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Livelihood Security and Culture 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 respondents (70.83%) used public transports as a means of transport. The 47.50 per cent of the respondents had modern (Pakka) house. Most of the respondents (87.50%) got sanitized drinking water from tap water. Majority of the respondents (60.83%) were using LPG as a source of energy for household purpose. Most of the respondents (85.83%) purchased mobile phones and television (82.50%). All most all the respondents (97.50%) were having electricity for lighting. Only 4.17 per cent of the respondents were having sickle as a farm implement. Most of the respondents (92.50%) were having low income groups (<60,000). cent per cent of the respondents were having optimum expenditure (50,000-70,000). majority of the respondents (64.16%) will take loan below Rs. 49,000. With respect to Repayment, 54.16 per cent of them were defaulter. Majority (95.00%) of the families saved their income up to 10% of the net income.

Keywords: Livelihood security, Culture, Lambani women, Government programmes

Introduction

The Lambani tribe occupy a significant position in the Indian population. Lambani population is socially and economically vulnerable and their health and nutritional status is very poor because of the interactions between practices and the environmental conditions. They depend on agricultural and forest resources for their livelihood, and they sustain with their rich and varied traditional ecological knowledge. India is a home to large number of indigenous people, who are still untouched by the lifestyle of the modern world. The impact of modernization through industrialization has resulted in environmental and ecological degradation. But the traditional practices have always been the principle sources of sustainable development of natural resources. The Lambanis preserved a large number traditional knowledge of various agricultural methods, uses of medicinal herbs, health care practices and income generating activities. Hence their knowledge, attitude and practices were compulsorily handed over to their generations to maintain the importance of their culture.

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

Existing livelihood security of the respondents according to physical capital

Livelihood security comprises of natural, physical, financial, human and social capital of which only two components physical and financial capital were used for the present study. Physical capital comprises of transport house type and household facilities.

Available transports

Table 1 indicates that, majority of the respondents (70.83%) used public transports followed by 62.50 per cent of them

go by walk. Whereas 54.17 per cent of them were using private vehicle, motor bike (25.83%) and 4.17 per cent of them were using bicycle as a means of transport. The index of available transport is (73.33%).

Type of house

It can be inferred from Table 1 that 47.50 per cent of the respondents had modern (Pakka) house followed by moderate (mix of Kaccha and Pukka) house (34.17%) and 18.33 per cent had traditional (Kaccha) house. The type of house index is (76.39%).

Source of sanitized drinking water

Table 1 revealed that, majority of the respondents (87.50%) got sanitized drinking water from tap water because Government has provided tap water to every house in village/tanda and only 12.50 per cent used to Tank water the index of the source of sanitized drinking water is (93.75%).

Source of energy for household purpose

With regard to source of energy used by the respondents, majority of the respondents (60.83%) were using LPG

followed by firewood (38.33%) and 4.17 per cent of them were using cow dung cake. The index of the source of energy is (62.83%).

With respect to material possession, most of the respondents (85.83%) purchased mobile phones and television (82.50%). Household luxury items like chair (64.17%), cot (44.17%), and fan (34.17%) were possessed by the Lambani families. Whereas 4.17 per cent of them possessed sewing machine. The index of material possession is (59.54%).

Lighting facility

All most all the respondents (97.50%) were having electricity for lighting and 2.50 per cent of them were having lighting by using kerosene. The lighting facility index is (65.83%).

Farm implements

The results revealed that, 4.17 per cent of the respondents were having sickle followed by cultivators (2.50%) and 0.83 per cent of them having seed drill and bullock cart as farm implements. The index of the farm implements is (1.04%).

Table 5: Existing livelihood security of the respondents according to physical capital, n=120

Sl. No.	Sub-components	Particular	Frequency	%
I	Available transports	Bicycle	05	04.17
		Public transport	85	70.83
		Private vehicle	65	54.17
		Motor bike	31	25.83
		Bullock cart	-	-
		By walk	75	62.50
		Index	73.33	
II	Type of house	Traditional (Kaccha) type house	22	18.33
		Moderate (mix of Kaccha and Pakka) house	41	34.17
		Modern (Pakka) house	57	47.50
		Index	76.39	
III	Source of Sanitized drinking water	Tank water	15	12.50
		Tap water	105	87.50
		Index	93.75	
IV	Source of energy for household purpose	Cow dung cake	05	04.17
		Firewood	46	38.33
		Crop straw	26	21.67
		LPG	73	60.83
		Electrical energy	03	02.50
		Index	62.83	
V	Material Possession	Radio	-	-
		Sewing machine	05	04.17
		Mobile phone	103	85.83
		TV	99	82.50
		Chair	77	64.17
		Grinder/Mixer	32	26.67
		Fan	41	34.17
		Cot	53	44.17
		Chula	31	25.83
		Index	59.54	
		VI	Lighting facility	Electricity
Solar	-			-
Kerosene	03			02.50
Index	65.83			
VII	Farm implements	Wooden plough	-	-
		Iron plough	-	-
		Harrow	-	-
		Sickle	05	04.17
		Seed drill	01	00.83
		Cultivators	03	02.50
		Hand sprayer	-	-
		Bullock cart	01	00.83

Existing livelihood security of the respondents according to the financial capital

Annual family income

Table 2 revealed that, most of the respondents (92.50%) belonged to low income groups (<60,000) and 7.50 per cent of them medium income groups (60,000-1,20,000) and none of them were in high income group. The index of annual family income is (43.56%).

Annual expenditure

In case of annual expenditure, cent per cent of the respondents were having optimum expenditure (50,000-70,000). The annual expenditure index is (43.15%).

Loan/credit: With regard to loans/credit, majority of the

respondents (64.16%) have taken loan below 49,000 and 35.84 per cent of them have taken loan of 49,001 to 70,000. The index of loan/credit is (47.10%).

Repayment

With respect to repayment, 54.16 per cent of them were defaulter and 45.83 per cent were regular in their repayment. The repayment index is (47.15%).

Savings

The results revealed that, majority (95.00%) of the families saved their income up to 10 per cent of the net income and only (5.00%) of them saved 11.00 per cent to 25.00 per cent of the net income. The index of savings is (39.12%). The overall financial capital index is (43.56%).

Table 2: Existing livelihood security of the respondents according to financial capital, n=120

Sl. No.	Sub-components	Category	F (%)	Index
1	Annual income	Lower income groups (< Rs. 60,000)	111 (92.50)	41.32
		Medium income groups (Rs. 60,000 to 1,20,000)	09 (07.50)	
		Higher income groups (> Rs. 1,20,000)	-	
2	Annual expenditure	High expenditure (> Rs. 70,000)	-	43.15
		Low expenditure (< Rs. 50,000)	-	
		Optimum expenditure (Rs. 50000 to 70000)	120 (100)	
3	Loan/credit	<Rs. 49000	77 (64.16)	47.10
		Rs. 49,001 to 1,50,000	43 (35.84)	
		Rs. 1,50,001 to 3,90,000	-	
		>Rs. 390000	-	
4	Repayment	Defaulter	65 (54.16)	47.15
		Regular	55 (45.83)	
5	Savings	Low (up to 10% of the net income)	114 (95.00)	39.12
		Medium (11 to 25% of the net income)	06 (05.00)	
		High (25 to 50% of the net income)	-	
Financial capital indices				43.56

Conclusion

Women empowerment programmes should be more beneficial to the poor families of Lamani tandas. Majority of them have physical capitals but lack in financing activities. 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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