

E-CONTENT

UDAI PRATAP COLLEGE, VARANASI

.....
Programme/Class: Bachelor of Science (Research)-Fourth Year of
Higher Edu. (PG)/M.Sc. Previous

PG, Year: I, Semester: II, Paper: II, UNIT-V

Subject: Botany; Course Code: MOSB-202T

Course Title: Plant Resource Utilization

Topic: *Distribution of Tribes in India* (Basic knowledge of tribes of UP)

Credits: 13

.....

Name: Prof. Ajai Kumar Singh, Department of Botany,

Faculty of Science, Mobile No. 9450538149, E-mail: ajaiupcollege@gmail.com

.....

Major Tribes of India

As of the census of 2011, India has a total of 705 tribes. These tribes include both large and small tribes.

India is home to over hundreds of tribes situated in the States and Union Territories of the country that separates them from other tribes making India a country of diversity and culture.

Schedule 5 of the Indian Constitution has recognized the tribal community of Scheduled Tribes (STs) in India.

- **Tribe: A social group made up of many families, clans, or generations that share the same language, customs, and beliefs.**
- A group of persons with a common character, occupation, or interest.

Tribe, in anthropology, a national form of human social organization based on a set of smaller groups (known as bands), having temporary or permanent political integration, and defined by traditions of common descent, language, culture, and ideology.

A tribe is an Indian group which possesses certain qualities and characteristics that make it a unique cultural, social, and political entity. The nature of what constitutes an Indian tribe and the very nature of tribes have

changed considerably over the course of centuries, but certain characteristics have remained.

Types of Tribes in India

The tribes in India are segregated into two types.

One is based on permanent traits, and the other one is based on acquired traits.

Types of Tribes - Based on Permanent Traits

The permanent traits which are used to classify the tribal people are language, ecological habitat, region, and physical characteristics.

Types of Tribes - Based on Acquired Traits

The types of tribes based on acquired traits are divided based on livelihood and based on incorporation into Hindu Society.

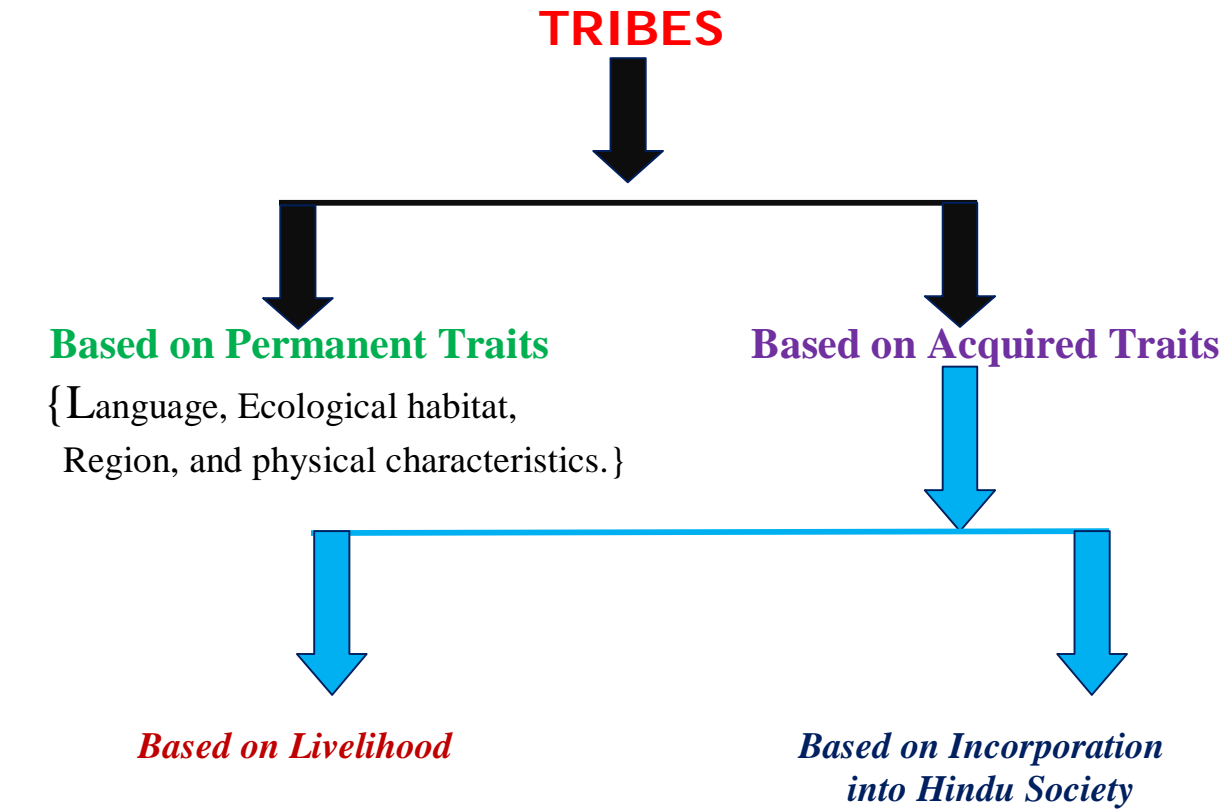
- **Based on Livelihood** - The tribes that are into the plantation and industrial workers, hunters, fishermen, shifting cultivation, food gatherers, and peasants are categorized as tribals based on livelihood.
- **Based on Incorporation into Hindu Society** - This is the dominant classification of tribes based on the degree of assimilation into Hindu society, such as public affairs, politics, and academics.

