# The Challenges and Issues of Tribal Women Labourers Participation in Rural Development Activities: A Sociological Study

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# **ABSTRACT**

Recent women development studies increasingly showed that rural women were the poorest of poor often trapped in conditions that lift them in worse off circumstances then their compatriots. Amidst the past half a century of national development efforts, women continued to be the single largest group of backward Citizens suffering double discrimination. The poverty induced cycle affected all people but made the hardest impact on women and girls. Conditions were not created for the improvement of poor rural women, who were viewed as recipients of marginal social welfare. It was in this backdrop the special recognition was given during the Sixth Five Year Plan emphasizing the need to open a new avenue of work for rural women for increasing their productivity and bringing them into the economic mainstream as useful and productive human beings. The plan also perceived them as a crucial resource for the development of the country. It was also realized that any process of development or resolve to wage an outright war against age-old problems of poverty, ignorance and backwardness, caring little for the uplift of somewhat half of population of women was bound to be less effective in arriving at solutions. Women must put their shoulder to the wheel if the nation wanted to march forward. Thus organizing of women groups was considered to be one of the most effective tools for integrating rural women in the development process. The present study would contribute to understand the Structural condition that had shaped the rural tribal women of the district and also the implications in organizing grass roots tribal women for change in rural Community. This would also manifest how much the work in the case of grass root tribal women, who faced different Social and economic Conditions and had fewer resources available to build organization and to change their economic Condition, was Confronted with the multiplicity of interrelated issues.

**KEYWORDS:** - Development, Social Welfare, Poverty, Backwardness, Community, Social, Economic.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

The rural population amounting to 93.2 percent (Census 2011) of the Dumka district amply substantiated that the district was predominantly rural and agricultural. More than two-third of its population lived and earned their livelihood from rural sector. The incidence of agricultural occupation was quite high. The rural economy was such that one-third of its population was placed in the economic activities and the rest of the population was dependent on the earning of working population. A mong the working population more than two-third were engaged in agriculture and allied activities with very lower level of labour productivity. About 60 percent of families in rural area were cultivators in the sense of operation some cultivated land and that of the non-cultivators at least half depended for their support on agriculture and land. This gave about 80 percent of rural families interested in land management. In reality rural agriculture was for the most part 'extensive' inspite of the very large and rapidly growing labour force squeezing in living from land. There were extra-ordinarily low yields prevailing, which could be raised substantially even with the use of no other techniques than those traditionally available. There were acres and acres of land which grew only one-half, one-third and even one fourth of their potential. An increase in labour input and a rise in labour intensity could raise production. As such there was considerable scope for the intensive utilization of man-power resources. There were cultivators of reluctances to assimilate innovations and the experts even failed to recognize the force of this reluctance. Traditional attitudes towards work were perhaps the strong resistant. Social forces helped to keep the idle waste land idle. A powerful economic obstacle to land reclamation was its formidable cost. There was a traditional pastoral method of cattle feeding. Potentially cattle were resources of power, fertilizer, fuel and foodstuff.

The preceding analysis also revealed the following characteristics of the rural scene of Santal Pargana:-

- The rural area of Santal Pargana was extremely backward, drought prone, densely tribal and hilly.
- The spiking feature was the extreme inequality of land distribution which had been stabilized substantially over time marking for a high incidence of rural poverty. Land in the Santal Pargana division had been over worked and the fertility was only marginal. The number of labour employed per unit of land varied inversely to the size of farm. The labour intensity per acre of land was much higher on small size of farms.
- Inadequate rural infrastructure, poor living conditions and insufficient marketing facilities foreshadowed the actual backwardness of rural economy of Santal Pargana division.
- The predominance of rural sector in the Santal Pargana division economy reflected the composition of the domestic production and also determined the economic conditions of majority of the population. The effect of food grain production was significantly and inversely related to the level of poverty.
- The rural areas had most of the poor. The largest concentration of the poor was in the following districts Sahibganj, Pakur, Godda, and Dumka. Nearly 30 percent of rural households of these areas depended wholly or mainly on wage income as their means of livelihood.
- Attempts made by the government so far had adversely affected the lower strata of the agrarian society causing growth of an atmosphere of intense tension in the agrarian area.

