



APPROACHES TO TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT

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Syllabus Approaches to Tribal Development

Based on **three** models, to conserve, assimilate and integrate

Approaches - Pre and Post Independence

Nehru, A V Thakkar, S C Roy, Elwin

1. Political approach
- ii. Administrative approach
- iii. Missionary approach
- iv. Voluntary agencies approach
- v. Anthropological approach.

Activities

1. Quiz on Different Approaches to Tribal Development
2. Documentary on various approaches- 1. Adivasi Vikas, 2. A reply by Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Arjun Munda on the constitution order, Bill -201
3. Panel discussion with Voluntary agencies on SHGs , Micro Finance

Deliverables

They are now aware of the basic approaches to Tribal Development and, emerging Development initiatives and ready with Case Study



Tribal Development Approaches

- Tribals in remote areas are still lack of common infrastructure facilities of road and communication, health and education and safe drinking water, which do not allow them to absorb technological and financial facilities provided by government.
- Sustainable Tribal Development Approaches were taken up for their all round development as well as to bring them into the mainstream.

Objectives of Tribal Development Approach

- To promote sustainable participatory livelihood programmes
- To take up promotional efforts such as capacity building, exposure visits, training, developing literature, sensitization programmes etc.

- To support promotional activities for micro-credit, promotion of SHGs, Income
- Generating Activities for land-less, SC / ST communities and other weaker sections of the community
- To support activities related to development of tribal market



Approaches - Pre Independence

During the British rule in the pre-independence period, most of the tribal communities in India remained isolated from the mainstream of national life. Tribal areas were kept secluded and cut off from the rest of the people. The policy of the British government was solely directed and dominated by the colonial interests and based on isolation and exploitation of the tribals.

- The approaches to the development of the tribal people in India can, be divided into three categories such as;
 1. Isolationist Approach,
 2. Assimilation Approach, and
 3. Integration Approach

1. Isolationist Approach:

- It manifested in the form of British designating tribal areas as 'excluded areas ' based on the principle of non-interference.
- Under British rule, the extension of a centralized administration over areas, which previously were outside the effective control of princely rulers, **deprived many aboriginal tribes of their autonomy.**
- Though British administrators **had no intention of interfering with tribesmen's rights and traditional manner of living**

2. Assimilation Approach

- This believed in mainstream Tribals and their culture completely eroding their culture completely by making them accept the mainstream culture
- **Acceptance or denial of the necessity for assimilation with Hindu society** is ultimately a question of values. In the past, Hindu society had been tolerant of groups that would not conform to the standards set by the higher castes.

3. Integration approach

- The Government of India has adopted a policy of integration of tribals with the mainstream **aiming at developing a creative adjustment between the tribes and non tribes leading to a responsible partnership.**
- By adopting the **policy of integration or progressive acculturation** the Government has laid the foundation for the uninhibited march of the tribals towards **equality, upward mobility, and economic viability and assured proximity to the national mainstream.**

Approaches Post Independence

- There are mainly five approaches which have been employed so far in the welfare of tribals in India. The approaches are:
 1. Political approach
 2. Administrative approach
 3. Religious approach with special reference to missionary approach
 4. Voluntary agencies approach
 5. Anthropological approach.

Political Approach

- The political approach for the tribal welfare may be understood in the context of the pre and post independence period.
- The colonial rule created “excluded” and “partly excluded” areas and gave separate political representation to the tribes.
- Nationalists opposed these measures as part of diabolic conspiracy to a new separatism.
- After independence, the constitution has given the tribals a number of safeguards by considering them to be the weaker section of the population
- In the first instance a period of 10 years was given to achieve the goal, but as the problem was too complicated to be solved through a single decade, it has persisted through decades.

Administrative Approach

- The administrative approach is closely followed by the political approach.
- The Government of India has vast administrative machinery for tribal welfare.
- At the State level, the governor has been made responsible and on his behalf the chief minister and welfare minister are in charge of the special schemes to be implemented in the tribal areas.
- In some major concentrated tribal areas, the State has an independent tribal welfare ministry.

Religious approach with special reference to missionary approach

- The religious has been attempted by different religious agencies like Christian missionaries, the Ramakrishna mission, the Arya Samaj and other local religious institutions which are engaged in the welfare works for the tribals.
- The Christian missionaries have been active in tribal India. For both types of work, spiritual and material, the missionaries did realize the importance of understanding the tribal culture and language. Missionary welfare activities have been viewed by different persons in different ways.

