

III

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF KATKARI WORKFORCE IN SATARA DISTRICT

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Abstract: Education was generally looked upon as a way or a device for getting a job and ensuring a fixed monthly income. Tribal's were unable to relate education to their immediate survival concerns. There was also a dearth of any success story within their cultural setting, of educational attainments as instruments for upward mobility and improvements in earning capacity. The present research paper focuses on educational level of the Katkari Tribes in the age group of 15 to 60 that is workforce group. Analysis is made of Maharashtra state educational pattern.

Key words: Tribes, Katkari, Workforce, Educational Status

Introduction: The social and economic development of any region as well as any community is depends on the number of persons who are economically active and the quality and regularity of their work. There is close relation between occupation and standard of living because occupation provides purchasing power and standard of living is altimetry depends on income level. The Katkari belonging to the Maharashtra state have been categorized as a ST that is Scheduled Tribe. The Katkari population engaged in a wide range of livelihoods including the production and sale of catechu, charcoal, firewood and other forest products, freshwater fishing, hunting of small mammals and birds, upland agriculture and agricultural labour on the farms of both tribal and nontribal farmers. In this research work the researcher has tried to investigate on educational statu of the Katkari community of Satara district and related aspects.

Objectives: The objective of this research is to know the educational status of Katkari workforce of Satara District.

Research Methodology : the approach of the paper is analytical and exploratory. For collecting the information of educational level of the Katkari community of considered study area Survey Method is used. The required information is collected from secondary sources like Socio-Economic survey reports, Books, Journal etc.

Sampling: As per the District Census Handbook report of the Satara 2011, percentage of ST in total district population is 0.99 % with actual population of 29635 people from 5629

households. Katkari community comes under this quantity. The statistical data of specific katkari tribes is not available but the major portion of this community is located in the Mahabaleshwar, wai, Karad, Patan and Satara tahasils. For the analysis of educational status of workforce of Katkari community 105 samples selected from these five tahasils i. e. 25 households from Satara and Wai Tahasil each, 20 households each from Mahabaleshwar and Karad and remaining 15 from Patan Tahasil of Satara district. Sample units are selected by using simple random sample technique.

Research Hypothesis: The following hypotheses have been set for the research process.

Null hypothesis H0: There is no significant difference between literacy rate among workforce of the Katkari tribes in selected tahasils of Satara district.

Alternative hypothesis H1: There is significant difference between literacy rate among workforce of the Katkari tribes in selected tahasils of Satara district.

Review of Literature: Maharashtra HDI it is reported that the highest educational level in most households of katkari families was found to be below the middle school level. Katkari community's awareness about education had an important comporment on their low levels of participation and attainments, in addition to being directly linked to their livelihood concerns. **Kaur A. (2015)** revealed in the article 'Socio – Economic Mobility among Schedule Caste: A Study of Village Mugalmagri in Rupnagar District of Punjab' that Ramdasia sub-caste is not following their traditional work named weaving. Majority of them had changed their occupation and adopted the other occupations. Due impact globalization and education in their lifestyle they changed their occupations. **Mehrotra Nilika (2008)**, In her research paper 'Situating Tribal Women' make discussion on political, legal and socio economic side of tribal women. She argues that any discussion on tribal women and their relation to the t process of development need to take the cognizance of the special historical and cultural context, which have contributed to women's bargaining power with regard to the benefits provided by the different developmental plans are policies. **Jaiswal Rajesh** in his article educational development of tribals in India has focused on the issue of education of tribal children with policy implications. He has used secondary data and find out that one of the challenges in providing education to tribal children is relates to setting up school facilities in small scattered and remote tribal habitations. The majority of the scheduled tribes live in sparsely hill populated habitations in the interior and in inaccessible hilly and forest areas of

the country. **Kc Deepti & Samika Adhikari**¹ in their survey report on ‘Socioeconomic and Gender Analysis of Tribal Populations in India’ analysed socio economic condition and gender based issues of tribal community. The report focused on assessing the prevailing socioeconomic conditions in the study site by collecting baseline data on economic conditions of tribal women. Report point out that many women in the region are illiterate, and many never attended schools.

Research Gap - All earlier studies were related is instance analysis which are not so far been done with reference to educational status of especially age group of workforce of Katkari tribes in general and with reference to Satara district in particular. The present study systematically tried to investigate the educational level of workforce population of Katkari community located in Satara District. The study is unique in nature in this aspect.

Katkari Tribes: The **Katkari** also called **Kathodi**, are an Indian tribe from Maharashtra. They have been categorised as a Scheduled tribe.. In Maharashtra the Katkari have been designated a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG), along with two other groups included in this sub-category: the Madia Gond and the Kolam. In the case of the Katkari this vulnerability derives from their history as a nomadic, forest-dwelling people listed by the British Raj under the Criminal Tribes Act of 1871, a stigma that continues to this day.

Workforce Population : The workforce populations is also considered as labour force which is defined as those part of total population which comes in age range 15 to 60.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Table 1 indicates the educational qualification of the respondents. Among all the selected tahasils of study area 44.91 % respondents were illiterate. 34.28 percent had primary education (std. 4th) while 15.24 percent had studied up secondary education (Std. 10th). Only 6.66 percent had taken education up to the Higher education level.