Besides, the numerous prejudices were also corroding the life of the rural people which manifested themselves in various forms of tension, antagonism and conflict. All these phenomena revealed that the rural district was not so inherit and quiescent as it was once assumed to be; and to reconstruct such a rural setting it was necessary to study not only economic forces but also the social and other forces operating in the rural society.

Out of the total rural population of 93.18 (%) The women population accounted to 49.55 (%) (Census 2011)

This indicated the potential strength of tribal women in the labour force in the districts of Dumka. The number of female – headed households with dependents was also on increase. Their concern in all sectors had been weakened. Ninety four percent of the total tribal Woman Labourers were concentrated in the informal sector, in low skilled and poorly paid jobs. Besides they also continued to work in household industry and service sector. Doing all these activities it was observed that there was significant gap between rural tribal women's potential and actual productivity. Despite considerable efforts in the past since independence, alleviation of poverty in the rural areas had proved an intractable problem because the priority-growth model planning tried during these years generally failed to make the trickle-down mechanism reach the hard core poor.

## 2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Most of the studies have indicated the lack of support services of women when they go out of their homes to works. Employers shirk from employing women on a regular basis because of the benefits/support services that they are supposed to provide under the factories act. This has led to women remaining as ad hoc and unorganized workers. Studies have also highlighted the health hazards faced by women in certain industries and the total apathy of the employers to provide safety measures. Dandekar, V.M. has tried his best to study the level of integration which was published in Economic & Political Weekly, 1982. Presents some data regarding women's participation in economic activities in India and against this background discusses the problem of increasing women's participation in economic activity so that they may contribute to and are fully integrated in economic development.

It is prevalent that division of labour based on gender is very common in all section of unorganized sector and in particular to the division of labour, patriarch society have imposed and confined women up to some selected occupation. In relation to the division of labour, significant contribution have been made by llaiah, K. presented a paper at the National conference on women's studies, Bombay, 1981. She opines that the division of labour is artificially imposed by one sex on the other. It argues that though a women's work consumes the same amount of time and energy as a man's yet she does not get an equal share of food. The increased production had hardly improved her position.

For instance, Kalpagram, U. also contributed in relation to the division of labour and hierarchies which she presented as a paper at the Second National Conference on women's studies session on work and Employment, Trivandrum, 1984. The paper was based on labour market segmentation in multi-structural context and its implication on the female labour force. This paper deals with the nature of industrial structure and the characteristics of female industrial labour force in India. And the implications for an analysis of the class dimension of labour

markers jobs stratifications, hierarchies and occupational segregation and how they affect the division of labour between men and women.

There are also some studies have been made in relation to study the socio-economic status of working women, their migration, role in family affairs despite of their working schedule, etc. these subjects are having good numbers of literature but among these researcher significant contribution on social status and family affairs have done by Talwar, U. 1984. She did a survey of working women in Jodhpur (a) to specify the characteristics of working women, (b) to identify the reasons for employment, (c) to examine division of Labour in the family (d) to analyze the role of working women in decision-making, (e) the effect on children, and (f) to understand the pattern of marital interaction.

Other contribution for the study of work income and women, we find the literature by Ghosh, B. and Mukhopadhyay, S. 1984. They examine how far traditional economic models and the conventional definition of work, income and employment can judge accurately the contribution of women to national income and the microlevel to apply the time allocation methodology in an attempt to understand the rationale underlying the categorization of work done by women into traditionally defined 'economic and non-economic' activities.

#### 3. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main aim of this study is to identify the challenges and issues of development of tribal women labourers and suggest suitable measures to overcome these problems.

