

## *Special Purpose Planning: Tribal Region*



*Course: Regional Planning and Rural Development (CC - 05)*

*(M.A. Geography, Sem. -11)*

*By*

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*Lecture - 2*

## **Concept:**

*Article 366 (25) of the Constitution of India refers Scheduled Tribes to those communities, who are scheduled in accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution. This Article says that only those communities who have been declared as such by the President through an initial public notification or through a subsequent amending Act of Parliament will be considered to be Scheduled Tribes. Article 342 provides for specification of tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribes or tribal communities which are deemed to be for the purposes of the Constitution the Scheduled Tribes in relation to that State or Union Territory. In pursuance of these provisions, the list of Scheduled Tribes are notified for each State or Union Territory and are valid only within the jurisdiction of that State or Union Territory and not outside. The list of Scheduled Tribes is State/UT specific and a community declared as a Scheduled Tribe in a State need not be so in another State. The inclusion of a community as a Scheduled Tribe is an ongoing process. The essential characteristics, first laid down by the Lokur Committee, for a community to be identified as Scheduled Tribes are –*

***a) indications of primitive traits; b) distinctive culture; c) shyness of contact with the community at large; d) geographical isolation; and e) backwardness***

*Tribal may also be identified as the people possessing the following characteristics;*

- 1. Their roots date back to a very early period*
- 2. They live in a relative isolation of hills and forest.*

3. They have a low level of techno-economic development.
4. They have different cultural ethos (language, belief & custom)

The Govt. of India has specified 427 communities and includes them in the scheduled Tribes. These tribes are known as scheduled tribes and are entitled to special protection and privilege under the constitution of India. Numerically there are three most important tribes- **the Gonds, the Bhils and the Santhals** each having a population of more than 30 lakhs. Next to them are the Minas, the Mundas and the Oraons each having a population of more than 10 lakhs. Then there are **the Hos, the Khonds** and **the Kols** each having a population of more than 5 lakh.

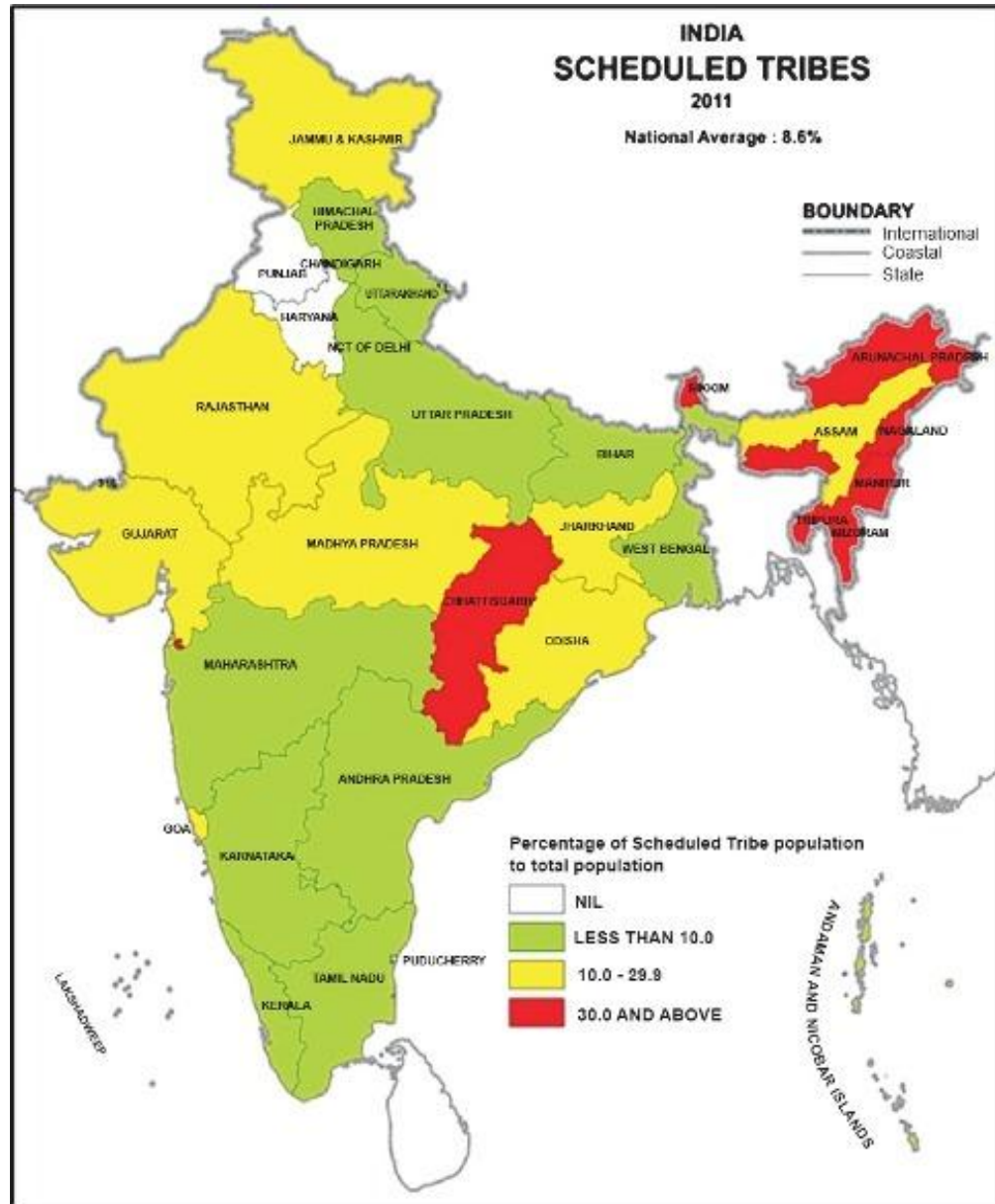
Tribal communities live, in various ecological and geo-climatic conditions ranging from plains and forests to hills and inaccessible areas. Tribal groups are at different stages of social, economic and educational development. While some tribal communities have adopted a mainstream way of life, at the other end of the spectrum, there are certain Scheduled Tribes, 75 in number known as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), who are characterize

