

## The initiatives of I.T.D.A. for tribal development through coffee plantation (With Special reference to Paderu, I.T.D.A. in Visakhapatnam (DT) Andhra Pradesh)

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### Abstract

Scheduled Tribes are simple people with exotic customs, traditions and practices. For centuries they lived a life of geographical isolation. In India primitive tribes have lived for thousands of years in forests and hills without any type of contacts with centers of civilization. There is a need for integrating them into the main stream of the society as rightful members, failing which, the ethnic division would persist and deepen, which is dangerous for the very existence of human sanity and human beings. The basic problem of the tribal people is poverty. The problem of low standard of living, hunger, starvation, malnutrition, illiteracy, disease, poor sanitary and housing facilities etc. are serious compared to the non tribals. Further the non tribals such as money lenders, forest contractors, traders, landlords, officials and politicians have subjected these tribals to exploitation for centuries. This is due to their ignorance of modern institutions, scientific and technological development and changing environment.

The ITDA is working in an area categorized as Schedule 5 Area under the Constitution of India commonly known as the Agency Area. The Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDA) was established with the primary object of ensuring an integrated approach towards implementation of developmental programmes for tribals in the sub plan area. The main aim of this paper is the author of this paper completed his Ph.D. in 2012 on Tribal Development in India up to X Plan (A case study of ITDA Paderu). So in continuation of my research work I have concentrated on coffee plantation, initiative taken by the ITDA Paderu for the Scheduled Tribes economic benefit.

**Keywords:** scheduled tribes, primitive, ITDA, exotic, strategies, programmes

### 1. Introduction

India has been described as a melting pot of races and tribes. India has the second largest concentration of tribal population in the world next to Africa. In India, The tribal population of the country, as per 2011 census, is 10.43 core, constituting 8.6% of the total population. 89.97% of them live in rural areas and 10.03% in urban areas. The decadal population growth of the tribals from Census 2001 to 2011 has been 23.66% against the 17.69% of the entire population.

Tribal population have specialized characteristics which are different from others. They are simple people with exotic customs, traditions and practices. For centuries they lived a life of geographical isolation. In India primitive tribes have lived for thousands of years in forests and hills without any type of contacts with centers of civilization.

The United Nations Organization had convened a conference with 26 independent human rights delegates on August 9, 1992 in Geneva. In that conference it was resolute to recognize the day, i.e. August 9 is recognized as International Day of the World's Indigenous people and declared the period from 2004 to 2014 as "Tribal Decade". Yet, even after more than six decades of Independence these indigenous tribes in India are under privileged and are being humiliated from social accession, economic deprivation, political segregation and oppression and are being deprived of fundamental rights and privileges.

From the commencement of the planning era (1951)

efforts were made through various developmental plans, policies special strategies and programmes have registered a definite quantifiable improvement in the socio-economic status of the tribals. However, the progress made by them could not bring them anywhere nearer to the main stream of society as the gap in their socio-economic status continued to prevail not only as a matter to prime concern, but also as a task of accomplish during the X plan

The Agency area consists of 11 Mandals in Paderu Revenue Division and 06 Mandals consisting of 45 villages in T.S.P. area. This agency area is located in Visakhapatnam District in Andhra Pradesh state. The ITDA was established by the government of Andhra Pradesh under the Tribal Welfare Department in the year 1975 as single line administrative agencies to cater to holistic development of the tribal people.

### 2. Objectives

1. To know the demographic profile of the Paderu agency area.
2. To know the initiative programmes of ITDA Paderu
3. To assess the impact of the ITDA
4. To know about the coffee plantation cultivation in XI Plan period
5. To understand the impact of the ITDA for tribal development.

### 3. Methodology

The data related to this is from both primary and

secondary data, collected from different ITDA Paderu, Tribal welfare department of Andhra Pradesh, Discussion

with ITDA officials, random Opinion of the cultivators of Paderu agency and planning commission reports.