- 1. To study the status of tribal women labourers in Dumka district.
- 2. To analyse the challenges and issues of tribal women labourers participation in rural development activities.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

This study is Empirical in nature. The information is based on the participant observation method in which the author had collected information through interaction with the villagers and tribal women labourers while visiting these blocks of Dumka district such as Shikaripara, Kathikund, Ramgarh, Masalia, Ranishwar, Gopikandar and Dumka. Author also consulted the secondary sources like Census of India 2011 for statistical representation of demographical features of participation of labourers of Dumka. The presented research paper parameters in relation with the social structure of the rural society of Dumka district and the economic activities directing social change under given circumstances were:

- (a) The status of the rural tribal women.
- (b) Sources of income of the tribal women and their prevailing economic pattern.
- (c) The response of the villagers to the current development programmes of govt. and evidence of social change.

**Table-1:** Number and percentage of main workers, marginal workers, and non-workers by sex in Sub-districts, Census 2011.

Sl	Name of the	Persons/	Total	Main w	Main workers		Marginal		workers	Non workers	
	Sub-district	Males/	popul			workers		(main	and		
N		Females	ation			94-		margin	al		
0.								workers	s)		
				Num	Percent	Num	Percent	Num	Percent	Num	Percent
				ber	age	ber	age	ber	age	ber	age
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Persons	15629	3702	23.69	3939	25.21	7642	48.90	7987	51.10
1	02666-		1	4		6		0		1	
	Saraiyahat	Males	80535	2696	33.49	1670	20.75	4367	54.23	3685	45.77
				9		8		7		8	
		Females	75756	1005	13.27	2268	29.95	3274	43.22	4301	56.78

									I		
			10.11	5		8		3	10.7	3	<u> </u>
2	02667-	Persons	18528 6	3994 6	21.56	4966 3	26.80	8960 9	48.36	9567 7	51.64
	Jarmundi	Males	94202	2817 8	29.91	2365 2	25.11	5183 0	55.02	4237 2	44.98
		Females	91084	1176 8	12.92	2601	28.56	3777 9	41.48	5330	58.52
3	02668-	Persons	15991 1	2173 8	13.59	6052	37.85	8226 5	51.44	7764 6	48.56
	Ramgarh	Males	79944	1444	18.07	3089	38.64	4534 0	56.71	3460 4	43.29
		Females	79967	7289	9.12	2963	37.06	3692 5	46.18	4304	53.82
4	02669- Gopikandar	Persons	42063	8044	19.12	1536	36.52	2340	55.65	1865 7	44.35
	Sopilaridar	Males	20999	5173	24.63	6963	33.16	1213	57.79	8863	42.21
		Females	21064	2871	13.63	8399	39.87	1127 0	53.50	9794	46.50
5	02670-	Persons	71458	1325 1	18.54	2159	30.22	3484 6	48.76	3661 2	51.24
	Kathikund	Males	35598	9339	26.23	1042 5	29.29	1976 4	55.52	1583 4	44.48
		Females	35860	3912	10.91	1117 0	31.15	1508 2	42.06	2077 8	57.94
6	02671 - Shikaripara	Persons	13146 4	2619 9	19.93	3097 6	23.56	5717 5	43.49	7428 9	56.51
		Males	65722 3	1912 6	29.10	1634 7	24.87	3547 3	53.97	3025 0	46.03
		Females	65741	7073	10.76	1462 9	22.25	2170 2	33.01	4403 9	66.99
7	02672-	Persons	10166 7	1954 6	19.23	2545 0	25.03	4499 6	44.26	5667 1	55.74
	Ranishwar	Males	51115	1402 7	27.44	1495 3	29.25	2898 0	56.70	2213 5	43.30
		Females	50552	5519	10.92	1049 7	20.76	1601 6	31.68	3453 6	68.32
8	02673-	Persons	21078 5	3810 3	18.08	4368 8	20.73	8179 1	38.80	1289 94	61.20
	Dumka	Males	10794 9	3005 6	27.84	2447 9	22.68	5453 5	50.52	5341 4	49.48
		Females	10283 6	8047	7.83	1920 9	18.68	2725 6	26.50	7558 0	73.50
9	02674-Jama	Persons	13796 3	1564 8	11.34	5347 5	38.76	6912 3	50.10	6884 0	49.90
		Males	69621	1161 6	16.68	2735 7	39.29	3897 3	55.98	3064 8	44.02
		Females	68342	4032	5.90	2611 8	38.22	3015 0	44.12	3819 2	55.88
1	02675-	Persons	12455 4	1798 0	14.44	4716 8	37.87	6514 8	52.31	5940 6	47.69
0	Masalia	Males	62828	1288 4	20.51	2351 6	37.43	3640 0	57.94	2642 8	42.06
		Females	61726	5096	8.26	2365	38.32	2874 8	46.57	3297 8	53.43