1. **pre-agriculture level of technology;**
2. **stagnant or declining population;**
3. **extremely low literacy; and**
4. **Subsistence level of economy.**

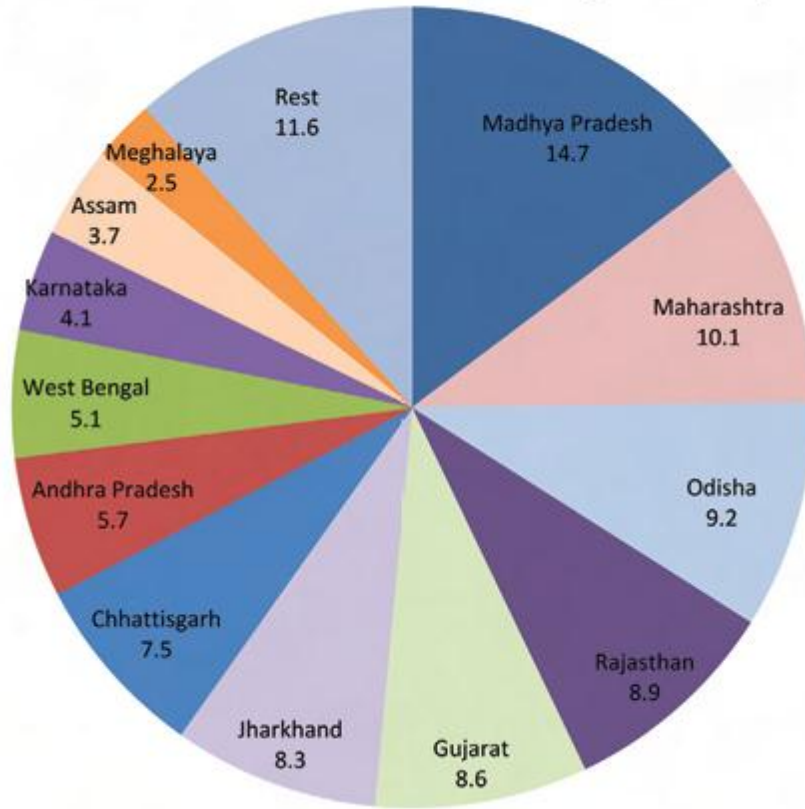
### **Distribution of Tribes:**

The Scheduled Tribes are notified in 30 States/UTs and the number of individual ethnic groups, etc. notified as Scheduled Tribes is 705. The tribal population of the country, as per 2011 census, is 10.43 crores 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

