



## STATUS OF SCHEDULED TRIBES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

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### ABSTRACT

India has the second largest concentration of tribal population in the world next to Africa. They lived for thousands of years in forests and hills without any type of contacts with centers of civilization. A society can be called a just society, when are all equal before law, and all are provided equal opportunities for participation in the process of governance and socio-economic development of society. The percentage of ST population to total has increased by 1 per cent during the last century. According to 1991 census, the population of Scheduled Tribes in the country was 67.8 million i.e., 8.1 per cent of the total population. The ST population was 84.3 millions in 2001, representing 8.2 per cent of the country's total population and its increased 8.6 per cent in 2011 census. The decennial growth rate among Scheduled Tribes was 26 per cent during 1981-91 as compared to 24 per cent among the general population. The decennial growth rate of ST population during 1901-2001 was 26 as compared to 23 in general population. The main objective of the paper is to analyze the status of the Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh with respect to size of the population, literacy levels and work participation rate of the scheduled tribes. This paper base on the secondary data, such data collected from the directorate of Economics and statistics, Statistical abstract of Andhra Pradesh and various census report will be used. The data related to District wise Scheduled Tribes Population, District wise Literacy levels and work participation data will be utilized. The data limited to 2001 and 2011 census data is used.



**KEYWORDS:** Scheduled Tribes, Literacy, Growth rate, India, Andhra Pradesh.

### INTRODUCTION

India has the second largest concentration of tribal population in the world next to Africa. They lived for thousands of years in forests and hills without any type of contacts with centers of civilization. A society can be called a just society, when are all equal before law, and all are provided equal opportunities for participation in the process of governance and socio-economic development of society. But unfortunately a large part of under privileged people in India, even after five and half decades of development still suffer from humiliation of social exclusion, economic deprivation, political segregation and oppression. There is thus an immense need to empower the under privileged people especially Schedule Tribes in all aspects of life.

### GROWTH OF TRIBAL POPULATION

In India, the percentage of Tribal population tot total population has increased over time. The ST population at the time of independence constituted 7 per cent of total population in the country. According to 1891 census there were 16 million ST people in India, constituting 7 per cent of the total

population. The percentage of ST population to total has increased by 1 per cent during the last century. According to 1991 census, the population of Scheduled Tribes in the country was 67.8 million i.e., 8.1 per cent of the total population. The ST population was 84.3 millions in 2001, representing 8.2 per cent of the country's total population and its increased 8.6 per cent in 2011 census. The decennial growth rate among Scheduled Tribes was 26 per cent during 1981-91 as compared to 24 per cent among the general population. The decennial growth rate of ST population during 1901-2001 was 26 as compared to 23 in general population. Thus, we can say that population growth is higher among Scheduled Tribes when compared to general population and there is an immediate need to control population growth among scheduled tribes, as the family size is very large as compared to average Indian family size.

### Problems of the Tribes

Indian population consists of 8 per cent of tribal population in the country. The percentage of tribal population to the total population in the country has increased by 1 per cent during last century. The country is not able to maintain the culture, traditions and customs of the ST population. Poverty is very high among these indigenous people as compared to general population. They are mostly agricultural labourers with meager assets like land and houses. The literacy gap between tribals and non-tribals is widening year after year. They are not politically empowered. Laws that are passed to improve tribal people but they are grossly inadequate. There is a special need to empower tribal population socially, economically and politically. Their active participation in the developmental activities will go a long way in national building.

Policies which are long term in nature are very much needed. The emphasis should be on quality and equity rather than quantity. There is every need to build up proper environment and decentralized management, skill development and teacher motivation programmes. But tribal development programmes failed to protect the interests of the tribals and take them to advanced level of development. However, the programme adopted has brought awareness and unity among themselves. But still the aim of raising abilities of STs to enable them to compete and avail the quality of opportunity provided in the constitution has not been fulfilled. Thus the tribal community is yet to catch up with the rest. They are not on par with other communities and lagging behind in all social and economic parameters. Though studies are available on tribals covering various aspects of their life, but area specific studies are not many.

Therefore poverty is very high among these indigenous people as compared to general population. Thousand of millions of rupees have been spent for developing a few millions of people. But the result shows that the quality and quantum of development achieved is far from being satisfactory. Tribals are still facing the problems of hunger, malnutrition, poverty, poor literacy, poor health facility and deprivation from Natural Resources. The socio-economic conditions of Scheduled Tribes are very low and they are the most under privileged sections of the society. There is a need for integrating them into the main stream of the society as rightful members. The constitution of the independent India has acknowledged centuries of social, economic and educational deprivations suffered by Schedule Tribes. We need more area specific studies in order to know more about ST in a particular state or location. The present study is an attempt in this direction

### OBJECTIVE OF THE PAPER

The main objective of the paper is to analyse the status of the Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh with respect to size of the population, Literacy levels and work participation rate of the scheduled tribes.