District	Du mka	Persons	13214	2374	17.97	3873	29.31	6247	47.28	6966	52.72
(362)			42	79		00		79		63	
		Males	66851	1718	25.70	1952	29.21	3671	54.91	3014	45.09
			4	17		91		08		06	
		Females	65292	6566	10.06	1920	29.41	2576	39.46	3952	60.54
			8	2		09		71		57	

Table-1., the work participation rate for total workers is defined as the percentage of total workers to total population. In similar way, it is defined for main and marginal workers, it shows that the work participation rate (WPR) in the Dumka district is 17.97 percent as main workers and 31.29 percent as marginal workers and proportion of non-workers in the district is 52.72 percent.

Among the main workers male work participation rate in the district is 25.70 percent while that of females is only 10.06 percent as per 2011 census. The proportion of main workers is highest (23.69%) in Sariahat Sub District and the lowest 11.34% in Jama Sub District. Out of 10 Sub District WPR of 8 Sub District are above the district average. The proportion of marginal works is the highest (38.76%) in Jama Sub District and lowest is (20.73%) in Dumka Sub District. The proportion of total workers is the highest (55.65%) Gopikandar Sub District and the lowest (38.80%) in Dumka Sub District.

**Table-2**: Number and percentage of main workers, marginal workers, and non-workers by sex in towns, Census 2011.

Sl. N o.	Name of town	Persons/ Males/ Females	Total populatio n	Main workers		_	Marginal workers		workers and nal rs)	Non workers		
				Nu mb er	Perce ntage	Numb er	Percen tage	Nu m ber	Percen tage	Nu m ber	Percen tage	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1	80179 0-	Persons	17123	4048	23.64	2149	12.55	6197	36.19	1092 6	63.81	
	Basuki	Males	8861	3350	37.81	1079	12.18	4429	49.98	4432	50.02	
	nath (NP)	Females	8262	698	8.45	1070	12.95	1768	21.40	6494	78.60	
2	80179 1-	Persons	47584	11938	25.09	1824	3.83	1376 2	28.92	3382 2	71.08	
	Du mka (Nagar	Males	25364	10407	41.03	1458	5.75	1186 5	46.78	1349 9	53.22	
	Parisha d)	Females	22220	1531	6.89	366	1.65	1897	8.54	2032	91.46	
	37156	Persons	8320	1851	22.25	766	9.21	2617	31.45	5703	68.55	
3	5-	Males	4257	1628	38.24	429	10.08	2057	48.32	2200	51.68	
	Rasikp ur (CT)	Females	4063	223	5.49	337	8.29	560	13.78	3503	86.22	
4		Persons	7117	1624	22.82	535	7.52	2159	30.34	4958	69.66	
	37156	Males	3761	1328	35.31	420	11.17	1748	46.48	2013	53.52	
	6- Dudha ni (CT)	Females	3356	296	8.82	115	3.43	411	12.25	2945	87.75	
	37156	Persons	10034	1813	18.07	859	8.56	2672	26.63	7362	73.37	
5	7-	Males	5343	1619	30.30	683	12.78	2302	43.08	3041	56.92	
	Purana Dumka	Females	4691	194	4.14	176	3.75	370	7.89	4321	92.11	