**Table 1:** Tribal Population in I.T.D.A. Region Mandal Wise Population - 2011 census

S. No	Mandal	No of Villages	Total Population	ST Population	% of ST Population
1	Munchingi- Puttu	303	47418	44538	94
2	Peda bayalu	268	51890	49937	96
3	Dumbriguda	87	49029	46479	95
4	Araku Valley	164	56674	51876	92
5	Ananthagiri	278	49019	44190	90
6	Hukumpeta	168	51697	49594	96
7	Paderu	200	58983	48694	83
8	G.Madugula	292	53884	49970	93
9	Chintapalli	245	71640	64703	90
10	GudemKotha- Veedhi	171	63174	56757	90
11	Koyuru	136	50639	41213	81
	Total	2312	604047	547951	91

Source: Census of India

**4. Cluster**

There are two Clusters namely “SANKARAM” in V. Madugula Mandal having a group of 25 villages with S.T. Population of 8260 and the other is “SAMMIDA” of Deverapalli Mandal having 17 villages with S.T. Population of 3912. The Coffee Project under MGNREGS is being executed by two departments viz., ITDA and Rural Development which are having separate set of

guidelines and institutionalized process which are not compatible to each other.

**5. Initiatives on Coffee Plantation Taken By ITDA**

From 2009 – 10 that coffee plantation has been sanctioned by the government under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for taking coffee plantations.

**Table 2:** Area covered under MGNREGS: Coffee Plantations

S. No.	Year	Target extent (in acres)	Achievement in acres	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2009-10	12000	11746	11183
2	2010-11	12000	11760	11740
3	2011-12	20000	7424	7356
4	2012-13	20000	7700	7636
5	2013-14	20000	8030	7791
6	2014-15	10000	9023	9322
7	2015-16	10000	6000	5864
	Total	1,04,000	61,684.00	60,892

Source: ITDA Paderu.

Coffee Board has released their subsidy from 2009-10 onwards to ITDA, Paderu for coffee plantations @ Rs.6,000-00 per acre in 3 installments. (Per year 2000 per acre.) Now subsidy pattern changed by Coffee Board from 2015-16 onwards paying Coffee Board in 2 installments (1st year Rs.6,000-00 and 2nd year Rs.4,000-00). This amount is being utilized for materials such as Seed coffee, Shade seeds, Polythene bags, Raising of Pepper seedlings, Mixed Shade seedlings, Supply of

Baby Pulpers, Administrative cost etc., All the tribal farmers were also wage seekers under MGNREGS and they are being engaged in other works during summer season and nearing completing maximum limit of 100 days and by the time of plantation season due to maximum limit of 100 days, they are unable to meet the wage requirement of coffee plantations due to which payments for the tasks under wage component not generated.

**Table 3:** Shade Plantations

S. No	Year	Target extent in acres	Achievement in acres	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2009-10	20000	6391-00	6228
2	2010-11	20000	6662-00	6246
3	2011-12	20000	16121-00	12758
4	2012-13	20000	20917-00	16671
5	2013-14	10000	-00- 00	00
6	2014-15	10000	6100-00	5546
7	2015-16	00	8083-00	7612
	Total	1,00,000	61,274.00	55,061

Source: ITDA, Paderu

The above table 3 shows that there was zero in the year 2013-2014 as there were no beneficiaries. The no of beneficiaries in the years 2011-12 and 2012-13 were more than ten thousand and the remaining period shows beneficiaries are less.

Coffee cultivation requires cool climate and adequate shade and hence, indeed, silver oak is massively planted to provide shade to coffee plants. However, in order to maximize income from the terrain, during the coming years focus has been given on plantation of income generating plants like Mango, Neredu, Kamala, Busi, Pongamia, etc., in place of silver oak as mixed shade plants for shade in a phased manner Coffee cultivated in the Agency Area is organic in nature. The leaf litters, and in some cases compost produced from the vermi-copmpost initiative is applied in the coffee cultivated area. Coffee cultivation has not only ensured supply of minimum needs of marginalized community, but also addressed environmental problem of deforestation arising from “Podu Cultivation” (shifting), soil erosion and

maintaining the forest eco-system intact.

**6. Hud-Hud Cyclone Compensation**

Unfortunately the natural calamity Hud -Hud cyclone occurred on 12-10-2014 in Visakhapatnam District damaged 40,245 acres of the coffee plantations in this Paderu agency area. The Hon’ble Chief Minster, Government of Andhra Pradesh visited Paderu agency area on 17.10.2014 and has announced relief measures to the tribal coffee growers whose coffee plantations were affected in Hud-Hud cyclone damage. Accordingly an amount of 29.035 Crores of rupees released by the Government of A.P. have been paid to the effected beneficiaries as input subsidy @ Rs.10,000/- per acre to 10 years and above coffee plantation, Rs.6,000/- per acre to 5 to 10 years of coffee plantation and Rs.4,000/- per acre to 1 to 5 year of coffee plantation. an amount of Rs.769.91 lakhs input subsidy was released to cover 38,174 affected farmers.

