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Socio-personal characteristics of Lambani women

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Abstract

In Karnataka Banjara are well known as Lambani/Lambadi. They are originally from Afghanistan before settling in Rajasthan and other parts of India. They normally live in tandas (Tanda is an area where Lambani caste people reside exclusively). The occupation and their livelihood is dependent on the geographical locations of the settlements and the weather conditions. The occupation of Lambani people have been changing time to time. 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 beneficiaries were landless, Most of them were illiterates and had medium level of mass media contact The reason behind this they stay out from the villages like remote areas. They may be 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 second most popular country, as for the tribal population is concerned next to Africa. There are more than 705 types of tribes, in that Lambani community is one among them. They contribute a lot to the culture by their rich and unique styles. Banjara, Bangala Banjori, Banjuri, Brinjar, Bripari, Banjari, Pindari, Brinjari, Dhadi, Lambara, Labhans, Labhani, Lambadi, Gormati, Goola, Gurmarti, Mukeri, Sugali, Sukali, Vanjari, Vanzara, Wanjari and Wanji etc. These are the synonymous names of Lambanis. 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.

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

Socio-personal characteristics of Lambani women age

It was noticed in Table 1 that, 53.33 per cent of the women belonged to middle age (36 to 50 years) category, followed by young age (40.84%) and old age (5.83%).

Education

With regard to level of education, 45.00 per cent of the respondents were illiterates and 28.40 per cent of the respondents were educated up to middle school, 18.30 per cent were educated up to high school level, while, 5.80 per cent of them were educated up to primary school and 2.50 per cent were pre university level. There were no graduates among the respondents.

Marital status

As far as marital status was considered 93.40 per cent were married followed by 5.80 per cent of them were unmarried and widow (00.80).

Family type

A glance at Table 1 elucidates that all most all the women respondents were living in nuclear family (98.30%) and only 1.70 per cent of them were having joint family.

Occupation

It is clear from Table 1 that, 55.00 per cent of the respondents were nonagricultural labourers followed by agricultural labourers (35.84%), 5.00 per cent of them were having petty business and 4.17 per cent were having farming as their occupation.

Family income

Table 1 revealed that, most of the respondents (92.50%) were having low income groups (< ` 60,000) and 7.50 per cent of them medium income groups (^ 60,000-1,20,000).

Land holding

The Table 1 clearly revealed that, almost all the respondents (95.83%) were landless and 4.17 per cent of them were small farmers (2.6-5.0 acre of dry land).

Mass media contact

The study revealed that 83.33 per cent of the respondents were having medium mass media contact followed by high (11.67%) and low (5.00%).

Size of the family

With respect to the size of the family, it was found that 78.30 per cent of them were having small family size (Below 5 members), whereas, 20.00 per cent belonged to medium size of the family (5-8 members) and remaining 1.70 per cent were found to have large sized family (> 8 members).

Livestock possession

The data revealed that, 23.33 per cent of the respondents had poultry birds followed by cows (6.67%), bullocks (5.00%) and buffaloes (4.17%).

Family education

The results revealed that, majority of the respondents (70.83%) were having low family education followed by medium (21.67%) and high (7.50%).

Table 1: Socio-personal characteristics of Lambani women, n=120

Sl. No.	Characteristics	F	%
1.	Age	Young age (18-35)	49 40.84
		Middle age (36 to 50)	64 53.33
		Old age (51& above)	07 05.83
2.	Education	Illiterates	54 45.00
		Primary school (1-4th standard)	07 05.80
		Middle school (5 -7th standard)	34 28.40
		High school (8 -10th standard)	22 18.30
		Pre university (11-12th standard)	03 02.50
		Graduate & above	- -
3.	Marital status	Married	112 93.40
		Unmarried	07 05.80
		Widow	01 00.80
4.	Family type	Nuclear	118 98.30
		Joint	02 01.70
		Extended	- -
5.	Occupation	Nonagricultural labour	66 55.00
		Agricultural labour	43 35.84
		Petty business	6 5.00
		Service sector	- -
		Farming	05 04.17
6.	Family income	Lower income groups (< Rs. 60000)	111 92.50
		Medium income groups (Rs. 60000 - 120000)	09 07.50
		Higher income groups (> Rs. 120000)	- -
7.	Land holding	Landless	115 95.83
		Marginal farmers (<2.5 acre of dry land)	- -
		Small farmers (2.6 - 5.0 acre of dry land)	05 04.17
		Medium farmers (5.1 to 10.0 acre of dry land)	- -
8.	Mass media contact	Big farmers (>10 acre of dry land)	- -
		Low	6 5.00
		Medium	100 83.33
		High	14 11.67
9.	Size of the family	Small (Below 5 members)	94 78.30
		Medium (5 - 8 members)	24 20.00
		Large (> 8 members)	02 01.70
10.	Livestock possession	Cow	08 06.67
		Buffalo	05 04.17
		Bullock	06 05.00
		Poultry birds	28 23.33
11.	Family education	Low	85 70.83
		Medium	26 21.67
		High	9 7.50