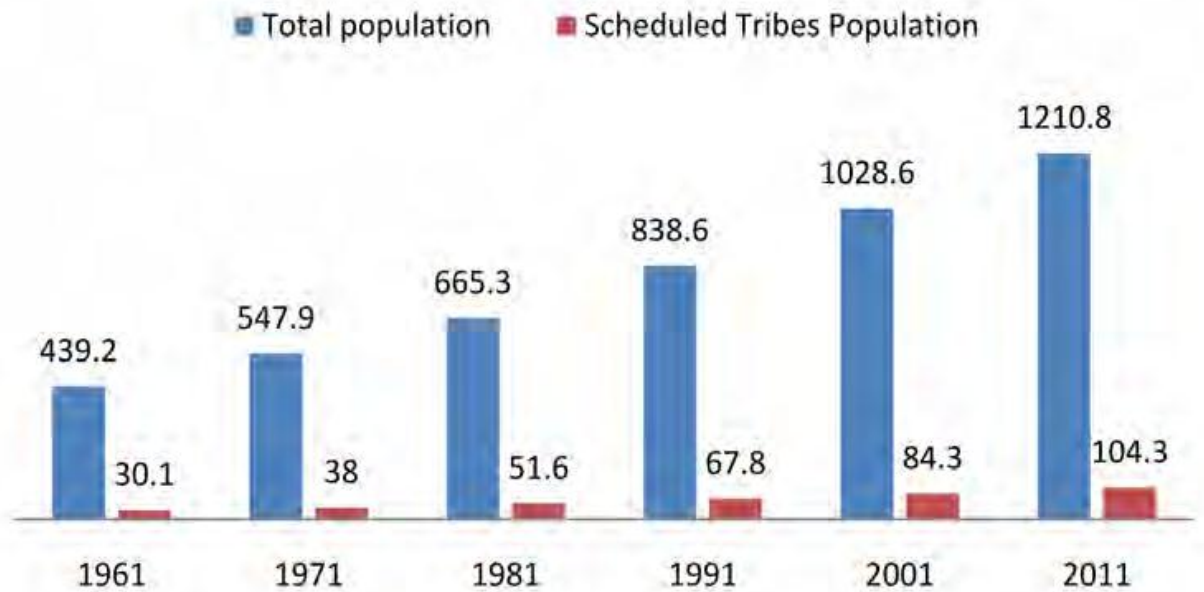
of the tribal's from Census 2001 to 2011 has been 23.66% against the 17.69% of the entire population



**G1.2: Distribution of Scheduled Tribe Population by States - 2011 (In %)**



**G1.1: Trends in Scheduled Tribe population (Million)**



## ***Aims and Objectives:***

*The tribal areas present a considerable degree of environmental biodiversity and, therefore, their development needs and problems are of different order and nature and call for micro-level focus and planning.*

*The tribal area development programme has been conceived as an integrated program for areas with 50% or more tribal concentration. The emphasis is on the preparation of a sub-plan for such areas whose long term objectives are;*

***1. To narrow the gap between the levels of development of tribal and other areas.***

***2. To improve the quality of life of the tribal communities***

*The sub-plan areas have been identified in 19 states and 2 union territories. Extensive areas covered by this programme are in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan. The resources for the tribal sub-plan mainly come from the state plan funds, investment from central ministries, special central assistance and institutional finance.*

*In the formulation of the sub-plan, special effort is being taken to design the programme such that they are specially suited to the communities living in these areas and are intended to tackle the problems faced by them. The criteria remain that they should benefit the common man, particularly the weakest groups and should be quite yielding and easy reachable by the average tribe. Special problems like the problem of shifting cultivation, bonded labour and land alienation and programs relating to credit and marketing, forestry and road are given importance*