(CT)										
Distric	Persons	90178	21274	23.59	6133	6.80	2740	30.39	6277	69.61
t							7		1	
(Urban	Males	47586	18332	38.52	4069	8.55	2240	47.07	2518	52.93
):							1		5	
Du mka	Females	42592	2942	6.91	2064	4.85	5006	11.75	3758	88.25
(362)									6	

Table-2., There are only 2 Statutory Towns in Dumka district i.e. Dumka (NP) & Basukinath (NP) and 3 Census Towns i.e. Rasikpur, Dudhani & Purana Dumka. The work participation rate for total workers is defined as the percentage of total workers to total population. In a similar way, it is defined for main and marginal workers. For Dumka district urban area the main worker, marginal worker & non worker recorded as 23.59, 6.80 & 69.61 percent respectively.

Table-3: Distribution of workers by sex in four categories of economic activity in Sub-District, Census 2011.

Sl N	Name of the Sub-district	Person s/Male s/	Total populat ion	Total worke rs		É	Category of workers						
0	A	Femal es		(main + margi	+ ///		ors Agricultu labourers				Other workers		
				nal worke rs)	Num ber	Perce ntage	Nu m ber	Perc enta ge	Nu m ber	Perc enta ge	Nu m ber	Perc enta ge	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1	02666-	Person s	156291	76420	2363 7	30.93	4083 6	53.4 4	3312	4.33	8635	11.3 0	
	Saraiyahat	Males	80535	43677	1461 0	33.45	2055 9	47.0 7	1941	4.44	6567	15.0 4	
	10/	Femal es	75756	32743	9027	27.57	2027 7	61.9	1371	4.19	2068	6.32	
2	02667-	Person s	185286	89609	3010 7	33.60	4412 8	49.2 5	3114	3.48	1226 0	13.6 8	
	Jarmundi	Males	94202	51830	1822 2	35.16	2238 9	43.2	1711	3.30	9508	18.3 4	
		Femal es	91084	37779	1188 5	31.46	2173 9	57.5 4	1403	3.71	2752	7.28	
3	02668-	Person s	159911	82265	2995 2	36.41	4344 6	52.8 1	2411	2.93	6456	7.85	
	Ramgarh	Males	79944	45340	1746 1	38.51	2253 6	49.7 0	1215	2.68	4128	9.10	
		Femal es	79967	36925	1249 1	33.83	2091 0	56.6 3	1196	3.24	2328	6.30	
4	02669- Gopikandar	Person s	42063	23406	1052 0	44.95	9377	40.0 6	1546	6.61	1963	8.39	
		Males	20999	12136	6192	51.02	4414	36.3 7	574	4.73	956	7.88	
		Femal es	21064	11270	4328	38.40	4963	44.0 4	972	8.62	1007	8.94	
5	02670-	Person s	71458	34846	1259 1	36.13	1780 2	51.0 9	1269	3.64	3184	9.14	
	Kathikund	Males	35598	19764	7376	37.32	9414	47.6 3	652	3.30	2322	11.7 5	