Tribal Population in India As per the Census of India 2011, the total population of Scheduled Tribes (ST) in India is 104.49 million.

STs constitute 8.6% of the total population of India.

Rural areas constitute 11.3% of the tribal population, while urban areas constitute only 2.8%.

Male ST has a population of 52.5 million, while ST female has a population of 52 million.





India is the home of 705 tribes and rich in plant diversity having 18386 of angiosperms, 79 gymnosperms, 1289 pteridophytes, 2748 bryophytes, 2511 lichens, 15115 fungi and 7357 algae (Dash *et al.* 2018; <http://tribal.nic.in/>). The diversity of tribes and plant wealth make India a perfect place to study the ethnobotany.

Indigenous and tribal peoples are often known by national terms such as NATIVE PEOPLES, ABORIGINAL PEOPLES, FIRST NATIONS, ADIVASI, JANAJATI, HUNTER-GATHERERS, OR HILL TRIBES.

The tribes, GOND, BHIL, SANTHAL, ORAON, MINA, MUNDA, KHOND KACHARI, HO, KHASI, KAWAR, SAORA, NAGA, KOL, MAWASI etc. of India are predominantly dependent on plough understanding. The tribal people who have traditionally lived in tropical forests are the key to understanding, utilizing and conserving the plant diversity. The traditional storage of ethnobotanical knowledge in memory and practice has a long history. Several Asian countries have begun to encourage traditional medicines as an integrate component of health care systems. The forest resources (e.g. Rattan, Bamboo, Oilseeds, Lac, Latex, Honey, Gums and Resins, Medicinal plants, Fruits and Nuts, and Mushrooms) are rich and unique; they are not as well documented as the timber resources.

Scheduled Tribes have been defined in clause (25) of article 366 of the Constitution as, "such tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this constitution."

ARTICLE 275(1), MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

OBJECTIVES:

Human resource development by enhancing their access to education and health services, Enhanced quality of life by raising the level of administration of the Scheduled Areas and also providing basic amenities in tribal areas/localities.

MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (MoTA)

MoTA is responsible for state planning, beneficiary selection, livelihood assest creation, conducting PVTG projects, VAN-DHAN YOJANA, creation of market and representation of SRLM at state, district and block.

The Ministry was set up in 1999 with the objective of providing more focused approach towards the integrated socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs) [the most underprivileged section of the India Society] in a coordinated and planned manner.