**Table 4:** Abstract of Coffee Plantation taken up since inception to 2015-16:

S. No	Period	Extent (in acres)	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2001-2002	32072	28,472
2	2002-03 to 2006-07	39,959	41,224
3	2007-8to08- 09 (XI)Plan	24,306	23,825
4	From2009-10 to 2015-16 (under MGNREGS)	61684.00	60892
	Total	1,58,021.00	1,54,413

Table 4 shows the coffee plantation is from 2001-02 to 2008-2009 accounts 96,337 acres of land is extent area and number of beneficiaries were 93,521 and from 2009-9-10 to 2015-16 shows the extent of land is decreased to 61,684 and the number of beneficiaries were also confined to 60,892. The author observed that there were 56,236 acres of land under coffee plantation and 53,104 farmers were the beneficiaries under the XI Plan period in the ITDA Paderu agency area in Visakhapatnam District in Andhra Pradesh.

Coffee cultivated in the Agency Area is organic in nature. The leaf litters, and in some cases compost produced from the vermi-copmpost initiative is applied in the coffee cultivated area. Coffee cultivation has not only ensured supply of minimum needs of marginalized community, but also addressed environmental problem of deforestation arising from “Podu Cultivation” (Shifting) soil erosion and maintaining the forest eco-system intact. The Revenue Department is supportively dealing with

benami land issues of the tribals. In the agency like Paderu there are 5517 cases registered on 22260.32 acres of land till 2007 and of that 3517 cases are solved on 21613.00 acres of land and conferred decision favoring schedule Tribes of 4213. The Department has not taken any side in conferring decisions. This has been revealed through conferring favorable decisions for 1114 non-schedule tribes, covering 4359.00 acres of land ( See table 5) The split between the act 1/70 and before is delineating the line of control for transaction and non-transaction of immovable of tribals. People residing before 1/70 are almost treated as tribals and are mingled with tribal cultures and lives.

Effective enforcement of land transfer regulation, i.e.,1/70 Act is in a problematic state. This is primarily due to low understanding and no understanding of the act, which often created fractions, confusions, and rivalry among the inhabitants LTR Status in Paderu Agency Area Till 2007.

**Table 5**

S. no	Particulars	NO. of cases registered	Extent(in Acres) (in Acres)
1	Total cases Detected	5517	22260.32
2	Total Cases disposed	5327	21613.00
3	Cases decided in favor of ST’s	4213	17254.00
4	Case decided in favour of non-ST’s	1114	4359.00
5	Land restored to tribals	3013	1399.00
6	Cases pending	190	645.00

**Source:** special Deputy Collector (TW), Paderu, Visakhapatnam District

**7. Findings**

With the result complete ownership on the programme is not shouldering by any department. The farmers are also

not happy for the present mode of implementation and asking the earlier mode of implementation which is convenient to them including timely payments.

However, the position is quite different in the case of agricultural development and land development programmes. In the case of these two programmes, the performance of the ITDA is impressive. These two programmes has brought about perceptible changes in the agrarian structure of the tribal areas. Under the impact of these programmes of the ITDA, the tribal farmers are slowly adopting modern inputs and methods of agriculture. They have shifted from food crops to commercial crops. The modernization and commercialization processes have resulted in the transformation of tribal agricultural trend.

An examination of the views expressed by the respondents on the services of ITDA reflects that the respondents are with the opinion that the ITDA has succeeded only to a limited extent in achieving the development of tribals which is its main objective. Further, they feel that the ITDA is concentrating mainly on, agricultural sector and paying little attention on other sectors and at the same time its benefits are reaped by a limited number of tribals only who are politically influential and economically better off.

### **8. Suggestions**

Creating awareness among tribal coffee growers and giving necessary technical support will go a long way in sustenance of the Coffee Project. Preparation of organic manures by introducing vermiculture and other organic manures as suitable according to local conditions can also be taken up on a large scale.

### **9. Conclusion**

Necessary training material, manuals and hand-outs, workshops and interactive sessions need to be conducted village wise, according to a plan in a time bound programme.

### **10. References**

1. Planning Department, Govt. of AP
2. ITDA Paderu
3. Census of India
4. Tribal welfare Department of Andhra Pradesh.
5. Ministry of Tribal Affairs Govt. of India