### METHODOLOGY

This paper base on the secondary data, such data collected from the directorate of Economics and statistics, Statistical abstract of Andhra Pradesh and various census report will be used. The data related to District wise Scheduled Tribes Population, District wise Literacy levels and work participation data will be utilized. The data limited to 2001 and 2011 census data is used.

### District wise Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh is one of the states with large tribal population. In A.P state, proportion of ST population had increased from 4 per cent in 1971 to 6.1 per cent in 1991. It further increased to 6.6 per cent in 2001. Its proportion to the total population is slightly less than the national average in 2001 i.e. 6.6. And it was 7 per cent in 2011 census in A.P. as against 8.6 per cent at all India level. Khammam, Visakhapatnam, and Warangal districts had the largest concentration of tribals. After the bifurcation Telangana is dividing from Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh consists of 10 districts. The table 1 presented the distinct wise Scheduled Tribe population in Andhra Pradesh as per census 2011, the Scheduled Tribe, much of them are concentrated in Visakapatnam 14.42% Vizianagaram (10.05%) and least were found in Kurnool District (2.04%). Kadapa and West Godavari Districts.

**Table - 1**  
**Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Population in Andhra Pradesh - 2011 Census**

S.NO	District	Persons	STs	% of Sts Population to total Population
1.	Srikakulam	27,03,114	1,66,118	6.15
2.	Vizianagaram	23,44,474	2,35,556	10.05
3.	Visakapatnam	42,90,589	6,18,500	14.42
4.	East Godavari	51,54,296	2,13,195	11.14
5.	West Godavari	39,36,966	1,09,072	2.77
6.	Krishna	45,17,398	1,32,464	2.93
7.	Guntur	48,87,813	2,47,089	5.06
8.	Prakasam	33,97,448	1,51,145	4.45
9.	SPS Nellore	29,63,557	2,85,997	9.65
10.	Chittoor	41,74,064	1,59,165	3.81
11.	YSR Kadapa	28,82,469	75,886	2.63
12.	Anantapur	40,81,148	1,54,127	3.78
13.	Kurnool	40,81,148	82,831	2.04

Source: DES (2015) Statistical Abstract of Andhra Pradesh -201 pp.16 & 50

### District wise Scheduled Tribe Literacy rate in Andhra Pradesh

The district wise distribution Scheduled Tribes (STs) literacy is presented in table 2. From the table it can be observed that the literacy levels in the state of Andhra Pradesh have increased considerably during the period from 2001 to 2011. The literacy rate of ST population has increased from 33.06 per cent to 48.83 per cent during the last two decades, it indicating the fact that the increase in the literacy level is less in the case of ST population when compared to other population like SC, BCs and OCs

Regarding the district wise literacy performance of ST population of Andhra Pradesh is West Godvari ranks the highest position both in 2001 and 2011 with (50.86 percent) and (57.05percent) respectively. On the other hand, Visakhapatnam district accounted for the lowest literacy (34.34per cent) in 2001 while SPS Nellore accounted for the lowest literacy (42.78 percent) in 2011. Further, the literacy level among STs is found to be lower than the state average literacy in the districts like SPS Nellore, Vishakapatnam, Guntur, Vizianagram, Prakasam and YSRKadapa. On the whole there are many districts which are lagging behind in terms of literacy in the state of Andhra Pradesh indicating the need for immediate attention of the government towards the development of education among SCs and STs

**Table: 2**  
**District wise Scheduled Tribes Literacy rate in Andhara Pradesh.**

		2011 Census		2001 Census	
		Scheduled Tribe Population	ST Literacy Rate	Scheduled Tribe Population	ST Literacy Rate
1	Srikakulam	1,66,118	53.36	1,51,249	41.92
2	Vizianagaram	2,35,556	46.57	2,14,839	35.28
3	Visakhapatnam	6,18,500	44.90	5,57,572	34.34
4	East Godavari	2,13,195	54.15	1,91,561	44.60
5	West Godavari	1,09,072	57.05	96,659	50.86
6	Krishna	1,32,464	53.69	1,07,611	43.75
7	Guntur	2,47,089	46.45	2,08,157	37.28
8	Prakasam	1,51,145	47.12	1,18,241	38.15
9	S.P.S. Nellore	2,85,997	42.78	2,42,257	37.42
10	Y.S.R Kadapa	75,886	48.76	61,371	41.20
11	Kurnool	82,831	55.04	69,635	42.73
12	Anantapuram	1,54,127	54.98	1,27,161	44.52
13	Chittoor	1,59,165	52.66	1,28,085	44.44
	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	<b>26,31,145</b>	<b>48.83</b>	<b>2274398</b>	<b>33.06</b>

Source: Statistical Abstract of Andhra Pradesh (2015)