The subjects allocated to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are as follows:

It covers all tribal people and all areas with tribal population across the country.

- Social security and social insurance to the Scheduled Tribes.
- Tribal Welfare: Planning, project formulation, research, evaluation, statistics and training.
- Promotion and development of voluntary efforts on tribal welfare.
- Promotion and development of voluntary efforts on tribal welfare.
- Development of Scheduled Tribes.
- Scheduled Areas.
- Monitoring of ST Welfare Grants, based on the framework and mechanism designed by NITI Ayog.
- The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes:
 - a. Commission to report on the administration of Scheduled Areas and the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes; and
 - b. Issue of directions regarding the drawing up and execution of schemes essential for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in any State.
- Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, excluding administration of criminal justice in regard to offences in so far as they relate to Scheduled Tribes.

Mission/Vision

Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal ministry for overall policy, planning and coordination of programmes for development of STs. To this end, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has undertaken activities that follow from the subjects allocated under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961as mentioned below:

1. Social security and social insurance with respect to the Scheduled Tribes.
2. Tribal Welfare: Tribal welfare planning, project formulation, research, evaluation, statistics and training.
3. Promotion and development of voluntary efforts on tribal welfare.
4. Scheduled Tribes, including scholarship to students belonging to such tribes.

5. Development of Scheduled Tribes.
6. (a). Scheduled Areas; (b). regulations framed by the Governors of States for Scheduled Areas.
7. (a). Commission to report on the administration of Scheduled Areas and the Welfare of the Scheduled Tribes; and (b). issue of directions regarding the drawing up and execution of schemes essential for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in any State.
8. The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.
9. Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 (22 of 1955) and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (33 of 1989), excluding administration of criminal justice in regard to offences in so far as they relate to Scheduled Tribes.
10. Monitoring of Tribal Sub-Plan, based on the framework and mechanism designed by NITI Aayog.

TRIBES OF UTTAR PRADESH

Uttar Pradesh, the northern state of India, is not only known for its rich cultural heritage but also for its diverse tribal communities. The state is home to >75 tribal communities, each with its distinct traditions, customs, and beliefs. These tribes are an integral part of the state's social and cultural fabric and have played a significant role in shaping its history. Some important tribes of Uttar Pradesh are as below:

Tribes of Uttar Pradesh

S. No.	Tribe	Native	Language
1.	Agaria	Sonbhadra region	Agariya, Hindi
2.	Baiga	Chitrakoot	Baiga, Hindi
3.	Balmiki	All over UP	Hindi
4.	Bedia	Mirzapur region	Bedia, Hindi
5.	Bhotiya	Uttarakhand, UP	Bhoti, Hindi
6.	Buxa/Bhoksa	Sonbhadra region	Hindi
7.	Gond	Sonbhadra region	Gondi, Hindi
8.	Kharwar	Sonbhadra region	Kharwari, Hindi
9.	Khond	Sonbhadra region	Khondi, Hindi
10.	Kol	Chitrakoot	Kol, Hindi
11.	Kori	All over UP	Hindi
12.	Korwa	Mirzapur region	Korwa, Hindi

13.	Jaunsari	Jaunsar region	Jauinsari, Hindi
14.	Nat	All over UP	Hindi
15.	Oraon/Kurikh	Sonbhadra region	Oraon/Kurukh, Hindi
16.	Pasi	All over UP	Hindi
17.	Raji	Sonbhadra	Raji, Hindi
18.	Saansi	West UP	Hindi
19.	Saharia	Sonbhadra region	Sahariya, Hindi
20.	Santhal	Sant Kabir Nagar	Santhali, Hindi
21.	Thakur/Rajbhar	Sonbhadra region	Hindi
22.	Tharu	Terai region	Tharu, Hindi
23.	Van Gujjar	Uttarakhand, UP	Gujri, Hindi

➤ **CULTURE**

Uttar Pradesh is a state in northern India with a rich cultural heritage. The state is home to several indigenous tribe, each with their own unique customs, traditions, and way of life. The tribes of Uttar Pradesh are known for their close-knit social structure, where family and community ties are highly valued.