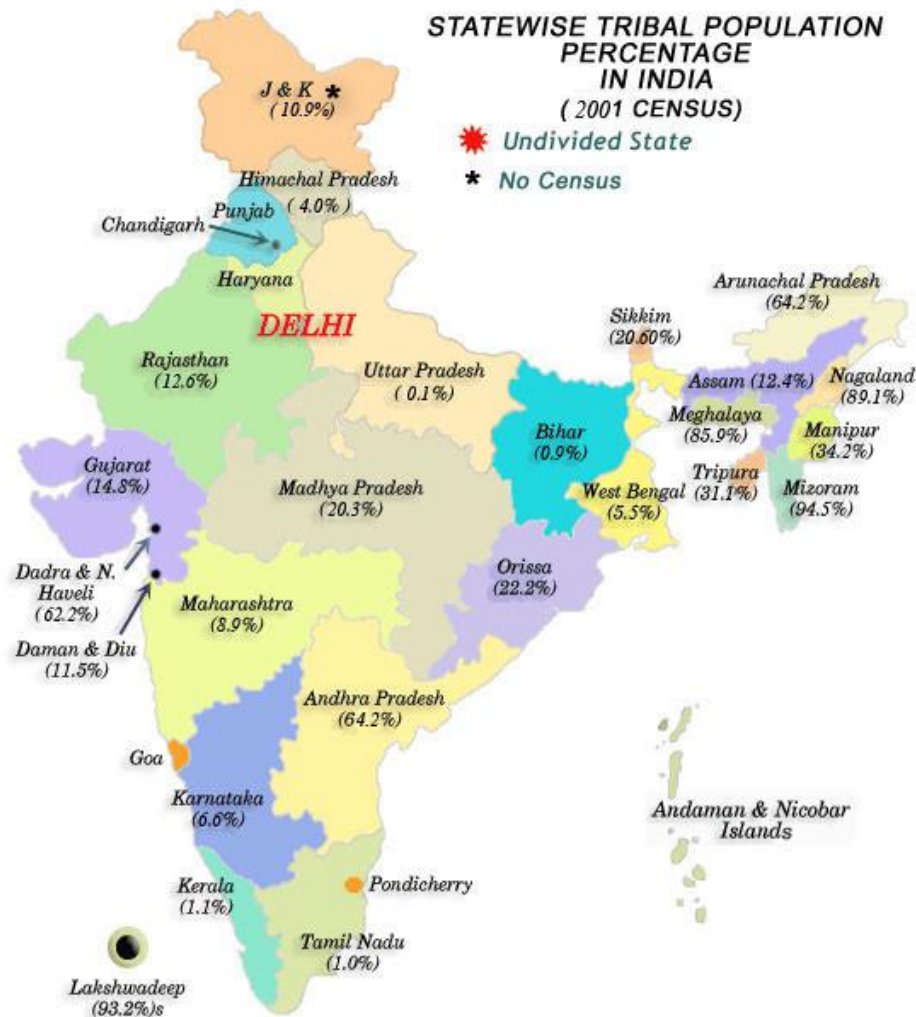
*The programme content of the tribal sub-plan would require increasing the productivity levels agriculture and horticulture, animal husbandry, forestry small and village industries and marketing. It has to be linked with improved post-harvest technology. Another important aspect is the transfer technology which would involve gradual*

*introduction of the improved techniques of agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry without causing damage to the economic base of the tribals. Education should be considered as the key to the development of human resource in the tribal areas. Besides, the tribal should make adequate provision for basic amenities like safe drinking water, adequate shelter, healthcare and proper level of nourishment. Their special health problems like sickle cell anaemia, goiter, leprosy and other endemic ailments need adequate attention. Special central assistance (SCA) is given to states / union territories as a part of tribal sub-plan strategy. Formulation of project and programmes for the primitive tribes need special attention. A separate organisational structure should be created with careful selection of personnel to deal with their problems sympathetically. No uniform policy of tribal culture and economic development can be advised. This is a need of simultaneous process of development in the field of culture, economy and political awakening.*

### ***Tribal Region:***

*India has about 104 million tribal populations consisting of about 8.6% of the total population of the country (2011 census). It consists of 365 tribes grouped under 58 tribal communities. These tribes constitute 94.75% of the total population of **Mizoram** followed by **Lakshadweep (93.15%)**, **Nagaland (87.70%)**, **Meghalaya (85.33%)**, **Dadar and Nagar Haveli (78.99%)** and **Arunachal Pradesh (63.66%)**. Besides there are nine states of **Manipur, Tripura, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Orissa, Gujarat, Assam, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra** and two union territories of **Daman and Diu and Andaman-Nicobar Islands**, where the percentage of tribal population to the states total population is above the national average (8.08%). There are 19 districts- **Dhar, Mandla in MP, Surguja and Bastar in Chhattisgarh, Sundergarh, Mayurbhanj***