Urban contact

With respect to the urban contact, it was found from Table 2 that cent per cent of the respondents occasionally visit urban area for medical purposes followed by purchasing grocery

(79.17%) and marketing/selling of products (47.50%). While, cent per cent of the respondents never visit urban contact for recreation

Table 2: Urban contact of the respondents, n = 120

Sl. No.	Purpose of urban contact	Frequency of contact		
		Regularly	Occasionally	Never
1.	Marketing/ selling of products	-	57 (47.50)	63 (52.50)
2.	Purchase grocery	-	95 (79.17)	25(20.83)
3.	Recreation	-	-	120 (100)
4.	Medical purposes	-	120 (100)	-

The results in figure 1 depicts that 66.60 per cent of the respondents had medium urban contact followed by high

urban contact (26.70%) and low urban contact (6.70%).

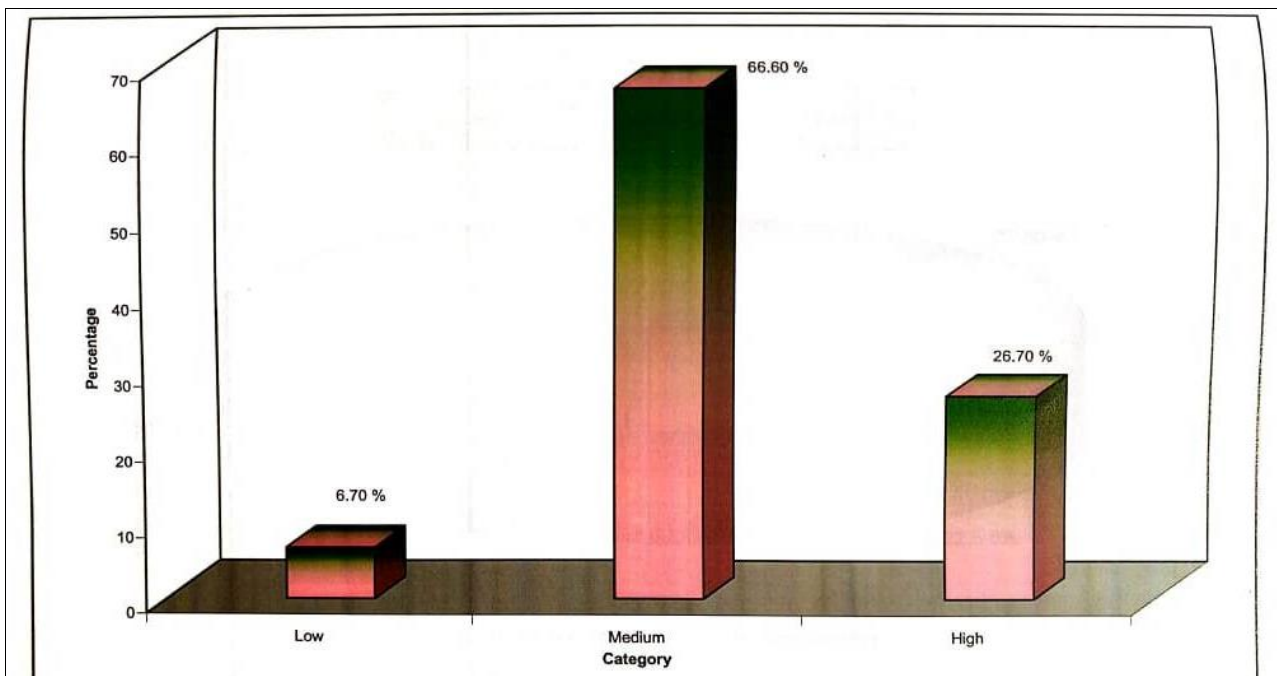


Fig 1: Categorization of the respondents according to their urban contact

Conclusion

Promotion of Socio-personal development programmes like giving awareness and knowledge about the value of education. This will bring everything in their day to day lifestyles. Majority of the Lambani women belonged to middle age category and young age, do not have land mainly dependent on wage earning and agriculture labour. These factors are exhibited unsustainability in rural livelihoods. Hence the Lambani women should get trainings about pro-poor technologies in groups.

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