

Preface

Tribal Development in India : A Comparative Study between Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar Districts 1992-2002 is considered to be of some special importance, because the tribal people of Jalpaiguri constitutes more than 6,41,688 out of 34,01,173 total population which is the highest percentage in the state. On the other hand, Cooch Behar is an another district of North Bengal which is Scheduled Caste dominated district and the percentage is 49.9, but tribal people of this district is very low in rank which is 14,926 only.

There is a considerable dearth of comprehensive study of tribal development in India in general and comparative study of tribal development programmes organised for tribes and brought out publications glorifying its own role. The Government of India and State government, through a number of Legislation and Policies has reiterated its commitment of the tribal development. A good number of schemes and programmes have been launched from time to time. In spite of all these efforts, tribal areas have still remained relatively backward. The present thesis attempts to examine the possible effects of development programmes of the tribal people in both the districts.

The thesis paper has been divided into nine chapters. The first chapter is headlines as 'Introduction' which have highlighted the formation, history and geographical areas. This chapter also reflects various problems and theoretical framework.

The second chapter is 'Methodology' which is disclosed that has been followed to complete the study. Third chapter is 'Review of Literature', in which attempt has been made to survey the prominent literature available in the purview of the study.

Fourth chapter reveals 'an enquiry of Tribal Development in the district of Jalpaiguri. The chapter also attempts to discuss Infrastructure Development Scheme for the welfare of Scheduled Tribe people from 1992 to 2002 by the Central Government and State Government. The chapter consists of different welfare programmes which mainly looked after the Scheduled Tribes.

The fifth chapter entitled as 'an enquiry of Tribal Development in the district of Cooch Behar. The chapter has tried to represent the Infrastructure Development Schemes and community benefits.

Chapter sixth's headlines as 'A Comparative Study of the Tribal Development in the districts of Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar. The present chapter attempts to examine the possible effects of tribal development programmes for tribes in both the districts, like population, education, health, agriculture, economic aspects, economic status etc. Chapter seven is on the major 'Findings of the study and chapter nine is 'conclusion'.

However, as a researcher, I had to face several problems during the interview stage with the tribals. Attempt has been made to plug all loopholes Even then if there are any shortcomings the responsibility is mine.

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