



# Livelihood Security through Tea Plantation in Tribal Area of Chhattisgarh

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**Abstract:** Tea plantation allow comprehensive growth of the tribal region by providing livelihood security in their own home and discourage human migration due to lake of work. An attempt has made with the help of several evidence available from different sources to analyze the livelihood security through tea plantation in tribal area of Chhattisgarh, India. The employment development resources of tribal regions have been discussed.

**Keywords:** Tea plantation, Tribal, Livelihood.

## Introduction

Tribal population in India represent various culture and socio-economic status. Different types of tribes residing in different geographical place and confronting Schedule. There are about 700 tribes as per notified under Article 342 of the Constitution of India (Annual Report, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 2012-13). India is the second largest producer of tea plantation and biggest consumer of the tea. The term livelihood is closely connected to the concept of economic development and poverty alleviation and it is enable people to earn a living. Tea plantation sector is one of the highest revenue earners for Sri Lanka's economy, the plantation community comprise one of the poorest segment of the total population". The same may be said of the tea worker's communities in India and Bangladesh(UNDP, 2006).North belt region of Chhattisgarh mainly known for tribal populated area .. According to state's Agricultural Research Center climate of north Chhattisgarh is most suitable for tea plantation. These welfare schemes or statutory benefits that function as short-term alternative livelihood option are aimed at helping rural poor particularly of tribal communities. Tribals in this region are facing numerous problems due to natural disaster, crop failure, poverty, illness, reduced access to land and lack of employment opportunities leading to debt and migration (Planning Commission Report, 2010).

## Materials and Methods

In order to achieve authentic information, several evidence from different sources and participatory observation method for the collection of data was adopted. In order to analyze population growth and other demographic attributes, data from census and Ministry of Tribal Affairs information have been used.



## Results and Discussion

These tribals fall below the poverty line and live in extremely tough condition in interior hills. They have very small patches of owned land on which they grow other seasonal crops. While they have rich natural capital, their social and economic networks are very weak Chhattisgarh is emerging as a potential destination for tea plantation and currently ranked 17<sup>th</sup> in the country on tea production which was started from Sogra (Jashpur district). Apart from Jashpur, Sarguja and Balrapur districts also have favourable region for taking up the crop. The major aspects that are important in promoting and reinforcing livelihoods opportunities among Tribal communities have been started as follows:

### *Ecological Sustainability*

North belt of Chhattisgarh which is also elephants prone area. Destroying the another seasonal crops frequently, tea plantation is better option for the tribals farmer's livelihood security in this reason. Tea is not palatable to the elephants and they see gardens as an extension of their forest habitats.

### *Climate Supportive*

The geo-ecological stability a place has an important role in contributing to the livelihood security of its people. Tea landscapes play a pivotal role in livelihood security at various global localities. Tea is requiring high amount of potassium and silicon, grow in 4.5 to 5.0 pH, depth should be 1.0 to 1.5m and they can grow in lateritic, alluvial and peaty soil.

### *Labour based Livelihood*

Harvesting of tea crops has traditionally been non-mechanised therefore a large labour force is required which provides employment opportunities.

### *Community development*

Community development in term of improving the quality of life and economic well-being of people living in relatively isolated and sparsely populated areas. Tea plantation generating livelihood option in the community.

## Conclusion

From the above discussions it is revealed that the tea plantation workers of north chhattisgarh, most of who belong to the scheduled Tribes group exploring and establishing some viable livelihood opportunities in and around tea plantation which may act as livelihood interventions, thereby, planning and proper implementation of programmes and policies should be developed from time to time.



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