The Uttar Pradesh tribes have a strong connection to their land and often engaged in agriculture, forestry, and other traditional occupations. Music and dance are an integral part of their culture, with each tribe having its own unique music and dance.

The Uttar Pradesh tribes also have a rich tradition of handicrafts, including pottery, weaving, and basketry. Despite facing various challenges, such as poverty and marginalization, the tribal communities of Uttar Pradesh have managed to preserve their rich cultural heritage and continue to practice their traditional way of life.

➤ **TRADITIONS**

Uttar Pradesh is home to several indigenous tribes, each with its unique culture and traditions. These tribes have been living in the region for generations and have developed a strong sense of community and identity.

Many of these tribes of Uttar Pradesh have their traditional customs, which are passed down from one generation to the next through folklore (story, songs and dances). These customs often revolve around agricultural practices, hunting, and

spiritual beliefs. One of the most important traditions of these tribes is their reverence for nature, which is reflected in their rituals and ceremonies.

The Uttar Pradesh tribes also have their distinctive forms of art and craft, such weaving, pottery, and woodcarving, which are deeply rooted in their cultural heritage. Despite the modernization and changes in lifestyle, many of these tribes continue to preserve their traditions and way of life, which are an essential part of the rich cultural diversity of Uttar Pradesh.

AGARIYA

They are well known for mining of Iron ore during British rule. Mostly common in Mirzapur district.

AHERIA

Mainly occur in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. They mostly speak Hindi and believe in Hinduism. Before 1920, they were mainly hunters but later on they became farmers.

Some of the other names by which they are known as are – Aheri, Aheria, Ahiria, Baheliya, Bahelia, Herbi, Beta, Heri, Hersi, Karwal, Hesi, Karbal, Thori, Naik or Turi.

BAIGA

The Baiga tribe is mainly found in the districts of Sonbhadra of Uttar Pradesh. They also have some sub castes like Nahar, Bijhwar, Narotia, Kadh Bhaina, Raj Bhaina, Bhrotia etc. They are known for their traditional knowledge of herbal medicines and are skilled in forest-based livelihoods. These tribe practices **‘shifting cultivation’ [slash-burn/Dahiya cultivation]**. They have tattooing as an integral part of their lifestyle. They are the successors of the **Dravidians**. The tattooing artists are known as **Godharins**. They consume usually coarse foods include Kodo, Kutki, eat some flour and drink. They also hunt for small mammals and fish and eat fruits like tendu, jamun and mango.



BUKSA/BHOKSA

The Bhoksa are mainly located in Sonbhadra district and well known for their skill in ironwork and traditionally involved in the production of iron tools and implements. They speak Buska language which can be compared to Rana Tharu. After abandoning their animist traditions, they are now basically Hindus. They worship the tribal deity of Shakumbari Devi. Rice and fish are the main food of this tribe. They do have some distinct settlements and they do not share the same with any caste of tribal grouping.

GOND

The Gond tribe is one of the largest tribes in India and is found in several states including Uttar Pradesh, mainly in districts of Mirzapur, Sonbhadra and Chandauli. They are primarily engaged in agriculture forest-based livelihoods. Their staple food is Kodo and Kutki, which are two types of millet. Apart from this, they are to cultivate tobacco for smoking and produce liquor for the Mahua Tree.

