

CHAPTER 4

SCENARIO OF SOCIO ECONOMIC CONDITION OF TRIBES

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The present chapter analyses the socio-economic characteristics of Tharu tribe of Lakhimpur Kheri district. Socioeconomic characteristics such as housing condition, household items, vehicles, agriculture equipment, livestock ownership, electricity availability, drinking water facility, land ownership, agriculture income and non-agriculture income were found important for analyzing the current scenario of socio-economic condition of Tharu tribe in the study area. Further, their access to bank, education, health has also been worked out in this chapter along with their access to government schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY), Toilet scheme, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojna (PMUY), Vaccination Scheme, free distribution of books and dress scheme.

4.1. Housing Conditions of Households

The housing condition of a household is considered as a major socioeconomic factor that could define their living condition. Housing condition has been defined by the type of wall, floor and roof. 51.6 percent of the houses are made up of mud and clay whereas 48.4 percent are of brick and cement. On the other hand, in 76.1 percent houses roof is asbestos sheet and only in 23.9 percent it is made up of RCC cement. In the case of floor of the house 96.1 percent are made with mud and clay and only 3.9 percent are made of marble/concrete. The houses which are made up of brick and cement are mainly the result of PMAY and Indira Awas Yojna (IAY) whereas houses made up of mud and clay are basically part of their tradition. Therefore it can be concluded that households are not capable enough to afford houses made of bricks and cement.

Table 4.1.1. Type of Wall		
Items	Frequency	Percent
Brick and Cement	150	48.4
Mud and Clay	160	51.6
Total	310	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019

Table 4.1.2 Type of Roof			Table 4.1.3 Floor Type		
Items	Frequency	Percent	Items	Frequency	Percent
Asbestos	236	76.1	Concrete/Marble	12	3.9
RCC Cement	74	23.9	Mud and Clay	298	96.1
Total	310	100	Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.2. Status of Household Items

Household items possessed by an individual is also a determining factor of household living standard. Here basic household assets such as bed/charpai, gas, television and radio/deck have been taken under consideration. Among the 310 households, 207 households have both bed and gas, and 52 have bed, gas and television. But there are 42 households that have only bed/charpai available in terms of household items. In terms of household items they are basically lagging behind as compared to general population.

Table 4.2.1. Household Items		
Items	Frequency	Percent
Bed/Charpai	42	13.5
Bed/Charpai and Gas	207	66.8
Bed/Charpai and T.V.	9	2.9
Bed/Charpai, T.V. and Gas	52	16.7
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.3. Status of Availability of Agriculture Equipment

In an agriculture based area the availability of agricultural equipment is very important. Availability of agricultural equipment will definitely enhance the economic efficiency of households. Agriculture equipment such as bullock cart, engine, thresher and tractor have been analyzed here. The table 4.3.1 shows that approx. 50 percent of the households do not have any agricultural equipment. It is found that 30.6 percent household have both bullock cart and an engine and only 4.2 percent households have tractor along with bullock cart and engine. Even after introduction of modern agriculture equipment tribal households are still dependent on traditional ways of farming.

Items	Frequency	Percent
Bullock Cart	17	5.5
Bullock Cart and Engine	95	30.6
Bullock Cart, Engine and Tractor	13	4.2
Engine	25	8.1
Engine and Tractor	2	0.6
No Equipment	157	50.6
Tractor	1	0.3
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.4. Status of Electricity Connection among Household

Electricity is one of the major problems in rural area. This is more serious issue in case of tribal area as they are located in far flung forest area. After so many effort of government, electricity is now available in tribal area too. Here in table 4.4.1 the access to electricity and its efficiency have been checked. The table result shows that 206 household have electricity connection but the supply is irregular in the area whereas 104 household are still not availing the electricity connection.

Table 4.4.1 Electricity		
Status	Frequency	Percent
Irregular Supply	206	66.5
No Connection	104	33.5
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.5. Status of Drinking Water

Availability of drinking water of the household is shown in table 4.5.1. The table depicts that 77.7 of the household have drinking water facility within the house where as 21 percent household are availing drinking water from near to the house. Still 1.3 percent household are there who are getting drinking water far from their house.

Table 4.5.1 Drinking Water Facility		
Availability	Frequency	Percent
Far from House	4	1.3
Inside the House	241	77.7
Near House	65	21
Total	310	100

4.6. Status of Vehicles Holding

Possession of different type of vehicles depicts the status of the household. Availability of cycle, motor cycle, car/jeep has been considered in table. It shows that 55.2 percent of the sample household possess only cycle while 27.4 percent have both cycle and motor cycle. Further only one household in the whole sample who have all the vehicles in the list cycle, motor cycle and car.