Voluntary Agencies Approach

- Under the voluntary agencies approach social workers, social welfare agencies, social movement agencies, social reformers, etc., are working to uplift the weaker section of our society in their own ways.
- Voluntary social service organizations have done considerable humanitarian work in the tribal areas but their idealism and spirit of service have not been matched by their understanding of tribal organization, values and problems.

Anthropological Approach

- Anthropologists believe in the ultimate integration of tribes into the mainstream of national life. After independence, some anthropologists came out with several papers and addresses, dealing with the importance of applied anthropology in tribal welfare programmes. The various tribal research institutes are engaged in conducting research on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Besides, many university departments in the country undertake research on them

Jawaharlal Nehru's "five principles" for the tribals

- The Constitution through several Articles has provided for the socio-economic development and empowerment of Scheduled Tribes.
- Five principles spelt out in 1952, known as Nehruvian Panchasheel, have been guiding the administration of tribal affairs.

- Jawaharlal Nehru believed that the uplift of the tribals had to take place through a slow process of their modernization, even while their culture had to be preserved. He had formulated the following **five principles for the policy** to be pursued vis-a-vis the tribals. They are:

1. Tribals should be allowed to develop according to their own genius.
2. Tribals' rights in land and forest should be respected.

3. Tribal teams should be trained to undertake administration and development without too many outsiders being inducted.
4. Tribal development should be undertaken without disturbing tribal social and cultural institutions.
5. The index of tribal development should be the quality of their life and not the money spent.

Approach by Elwin

1. The major exponent of Isolation approach was V. Elwin. He was of the view that tribals should not have contact with the outside world. He maintained that no one should be allowed to meddle in their way of life.
2. He expressed his explicit and bold anthropological view regarding the future of the tribes for the first time in his monumental monograph on the Baiga of the Central Provinces

3. Elwin was of the view that excessive outside contact will cause a heavy damage to the cultural matrix of the tribes and their freedom will get a serious set back
- 4 Elwin proposed the creation of the "National Park" to underline the need for the protection of the tribe against exploitation, and the three freedoms for them, freedom from fear, freedom from want and freedom from interference
5. Elwin's approach to tribal problems cannot be said to be static in as much as he modified it in his later works. He clarified the misconception created in the minds of the social workers regarding his approach to the tribal culture and emphasised the need for a careful planning for the changing tribals of India.

Tribal Development Policies in India

A V Thakkar

- Tribal Development approaches found support in the three important policies or theories, namely
 - (i) policy of isolation / segregation,
 - (ii) policy of assimilation, and
 - (iii) policy of integration.

The protagonists of these policies look into the tribal problems in their respective ways. These policies to the tribal development may be separately considered in the context of pre-independence and post-independence periods.

- this policy was continued for some time. Nationalist politicians and social workers like A.V. Thakkar advocated this policy;
- G.S. Ghure is also a protagonist of this policy and whose main objective is a constant assimilation of tribals and a result of constant contact of the tribals with the rest of the Indian population and the efforts of social reforms towards development.
- The policy of integration is the outcome of the serious research activities undertaken by social anthropologists in India. Their main objective is “social integration and cultural assimilation”.

National Policy on Tribals.

- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is now coming out with the **Draft National Policy on Tribals**. Based on the feedback from tribal leaders, the concerned States, individuals, organisations in the public and the private sectors, and NGOs, the Ministry will finalise the policy.

- **The National Policy recognizes that:**
 1. A majority of Scheduled Tribes continue to live below the poverty line
 2. They have poor literacy rates
 3. They suffer from malnutrition and disease
 4. They are vulnerable to displacement.

Modified Areas Development Approach (MADA)

For all round development of the tribals outside the sub-plan areas a new programme called Modified Areas Development Approach (MADA) was launched in 1978-79. The criterion for selection of this area was areas having a population of 10000 or more with at least 50 percent tribal concentration. The identified areas called as MADA Pockets. In these pockets individual family-oriented schemes as well as community benefit oriented programmes are to be implemented.

The background of the slide is a collage of several photographs. In the top left, a woman in a red dress is visible. To her right, there's a group of people. In the bottom left, a woman in a white top is shown. The bottom right features a person in a white shirt. The overall image is slightly blurred and has a soft, pastel-like color palette.

Thank You