*and Koraput in Orrisa, Lahul,Spit and Kinnaur in H.P., Dungarpur and Banswara in Rajasthan, Ranchi in Jharkhand , Valsad in Gujarat, Kameng, Lohit and Tirap in Arunachal Pradesh, Mikir Hills and North Cacher Hills in Assam and Manipur North in Manipur in the country where the tribal population is more than 50% of the total population. Similarly, there are 332 Talukas/ Tahsils in the country in which Scheduled Tribes are in absolute majority. Their cluster is found in the North-Eastern Hills, the Meghalya-Karbi-Anglong Plateau, the Chhotanagpur Plateau, Aravallis & Vindhayas, Western Ghats and high Himalayas Valleys. These are hilly, forested and semi – arid areas generally backward in terms of social and economic development.*





*For tribal sub-plan the tribal areas have been divided into three-tier development structure at micro, meso and macro levels. A tribal development block has been identified as micro area. The 'meso area' comprises of a group of tribal development blocks called a Taluk, sub-division or tahsil. The next higher unit of development administration is the macro- level area which includes the entire area of tribal concentration in particular state.*

### ***Planning Strategy for the Development of Tribal Region:***

- *Agriculture: Shifting cultivation- hilly areas  
Settled cultivation – plain dwellers  
Plantations – coconuts and Pineapples*
- *Education and Employment*
- *Agriculture & allied eco-activities*
- *Co-operation and Co-operatives*
- *Transportation and Communications  
Industrilisation- displacement,*
- *Land distribution and land alienation*
- *Land ownership to tribal people- provision restricting the transfer of tribal land to non-tribal by sale – Gujarat, Orissa & Rajashtan*

*The first step of tribal sub-plan is to identify tribal development blocks within the state where tribal population is in majority, followed by the formulation of integrated tribal development projects, earmarking of funds from the central and state plans and creation of appropriate administrative structure and adoption of appropriate personnel policies.*

*In the tribal sub-plan it has been visualized that the plan effort of all organizations will get integrated and one developmental programme will emerge. It is however, not happening because of a number of*

*difficulties. The tribal sub –plan has tended to become yet another centrally sponsored scheme, hanging loose from the state level programmes. A number of problems of adjustment have cropped up which need immediate attention otherwise the process of alienation and rootlessness will deshape the tribes and tribal ethos. There is a need to put more emphasis on the process of –Confidence- participatory development programmes and constructive political awakening which will finally lead to development and integration of tribal and tribal areas with the main stream of the country.*

### ***Integrated Development of Tribal Region:***

*The Fifth Five Year Plan introduced the concept of sub-plan. Its distinctive features are;*

- *It caters to special need of the designated areas.*
- *It employs a total (against sectoral) approach to problems of the area.*
- *It accepts the uniqueness of the problem of each viable area and community, and*
- *Its resources will be sum total of the resources of the state plan for the sub-plan area, the central sectoral outlays, special central assistance and institutional finance.*

*The contents of tribal sub –plan are as follows –*

- *Identification and demarcation of area of tribal concentration.*
- *Identification of socio -cultural barriers and promoters of change and development.*
- *Assessment of potentialities, special problems and felt – needs of the tribal areas.*

- *Assessment of the resources available for the tribal sub-plan from normal plan funds, special central assistance and institutional sources.*
- *Formulation of sectoral programmes.*
- *Devising a suitable administrative set up.*

### ***Programmes for the Development of Tribal***

*Various programmes have been initiated by the central and state governments for the development and welfare of the scheduled tribes.*

#### *Centrally sponsored programmes:*

- 1. Post -matric scholarship*
- 2. Girls hostel*
- 3. Pre- examination training*
- 4. Tribal development blocks*
- 5. Co-operation*
- 6. Research, Training and special projects*
- 7. Improvement of working and living conditions of those engaged in unclean occupations*
- 8. Coaching – cum- guidance centre*
- 9. Grants to all India non- official organizations doing welfare works among the scheduled tribes.*

#### *Programmes in the state sector:*

- 1. Pre-matric scholarship and stipends*
- 2. Exemption from tuition and examination fees*
- 3. Provision of educational equipments*
- 4. Provision of mid-day meals*
- 5. Setting up of ashram schools*

6. *Grants for the construction and maintenance of hostel and school buildings*
7. *Provision of land and irrigation*
8. *Supply of bullocks, agricultural implements, seeds & manures*
9. *Development of cottage industries*
10. *Development of communications*
11. *Colonization of shifting cultivators*
12. *Supply of poultry, sheep, pigs, goats etc*
13. *Medical facilities*
14. *Drinking water supply schemes*
15. *Provision of house sites and houses.*
16. *Legal aid*
17. *Grants in aid to non-official organization working at state level*
18. *Co-operation*