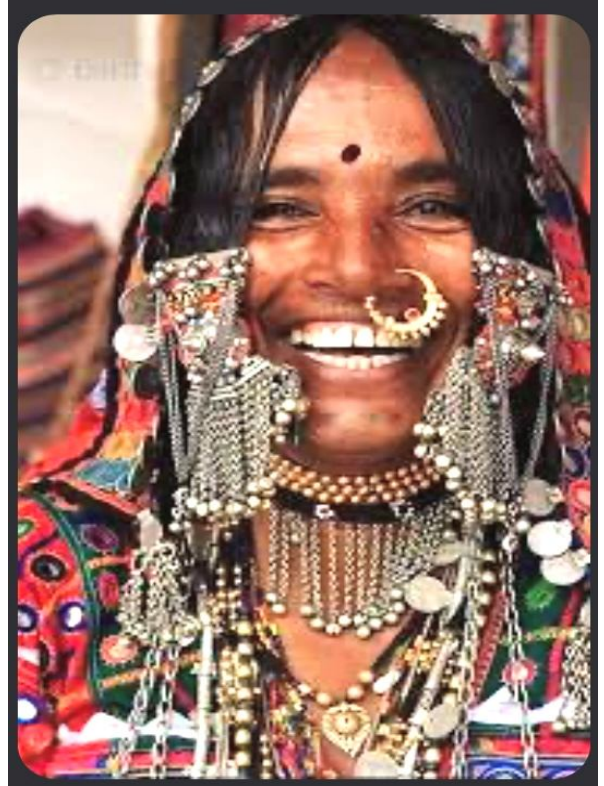
KHARWAR

This tribe is mainly found in the districts of Mirzapur, Sonbhadra, and Chandauli of Uttar Pradesh. They are mainly engaged in agriculture and collection of forest products.

KOL

One of the well-known tribes of eastern Uttar Pradesh and mainly found in the districts of Balrampur, Gonda, Basti, Sddharthnagar, Prayagraj, Varanasi, Banda and Mirzapur. This community migrated from the central India, five centuries ago. They are followers of Hinduism and speak **Baghelkhandi**. They are known for

their skill in basket weaving and are traditionally involved in the production of bamboo and cane baskets. Kols depend upon the forest for the income. The leaves and firewood are collected by them and sold at the local market.



DANCING KOLS

KORWA

They are isolated tribes and most of them are hunter gatherers. Few of them practice settled agriculture and are part of Hindu Community. However, they worship their own tribal deity, **DIH**. Each settlement has a shrine of Goddess known as Diwar. Korwa people communicate in their mother tongue Korwa which is also known as Singli and Ernga alternatively.

PARAHIYA

They live on the foothills of the Vindhya Ranges. They follow Hinduism. Traditionally they have been practicing slash and burn agriculture technique. The other meaning is a hill dweller. Parahiya also have a few tribal deities like Dharti Mata and Jwalamukhi Devi. Presently, they are leading a settled life against the hunting which was their predominating occupation.

SAHARIYA

The Sahariya tribe is one of the famous tribe of Uttar Pradesh and is mainly found in the districts of Jhansi, Lalitpur, and Chhatarpur in southwestern Uttar Pradesh. They are primarily engaged in agriculture and dependent on forests.

THARU

They are one of the largest tribes of Uttar Pradesh and mainly found in Bahraich, Shravasti, Balrampur, and Lakhimpur Kheri. The Government notified the Tharus as scheduled tribes in 1967. They are primarily engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry.



THARU CHIEF



THARU DANCE



Tharu Caste



THARU VILLAGE



Tharu with Fishing Nets

State wise list of Tribes in India

Tribal population is spread across the country.

Some of the major tribes of India, such as Gond, Santhal, Bhil, Toda, etc, are found in more than one state due to their proximity to the neighboring states.

Andhra Pradesh

Kondareddis, Sadhu Andh, Savaras, Yenadis, Bhil, Nakkala, Gadabas, Jatapus, Banjara, Kattunayakan, Pardhan, Kolam, Konda, Kolawar, Koya, Rona, Andh, Dabba Yerukula, Dhulia, Kammara, Thoti, Sugalis, Valmiki, Goundu, Sugalis, Manna Dhora, Lambadis, Bhagata, Gond, Mukha Dhora Chenchus (Chenchawar)

Assam

Chakma, Dimasa, Rabha, Miri, Hajong, Borokachari, Garos, Karbi, Kachari, Garo, Gangte, Chutiya, Boro, Sonwal, Khasis.