Table 4.6.1 Vehicles		
Items	Frequency	Percent
Cycle	175	56.5
Cycle and Motor Cycle	85	27.4
Cycle, Motor Cycle and Car	2	0.6
Motor Cycle	19	6.2
Motor Cycle and Car	1	0.3
NA	27	8.7
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.7. Status of Livestock Ownership

In this section the livestock ownership of the tribal household has been discussed. In the covered area animals such as male buffalo, buffalo, ox, cow, hen, goat are available with household. The table 4.7.1 shows that 60 percent of the sample household have owned livestock for their agriculture purpose or their household use.

Status	Frequency	Percent
No	124	40
Yes	186	60
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.8. Status of Occupation of Tribal Household

The occupation of an individual clearly define the socioeconomic status of that particular person as well as their family. In tribal areas there is very less opportunities for the individual of getting employment so it quite relevant to explore their occupational structure. The table depict the frequencies and percentage of tribal household belonging to various occupation. It shows that 42.6 percent of the head of sample household are traditional farmer/cultivator whereas 39 percent of them are semi/unskilled wage labor. Only 6 percent of the sample household have government job and among them most of them are indulged in fourth class government job. Therefore, the key source of tribal household income is farming and wage labour which is responsible for their low socioeconomic status.

Status	Frequency	Percent
Govt service	19	6.1
Semi/unskilled wage labor	121	39
Subsistence farmer	38	12.3
Traditional farmer/cultivator	132	42.6
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.9. Status of Land Ownership

Distribution of tribal respondents by landownership (in bigha) is presented in table 4.9.1. It is evident from the table that approx. 45 percent of the household have land less than 5 bigha whereas 23.22 percent have between 5-10 bigha. In short, we can say that approximately 70 percent of the respondent belongs to the marginal farmer category. They are producing major crop such as wheat, paddy and sugarcane. One major problem of the farmers in the area is that they are not getting the payment of their produce on time and because of that they are bound to depend on the debt from money lender. In nutshell among Tharu tribe most of the farmers are marginal and small farmers which is the sign of their low economic status.

Interval	Frequency	Percentage
0-5	138	44.52
5-10	72	23.22
10-15	49	15.81
15-20	32	10.32
Above 20	19	6.13
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.10. Distribution of Household Monthly Income

Income is very important determinant of socioeconomic status. Here the status of total income has been displayed. Moreover, the segregation of income into agriculture and non-income agriculture income has also been presented to understand the income status thoroughly. The table reveals that 104 household among total belongs to the income range of 5000-15000 while 84 household lies in the interval of 15000-25000. 21 percent of sample household have their monthly income above 25000.

Table 4.10.1 Household total income (in Rs.)		
Interval	Frequency	Percentage
Below 5000	54	17.42
5000-15000	104	33.55
15000-25000	84	27
Above 25000	68	21.93
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

The result after segregation of total income into agriculture and non-agriculture income has been shown in table 4.10.2 and 4.10.3. In terms of income from agriculture 78.06 percent household came under category of below 5000 Rs., 16 percent come under 5000-15000 category and approx. 5 percent are above 15000. On the other hand in term of non-agriculture income 34.52 percent household falls under 5000-15000 income group and 26.13 under below 5000. The non- agriculture income category include income from wage labor from both agriculture labor as well as non-agriculture labour along with income from government service. Basically most of the household fall into the low level income category in both agriculture as well as non-agriculture income.

Table 4.10.2 Agriculture income (in Rs.)		
Interval	Frequency	Percentage
Below 5000	242	78.06
5000-15000	50	16.13
15000-25000	6	1.93
Above 25000	12	3.87
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Table 4.10.3 Non-agriculture Income (in Rs.)		
Interval	Frequency	Percentage
Below 5000	81	26.13
5000-15000	107	34.52
15000-25000	68	21.93
Above 25000	54	17.42
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.11. Status of Bank Accessibility

Government of India with their various program have tried to enhance the financial inclusion in the Rural India. The above table shows the status of bank accessibility among Tharu Tribe. It replicates that only 1 household among the 310 household do not have bank account. In that case it can be concluded that various policies of government like direct benefit transfer scheme, Jan Dhan Yojana and SHG bank linkage model have worked well. For better understanding of this fact, reason of opening bank account has also been worked out. The result of which emancipate that about 40 percent of the respondent open their account for taking KCC loan from banks on the other hand 32.1 percent open the bank account for financial benefits/product/policy. In addition to that, dependence of respondents on debt from money lender has also been asked as most of them do not have regular income source. It has found that approx. 50 percent of the sample households are taking debt from money lender for various reasons such as farming, education, health and consumption. Even after having almost full assess to bank account but still they are depending on money lender for their immediate health issue, education and farming activity.