		Femal es	35860	15082	5215	34.58	8388	55.6 2	617	4.09	862	5.72
		Person	131464	57175	1682	29.43	2489	43.5	1131	1.98	1431	25.0
6	02671-	S			9		8	5			7	4
	Shikaripara	Males	65723	35473	1132	31.91	1307	36.8	579	1.63	1050	29.6
					1		2	5			1	0
		Femal	65741	21702	5508	25.38	1182	54.4	552	2.54	3816	17.5
		es					6	9				8
		Person	101667	44996	9829	21.84	2792	62.0	1430	3.18	5809	12.9
7	02672-	S					8	7				1
	Ranishwar	Males	51115	28980	7036	24.28	1678	57.9	694	2.39	4467	15.4
							3	1				1
		Femal	50552	16016	2793	17.44	1114	69.5	736	4.60	1342	8.38
		es	210505	01701	1206	15.00	5	9	27.61	1.60	2450	12.2
0	02672 D 1	Person	210785	81791	1396	17.08	2947	36.0	3761	4.60	3458	42.2
8	02673-Dumka	S	107040	5.4525	7	15.40	7	4	2161	2.06	6	9
		Males	107949	54535	8399	15.40	1597	29.2	2161	3.96	2800	51.3
		F 1	102026	07056	5560	20.42	3	9	1,000	5.07	2	5 24.1
		Femal	102836	27256	5568	20.43	1350	49.5	1600	5.87	6584	
		es Person	137963	69123	2474	35.80	3197	46.2	2806	4.06	9596	13.8
9	02674-Jama	S	137903	09123	8	33.80	3	6	2800	4.00	9390	8
	0207 <del>4</del> Julia	Males	69621	38973	1334	34.24	1708	43.8	1274	3.27	7268	18.6
		Willes	07021	30713	6	31.21	5	4	12/1	3.27	7200	5
	10.0	Femal	68342	30150	1140	37.82	1488	49.3	1532	5.08	2328	7.72
	3007	es	003.12	30130	2	37.02	8	8	1552	5.00	2320	7.72
		Person	124554	65148	2122	32.58	3321	50.9	2326	3.57	8381	12.8
1	02675-	S			2	.//	9	9			li.	6
0	Masalia	Males	62828	36400	1254	34.45	1650	45.3	1262	3.47	6096	16.7
	1, 1/1				1		1	3			8	5
	7	Femal	61726	28748	8681	30.20	1671	58.1	1064	3.70	2285	7.95
	30.0	es					8	5	1	All P		
Dis	trict Du mka	Person	132144	62477	1934	30.96	3030	48.5	2310	3.70	1051	16.8
(362	2)	S	2	9	02		84	1	6	18	87	4
		Males	668514	36710	1165	31.74	1587	43.2	1206	3.29	7981	21.7
	V V			8	04	-4	26	4	3	1.6	5	4
		Femal	652928	25767	7689	29.84	1443	56.0	1104	4.29	2537	9.85
		es		1	8		58	2	3		2	

**Table-3.**, from the above table, the relative importance of the main spheres of economic activity may be gauged from the pattern of distribution of main workers according to the broad four categories classification namely, cultivators, agricultural laborers household industry workers and other workers. The economic activity in the rural and urban areas in the district is primarily dependent on agricultural which is supported by the fact the cultivators (30.96%) and agricultural labourers (48.51%) together constitutes 79.47 percent of the total workers of the district. The agriculture sector has observed more than 50% of the total main workers. The proportion of cultivator's varies between 44.95 percent for Gopikandar Sub-District to 17.08 percent for Dumka Sub-District. Proportion of agricultural labourers varies between 62.07 percent in Ranishwar Sub-District to 36.04 percent in Dumka Sub-District. The proportion of Household industry workers is only 3.70 percent of the total works of the district. A proportion household industry worker varies between 6.61 percent in Gopikandar Sub-District to 1.98 percent in Sikaripara Sub-District. The proportion of other workers is 16.84 percent of the total workers of the district.