Arunachal Pradesh

Abor, Adi, Taroan, Dafla, Momba, Singpho, Apatanis, Wancho, Mishmi, Idu, Tagin, Monpa, Nyishi, Sherdukpen, Galong Bihar Asur, Chero, Gond, Birhor, Savar, Parhaiya, Birjia, Santal, Banjara, Baiga, Tharu, Santhals, Kharwar, Oraon

Chhattisgarh

Nagasia, Bhattra, Khond, Sawar, Mawasi, Gond, Halbi, Biar, Kavar, Bhaina, Halba, Binjhar, Agariya

Goa

Naikda, Dubia, Varli, Dhodia, Gawda, Siddi

Gujarat

Bhil, Dhanka, Talavia, Dhodia, Siddi, Patelia, Barda, Kokna, Bamcha, Charan, Gamta, Halpati, Patelia, Dubla, Naikda, Rathawa, Paradhi

Himachal Pradesh

Khas, Swangla, Gujjars, Bhot, Lamba, Beta, Gaddis, Pangwala, Lahaulas, Beda Bodh

Jammu and Kashmir

Balti, Beda, Mon, Gaddi, Purigpa, Changpa, Bakarwal, Garra, Sippi, Gujjar

Jharkhand

Mundas, Gonds, Kharia, Birhors, Kharwar, Banjara, Bhumij, Santal, Mahli, Santhals, Ho, Lohra, Savar, Bedia, Parhaiya, Kol

Karnataka

Patelia, Barda, Koraga, Gond, Naikda, Marati, Iruliga, Bhil, Hasalaru, Yerava, Meda, Soligaru, Koli Dhor, Adiyen

Kerala

Adiyen, Kattunayakan, Kurichchan, Kurumbas, Eravallan, Moplahs, Irular, Malai arayan, Uralis, Kanikaran, Arandan, Muthuvan

Maharashtra

Bhunja, Bhaina, Dhodia, Katkari, Kokna, Warlis, Kathodi, Rathawa, Khond, Koli, Halba, Thakur, Dhanka, Mahadev, Pardhi

Madhya Pradesh

Bhils, Birhors, Pardhan, Bharia, Mawasi, Sahariya, Korku, Khond, Baigas, Katkari, kharia, Kol, Murias, Gonds.

Manipur

Anal, Naga, Maram, Chiru, Meitei, Thadou, Paite, Monsang, Thadou, Tangkhul, Mao, Aimol, Angami, Kuki, Purum, Poumai Naga

Mizoram

Chakma, Kuki, Pawi, Lushai, Khasi, Raba, Lakher, Dimasa, Synteng

Meghalaya

Garos, Lakher, Chakma, Pawai, Raba, Hajong, Mikir, Jaintias Khasis

Nagaland

Ao, Angami, Kachari, Lotha, Kuki, Chakhesang, Mikir, Rengma, Garo, Nagas, Sema, Konyak, Phom, Sangtam

Odisha

Ghara, Khond, Bhumij, Khayara, Bhottada, Koya, Kora, Rajuar, Oraons, Bathuri, Gadaba, Paroja, Juang, Santhals, Kharia, Bathudi, Gond, Shabar, Kisan, Kolha, Munda, Matya, Saora, Lodha

Rajasthan

Nayaka, Bhils, Meenas(Minas), Sahariya, Naikda, Damaria, Dhanka, Patelia, Kathodi

Sikkim

Lepchas, Khas, Limboo, Bhutia, Tamang

Tamil Nadu

Kanikar, Aranadan, Irular, Kadar, Eravallan, Kurumans, Adiyen, Kanikar, Kotas, Malayali, Todas

Tripura

Bhil, Chaimal, Chakma, Khasia, Mizel, Bhutia, Lushai, Halam, Namte, Munda, Mag, Rieng

Telangana

Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Pondicherry, and Chandigarh have no tribal population living.