Table 1
Educational Qualification

Level	Tahasil					Total
	Satara	Wai	Mahable-shwar	Karad	Patan	
Illiterate	28.00%	44.00%	65.00%	25.00%	53.34%	44.91%

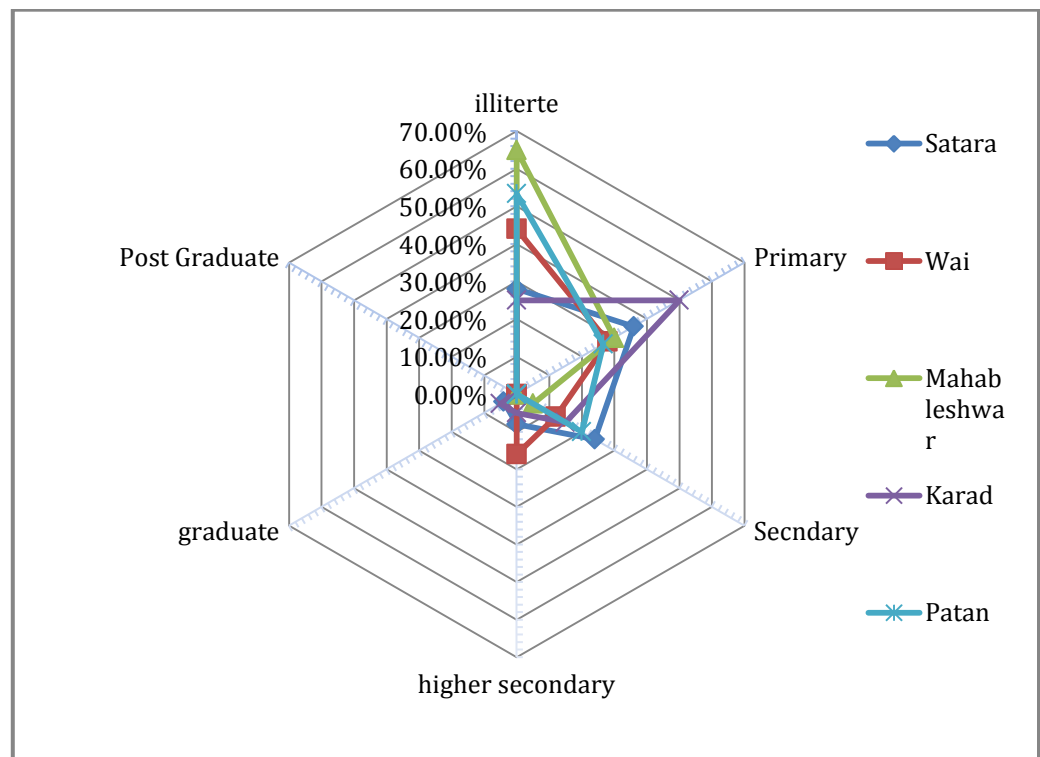
¹ Kc deepti & samika Adhikari (January 2015), ‘Socioeconomic and Gender Analysis of Tribal Populations in India’ ifmr lead, leveraging evidence for access and development.

Primary	36.00%	28.00%	30.00%	50.00%	26.66%	34.28%
Secondary School	24.00%	12.00%	5.00%	15.00%	20.00%	15.24%
Higher secondary	8.00%	16.00%	0.00%	5.00%	0.00%	6.66%
Graduate	4.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.00%	0.00%	1.91%
Post Graduate	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source : Primary data

It is also observed that only two respondents were with graduation degree and it is remarkable that there were no any respondent of this study region had enrolled or completed post graduation.

Chart No. 1 Educational Qualification



Overall it was observed that educational level of Katkari tribes was comparatively good in Satara and Wai Tahasil. In Karad Tahasil it was somehow good up to secondary level i.e. up to 10th class. But the educational status of the katkaries who were in Mahabaleshwar and Patan Tahasil was poor and illiteracy rate is 65 percent and 53.34 percent respectively. Education level is one of the important modes to access job opportunities. The above chart shows that educational status of katkari tribes is absolutely poor in Satara district. There is strong relation between education and occupation. So here it indicates that there is need to take additional strategic efforts for the improvement of educational level of this marginal

excluded society and provide opportunities to them to come up in the main channel of the development with educational upliftment.

Chi- square test is used here to calculate and identify the significant difference between literacy rate among workforce of the Katkari tribes in selected five tahasils of Satara district. Calculated value is less than table value so the null hypothesis is accepted. There is no significant difference between literacy rate among workforce of the Katkari tribes in study region.

Testing of Hypothesis

Summery	H0	There is no significant difference between literacy rate among workforce of the Katkari tribes in selected tahasils of Satara district.
	H1	There is significant difference between literacy rate among workforce of the Katkari tribes in selected tahasils of Satara district.
Test Used	Chi-Square test	
Level of Significance	5 percent	
Calculated Value (CV)	18.188	
Table Value (TV)	26.296	
Result	CV<TV	
Inference	H1 is rejected/ H0 is accepted	

(Note:- Actual Value less than 5.Results not reliable)

Conclusion:

Education level is one of the significant way to access work opportunities. The analysis and results shows that educational status of workforce of katkari tribes is absolutely poor in Satara district. There is strong relation between education and occupation. So here it indicates that there is need to take additional strategic efforts for the improvement of educational level of this marginal excluded society and provide opportunities to them so that at least from the next generation they will come up in the main channel of the development. It is suggested that special training and skill oriented programme for the workforce is needed to positive change of their living standard

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