#### **WORK FORCE PARTICIPATION AMONG SCs AND STs IN ANDHRA PRADESH:-**

Data relating to Work force participation of STs is presented in Table 3. From the data it may be observed that the total workers in the state of Andhra Pradesh increased from 2.08 crores in 2001 to 2.30 crores by 2011. Similarly STs the total workers increased from 12.36 lakhs in 2001 to 14.57 lakhs by 2011. However, the growth of workers in different categories is found to be varied in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Out of the total workforce in 2001, the highest proportion are found to be agricultural labourers (43.76 per cent) followed by others category (31.44 per cent), cultivators (21.03 percent) and household industrial workers (3.26 per cent). It is interesting to observe that the workforce distribution of Andhra Pradesh has undergone significant changes during the period 2001 to 2011. While the proportion of ST workers belonging to agricultural labourers category increased from 54.29 per cent to 63.29 percent and other category increased from 14.82 percent to 17.40 percent during 2001 to 2011, the proportion of cultivators drastic from 18.37 percent to 23.77 percent during the same periodically declined from 29.39 percent to 17.02 percent and that of household industry workers declined from 3.59 percent to 2.29 percent during the same period. The district wise analysis of the distribution of total workers reveals that percent the proportion of agricultural labourers and other category workers increased from 2001 to 2011, while the proportion of cultivators and household industrial worker declined during the same period across the district of Andhra Pradesh. The district - wise analysis of ST workers reveals an interesting picture. While the proportion of agricultural labourers increased in all the districts of Andhra Pradesh during 2001 to 2011, the proportion of ST cultivators declined in all the districts during the same period. With regard to the household industrial workers while Visakhapatnam district experienced an increase in the percentage of workers during 2001 to 2011, there is a considerable decline in all the districts in Andhra Pradesh. With regard to others category, it is interesting to observe that there is significant decline in the workforce in the districts of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and West Godavari during the period 2001 to 2011.

From the above analysis it may be inferred that there is a perceptible shift in the workforce participation from cultivation to agricultural labourers and to others category. This may be attributed to rural to urban migration and labour force absorption in the informal sector activities in the Urban areas. Among STs, the employment opportunities were found top in the Districts of Visakapatnam (58%) follows East Godavari and Vizianagaram. The least employment opportunities were on served in Kurnool (49%) and follows Anantapur and Kadapa. In overall, it shows that both rural classes have not benefitted from the State support, the same is found in other States also.

**Table-3 District wise Work Participation of Scheduled Tribes Population in Andhra Pradesh**

	District	2001 Census					2011 Census				
		Total Workers	% of Cultivators	% of Agricultural Labourers	% of Household Industries	% of Others	Total Workers	% of Cultivators	% of Agricultural Labourers	% of Household Industries	% of Others
1	Srikakulam	79516	20.69	64.53	3.19	11.59	90,754	8.61	78.97	1.33	11.09
2	Vizianagaram	124179	27.11	58.60	3.16	11.23	1,33,562	10.99	77.52	1.92	9.56
3	Visakhapatnam	307845	62.14	29.66	1.91	6.30	3,59,897	43.68	42.17	2.41	11.73
4	East Godavari	100049	33.01	53.55	2.40	11.04	1,21,481	19.16	68.10	0.92	11.81
5	West Godavari	52676	18.23	63.10	2.28	16.39	61,890	6.36	76.73	1.50	15.41
6	Krishna	56179	5.95	63.89	4.14	26.02	68,407	2.94	65.19	1.99	29.88
7	Guntur	117171	9.04	69.81	2.44	18.72	1,38,669	6.33	71.78	1.13	20.76
8	Prakasam	62881	6.73	59.89	4.63	28.75	82,532	3.68	66.04	1.82	28.46
9	S.P.S. Nellore	135034	3.10	74.50	2.56	19.84	1,58,821	1.63	76.95	1.57	19.85
10	Y.S.R Kadapa	30756	8.40	54.04	12.22	25.32	38,844	5.69	58.28	6.39	29.63
11	Kurnool	34755	16.42	42.86	17.60	26.08	40,767	9.25	50.72	11.40	28.63
12	Anantapuram	66687	26.37	51.35	6.16	16.12	77,481	15.98	56.01	3.91	24.10
13	Chittoor	68561	10.69	68.92	2.77	17.60	83,922	7.45	68.45	2.08	22.02
	Andhra Pradesh	1236289	29.39	54.29	3.51	14.82	14,57,027	17.02	63.29	2.29	17.40

Source: DES (2015) Statistical Abstract of Andhra Pradesh

## CONCLUSION

India has the second largest concentration of tribal population in the world next to Africa. They lived for thousands of years in forests and hills without any type of contacts with centers of civilization. A society can be called a just society, when are all equal before law, and all are provided equal opportunities for participation in the process of governance and socio-economic development of society. The percentage of ST population to total has increased by 1 per cent during the last century. According to 1991 census, the population of Scheduled Tribes in the country was 67.8 million i.e., 8.1 per cent of the total population. The ST population was 84.3 millions in 2001, representing 8.2 per cent of the country's total population and its increased 8.6 per cent in 2011 census. The decennial growth rate among Scheduled Tribes was 26 per cent during 1981-91 as compared to 24 per cent among the general population. The decennial growth rate of ST population during 1901-2001 was 26 as compared to 23 in general population.

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