	Financial problems		
1.	Poor economic condition	114	95.00
2.	Landlessness	109	90.83
3.	Low wages	68	56.67
4.	Unemployment	79	65.83
5.	Indebtedness	117	97.50
III	Physical problems		
1.	Poor storage facilities	102	85.00
2.	Inadequate means of transport	115	95.83
3.	Poor marketing facilities	102	85.00
4.	Lack of Electrification	79	65.83
5.	Lack of affordable price for agriculture produce	68	56.67
IV	Personal problems in Tanda		
1.	Lack of knowledge in reading and writing	93	77.50
2.	Lack of communication skills	106	88.33
3.	Lack of family support	101	84.17
4.	Lack of self-motivation	67	55.83
5.	Lack of social mobility because of restrictions in the family	109	90.83
V	Problems in availing benefits of Government Programmes		
1.	Lack of guidance from government official and local leaders	114	95.00
2.	Less awareness and knowledge about developmental programmes	117	97.50
3.	Lack of extension staff contacts	111	92.50
4.	Lack of infrastructural facilities for selected activities	115	95.83
5.	Corruption	101	84.17
6.	Conflicts among local leaders and improper communication	103	85.83
7.	Indifferent attitude of officials	108	90.00
8.	Insufficient pension amount and irregular payment	65	54.17
9.	Long procedures and hours of waiting	116	96.67
10.	Bond is pending in the Anganwadi centre	78	65.00
11.	Non availability of officers for signatures	112	93.33

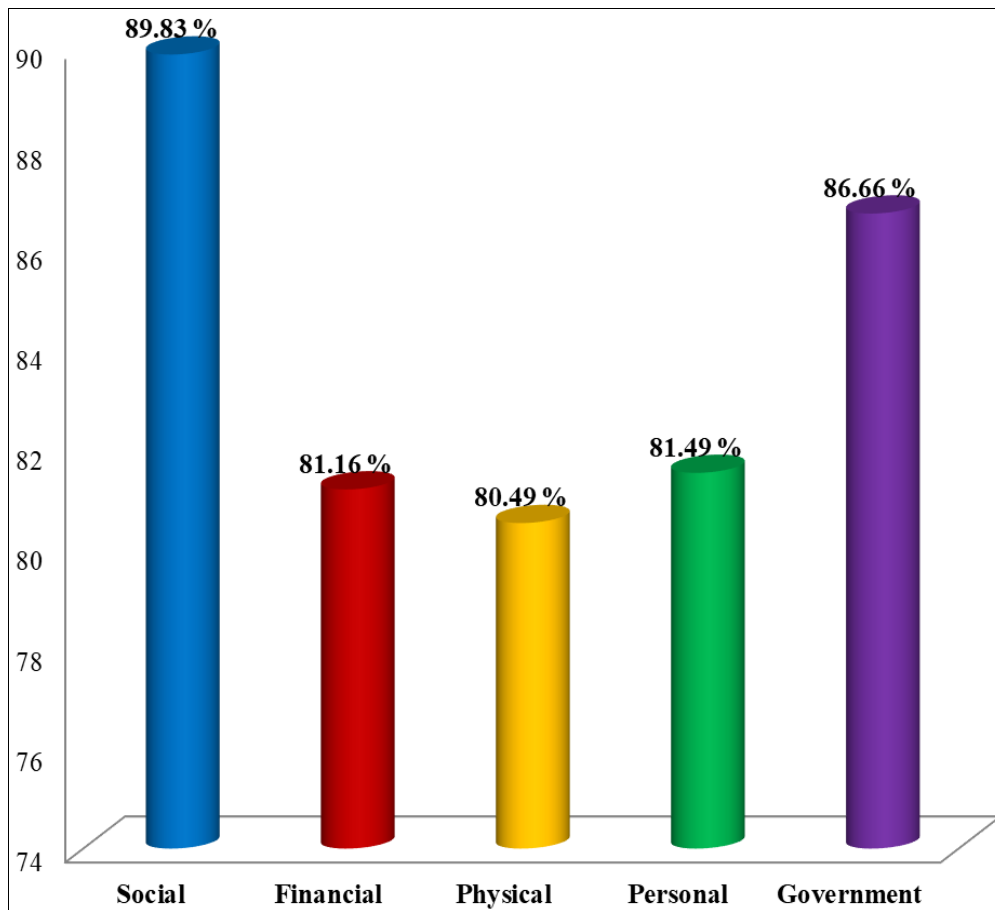


Fig 1: Problem faced by Lambani women

Conclusion

The Government programmes are introduced for promoting social, economic and cultural development of the programmes. In spite of this there is no much development of Lambanis due to the problems faced by them in availing benefits of Government programmes. Hence Government should see that the programmes reach the beneficiaries properly and easily.

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