## 5. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

- 1. Contrary to the guidelines the identification and selection of women labour beneficiaries of government development programme was not full proof. It was pointed out that since the poverty-line surveys were not completed in timely way, often the identification of beneficiaries was conducted in an 'adhoc' manner. The minimum income-limit of poverty line too was not redrawn in the light of inflationary pressure taking into account the vital parameters.
- 2. Revolving Fund appeared to be the motivating factor for their active participation in the development programme which made positive impact in terms of women involvement in income generating activities and thus increasing their earnings ranging from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 6000 per month. But this had the side effect. The male counterparts were encouraged to spend their earned income on toddy and other local made liquors thus destroying family environments.
- 3. The tribal women labourers mostly belonged to the 'same locality' and 'traditional trade, which provided to them the opportunity of interaction among them.
- 4. For traditional trade, the available skill, raw materials and local markets were enough to generate steady income and employment to other family members. That was why the women reinforced their traditional occupation for their economic betterment and improving their lining out of the incremental income they received from the development projects of GOI.
- 5. The Government development programmes did not provide the basic facilities and infrastructure to the women labourers enabling them to function effectively. The Government development programme approach and benefits could not be given to them to understand in detail and from time to time. In a way the tribal women labourers were often neglected. Besides almost all works relating to the actual implementation of the development programme took more time and did not occur in timely manner.
- 6. To some of the tribal women labourers, assured income from other traditional sources and also helped the tribal women labourers to take up the Government development Programme as a subsidiary employment.
- 7. The tribal women labourers revealed while interview that the level of awareness about the government development Scheme in true sense was very poor. It looked as if the objectives of the scheme too were not properly explained to them. They simple knew that they would get some personal benefit through it. Information about self-role, group cohesiveness, capital, market etc. was relatively lacking among the tribal women Labourers. However, the tribal women were found to be aware of the various Village Problems Pertaining to health, sanitation and drinking water etc. But the level of awareness among the tribal women was yet to be improved to be cured of their total 'dependency Syndrome.
- 8. All items falling under 'Convergence of services' was not taken Care of. Achieving Convergence of services delivered by various departments for the benefit of labourers in particular and women in general was absolutely a myth. At District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) level there was no Co-ordination required continuously to operationalise the Linkages. As a result, the tribal women labourers Confidence and Performance were not getting fillup.
- 9. Although the Development Programme Laid utmost stress on Proper Skill training of women labourers at Various levels for motivation, attitudinal Change and awareness building besides being taught about its Philosophy and the various Policy guidelines, nothing was done practically in this regard, Many of the Problems of general and specific nature always haunted the implementation of the development scheme in rural areas.
- 10. Women of a few of the tribal villages being quite interior had the Problem of selling their Products because of no link roads what to speak of jeepable roads which limited their mobility causing adverse impact on marketing of their Product. There was also no marketing tie-up.
- 11. The tribal women labourers in large number were found to be satisfied with the Rural Development Programme with all its inherent limitations. The Santal women artisans also wanted to improve upon their Skills and acquire more market by improving the quality of the finished froducts. Most of the tribal women had the Personality characteristics such as hard work, initiative and interest in their Vocation. The group of women had also the Concern about their own life which could be thought of providing a direction for the Socio-economic development of women and children under Government sponsored schemes.
- 12. The encouragement from the male members and the Village Community was found Positive in majority of the cases.
- 13. The educational level of the tribal women labourers on average was very Low and this hampered their Progress in various ways.

- 14. Dissemination of health messages was not made integral part of the Rural Development Programme and as much majority of the target groups remained ignorant of health Care Concepts which were essential for them and their children.
- 15. Though Scanty, experience showed that Contribution of Rural Development Programmes to women's development was not negligible and its impact over a period of one decade was not such to be overlooked. The Government Rural Development Programmes also conveyed a message of awareness at some levels. The isolation of tribal women from development had ceased to a great extent. But no Progress in the well-being of children had been achieved. Malnutrition was still Prevalent and health status of the tribal women was far from satisfactory. Referral services were not provided. In remote tribal villages the health care was yet to reach.

#### 6. CONCLUSIONS

The overall study in the foregoing pages is a definite pointer to the fact that the Present rural development programme has given a moral boost to the people. There may be opinions and approaches, pace of growth, and the extent of commitment of the system which is desirable also in a democratic set up, it cannot be denied that the renewed initiative to empower the Panchayati Raj Institution (PRIs) need to be sustained in a whole some way, for this, concerted action on the Part of the Central government, the State government, the Elected representative, NGOs, and the People at Large is imperative. The Progress of Rural Development Programmes/Schemes will also contribute to the integration of Social and Economic development of the Country as a whole in general and with reverence to Jharkhand in Particular. Theoretically, acceleration of Participatory Process a lower level has contributed to the success of the antipoverty strategy. However, possible steps are needed to strengthen the peer bodies, so as to utilize these meaningfully in all anti-poverty strategy and employment programmes.

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