Chenchus

Uttarakhand

Buxa, Bhotias, Khas, Tharu, Jannasari, Raji

Uttar Pradesh

Buxa, Kharwar, Saharya, Jaunsari, Chero, Kol, Baiga, Tharu, Agariya, Gond, Parahiya

West Bengal

Parhaiya, Ho, Mal, Rabha, Asur, Savar, Chik Baraik, Hajong, Lodha, Khond, Santhals, Bhumij, Kora, Kheria, Parhaiya Khariam, Bhutia, Kisan, Pahariya, Mahali, Oraon.

ISSUES FACED BY TRIBES IN INDIA

Some of the major issues faced by the tribal groups in India are as follows:

- **Land Alienation:** Tribal population mainly depend on natural resources for their livelihood. However, during the colonial rule after the discovery of minerals and other resources in the tribal regions, they were forcefully displaced. After independence, these regions came under state control, which negatively impacted the tribal way of life. They lost their forest rights, which resulted in tribal people trapped in the hands of moneylenders and landlords. Indebtedness increased, and their livelihood lost.
- **Identity Crisis:** Displacement of these tribes from the mining areas and for development of industries in these regions has forced them to live either on the periphery of these industrial pockets or to move to urban centers in search of livelihood. Disconnect from their homeland and unawareness and unpreparedness to the urban lifestyle have led to an identity crisis for these

people. This gave birth to various psychological issues like depression, low self-esteem, low confidence, a feeling of un-belongingness, etc.

- **Illiteracy:** According to the Population Census of India, 2011 the literacy rate for ST is 58.96 per cent (literacy rate for the male is 68.53 per cent and for female is 49.35 per cent) which is lower than the national average of 74.04 per cent (for male 82.14 per cent and female 65.46 per cent).

Their traditions and customs, prevailing poverty, the tendency of isolation, nomadic lifestyle, and lack of necessary infrastructure and teachers suitable for their needs.

- **Gender Issues:** Despite better sex ratio of 990 females per 1000 males of the Scheduled tribes in India, women of the community also have to face various challenges. Due to their sudden exposure to the urban lifestyle and their inability to adapt to the changes that occurred as a result of their forced displacement post-independence, women of society became more vulnerable. Consumerism and commoditization of women have weakened their position in society.
- **Issues with Health:** Prevailing poverty, financial insecurity along with illiteracy has resulted in various health problems among the tribal population. They generally reside in slums and live under unhygienic conditions, which make them prone to diseases. Their inability to purchase and consume healthy food products and buy supplements to fulfill the nutrient requirement, they are likely to malnutrition and associated challenges including anemia, high infant mortality rates, etc.

Literacy Rate of Tribal Groups in India The overall literacy rate is a key socio-economic indicator of a country's progress. In order to improve the literacy rate of the major tribes in India, the government of India has introduced several schemes. As per the Census figures, there has been an increase in the literacy rate of tribes in India from 47.1 per cent in 2001 to 59 per cent in 2011.

- **National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)**
- **National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) (NCST)**

1st Tribal President of India Droupadi Murmu is the first tribal president of India. She belongs to an important tribe in India which is the Santhal tribe. She is the 15th President of India and the 2nd female President of India after Smt. Pratibha Patil. She hails from Uparbeda village of Mayurbhanj district in Odisha in a Santhali tribal family to Biranchi Narayan Tudu. She was married to Sri. Shyam

Charan Murmu, a banker by profession but passed away in 2014. Smt. Murmu was a schoolteacher before she entered politics.

Declaration

This E-content is exclusively meant for academic purposes and for enhancing teaching and learning only. Any other use for economic/commercial purpose is strictly prohibited. The users of the content shall not distribute, disseminate or share it with anyone else and its use is restricted to advancement of individual knowledge. The information provided in this e-content is authentic and best as per knowledge.

THANK