Table 4.11.1 Access to Bank			Table 4.11.2 Reason for opening bank account		
Response	Frequency	Percent	Reason	Frequency	Percent
No	1	0.3	Credit/Loan	122	39.4
Yes	309	99.7	Educational Subsidy	1	0.3
Total	310	100	Financial Benefits/Products/Policy	97	31.3
			Financial Safety	74	23.9
			Government Subsidy	8	2.6
			NA	1	0.3
			SHG Membership	7	2.3
			Total	310	100

Table 4.11.3 Debt from Money Lender		
Response	Frequency	Percent
NO	160	51.6
YES	150	48.4
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.12. Status of Education Availability at Different Level

In this section distribution of household according to their dependence on different level of education has been given. For primary education 131 households are relying on government education whereas 88 on private school. Further for secondary education 97 are depending on government while 61 on private schools. The numbers of household members who are getting higher education is less but still among them 45 are going to government institution and 22 to private institution. Therefore, it can be concluded that less numbers of tribals are able to reach at secondary level and higher level of education.

Table 4.12.1 Dependence for Primary Education		
	Frequency	Percent
Government	131	42.3
NA	91	29.4
Private	88	28.4
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Table 4.12.2 Dependence for Secondary Education		
	Frequency	Percent
Government	97	31.3
NA	152	49
Private	61	19.7
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Table 4.12.3 Dependence for Tertiary Education		
	Frequency	Percent
Government	45	14.5
NA	243	78.4
Private	22	7.1
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4. 13 Status of Household Dependence on Health Care

After looking the dependence of tribal on education, in this section their dependence for health care has been explored. For primary health care they are basically relying on private medical shops or doctors around their area as 87 percent household used to take medicine from private medical store. This result is the consequence of two factor 1. Availability of Primary Health Care Centre (PHC) 2. Efficiency of the available PHC. More specifically it can be said that lack of attention on these PHC force the households toward private medical facilities. Moreover, whatever the private medical shops are available not good enough to fulfill the needs of people.

In case of Mother-Child Health Care 132 household are availing benefits, among them 97 are getting it from government center and rest are getting it from private sources. In the tribal area of Nighasan block absence of sub-center or PHC bound them to go for other sources like delivery of pregnant women at home (or by the help of ‘Dai’). On the other hand in the tribal area of Palia block due to the availability of sub-centers people are availing benefit of government schemes. For tertiary level of health issues people are mostly depending on private sector. According to most of the households it is easy for them to go to Nepal for their several serious health issue because the household who are taking government services for serious health issues have to travel almost 30 km for Community Health Center or 100 km for District Hospital. Even in CHC also all the medicines are not available so the individual have to take the medicines from private medical stores.

Table 4.13.1 Dependence for Primary Health Care		
	Frequency	Percent
Government	40	12.9
Private	270	87.1
Total	310	100

Table 4.13.2 Dependence for Mother Child Health Care		
	Frequency	Percent
Government	97	31.3
NA	178	57.4
Private	35	11.3
Total	310	100

Table 4.13.3 Dependence for Tertiary Level health Care		
	Frequency	Percent
Government	11	3.5
NA	252	81.3
Private	47	15.2
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

4.14 Access to Government Scheme

In this section status of various government schemes such as book, dress and hostel scheme for students, vaccination scheme, Ujjawala yojana, pension scheme, Awas Yojna, toilet scheme has been checked. In case of book and dress scheme out of 208 household 158 are getting the benefit where as in hostel scheme out of 194 only 92 are getting benefitted. The book and dress scheme basically belongs to the Government Primary School, Eklavya Model Resident school and Ashram School for tribal children while Hostel Scheme mainly associated with, Eklavya Model Resident school and Ashram School.

Table 4.14.1 Benefitted by Book Dress Scheme		
Response	Frequency	Percent
NE	102	32.9
No	50	16.1
Yes	158	51
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Table 4.14.2 Benefitted by Hostel Scheme		
Response	Frequency	Percent
NE	116	37.4
No	102	32.9
Yes	92	29.7
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Further, the table 4.14.4, 4.14.5 and 4.14.6 shows that 52.9 percent, 82.9 percent and 38.7 percent household are availing the Toilet Scheme, PMUY and PMAY simultaneously.

Table 4.14.3. Benefitted by PMAY		
Response	Frequency	Percent
No	190	61.3
Yes	120	38.7
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Table 4.14.4 Benefitted by Toilet Scheme		
Response	Frequency	Percent
No	146	47.1
Yes	164	52.9
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Table 4.14.5 Benefitted by Ujjwala Yojana		
Response	Frequency	Percent
No	53	17.1
Yes	257	82.9
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Some welfare schemes as Pension Scheme for old age person and widow women and Vaccination Scheme for child under age 5 has also been checked, the result of which shown in table 4.14.7 and 4.14.8. The table represent that 31 percent households are getting the benefit of PMAY and all who are eligible for vaccination are getting benefit of Vaccination Scheme.

Table 4.14.6 Access to Vaccination Scheme		
Response	Frequency	Percent
NE	179	57.7
Yes	131	42.3
No	0	0
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019

Table 4.14.7 Benefitted by Pension Scheme		
Response	Frequency	Percent
NE	212	68.4
No	65	21
Yes	33	10.6
Total	310	100

Source: Primary Survey, March 2019