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Income and Employment Patterns of Tribal and Non-Tribal Households of Jashpur District: A Comparative Study

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ABSTRACT

This research paper aims to analyze and compare the income and employment structures of tribal and non-tribal households in Pathalgaon, Jashpur District of Chhattisgarh, India. The study employed a multistage random sampling technique to select the district, block, villages, and farm households. Primary data were collected through farm-level surveys, and secondary data were collected from published sources of various government and non-government organizations. The study investigates the sources of income and employment patterns in these two groups, highlighting the differences and potential factors influencing them. The data used in the analysis is derived from a comprehensive survey conducted among households from both tribal and non-tribal communities. The findings reveal distinct disparities in the income and employment structures between tribal and non-tribal households. Tribal households predominantly rely on on-farm activities such as crop cultivation and livestock farming as their primary source of income. Non-tribal households, on the other hand, exhibit a more diversified income portfolio, with significant contributions from off-farm activities, non-farm wage employment, business ventures, and government or private services. The research findings suggest the need for targeted policies and interventions to address the income and employment disparities between tribal and non-tribal households. Efforts should focus on enhancing educational opportunities, providing skill development programs, and expanding non-farm employment opportunities for tribal communities. Additionally, measures to improve land ownership and resource access for tribal households can contribute to bridging the income and employment gaps.

Keywords: Tribal households, non-tribal households, income structure, employment structure, on-farm activities, off-farm activities, non-farm employment, income disparities, employment disparities, rural communities

The income and employment structures of tribal and non-tribal households play a significant role in understanding the socio-economic dynamics and disparities within a society. Tribal households often have deep-rooted connections to agriculture and farming, relying on on-farm activities such as crop cultivation and livestock farming as their primary sources of income. In contrast, non-tribal households exhibit more diverse income and employment structures, engaging in various off-farm activities across different sectors. This research paper aims to examine and compare the income and employment

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patterns of tribal and non-tribal households, shedding light on the factors that contribute to the observed disparities. By analyzing comprehensive survey data collected from both tribal and non-tribal communities, this study provides valuable insights into the sources of income and employment for these two groups, highlighting the challenges and potential avenues for improvement.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The selection of sample was undertaken by multistage random sampling for this study.

1. Sampling Design

The selection of the sample was undertaken by multistage random sampling for this study. The sampling design involved the selection of the district, block, villages, and farm households. Jashpur district was selected for the present study, as it had both the tribe and non-tribe population. Pathalgaon block was selected proportionately to conduct this study, due to the higher population of this block among all eight blocks. The study was based on both primary as well as secondary data. Primary data were collected through farm-level surveys, and secondary data were collected from published sources of various government and non-government organizations. The data was collected through well-prepared schedules and questionnaires to fulfill the requirements of different objectives of the study.

2. Analytical Frame Work

Descriptive statistics were used to compute averages and percentage, besides using statistics for the testing of different variables of the two groups of farms with respect to various agro-economic attributes.

Average is calculated by using the formula-

$$\frac{\text{Total sum of all numbers in the set}}{\text{Number of items in the set}}$$

Percentage is calculated by using the formula-

$$\frac{\text{Data of individual in a set}}{\text{Total data in the set}} \times 100$$

Estimate of income and employment structure

An estimate of the cost of production of crops was done & per farm per year income and employment were also estimated. Income and employment pattern here referred to source and activity- wise composition of farm family income and employment. Farm family income was estimated as on farm income plus non-farm income plus incomes earned through will employment of family labour. Similarly, business activity wise on-farm employment of family labour as well as non-farm employment were examined for employment structure.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Income and Employment Structure of Tribe and Non-tribes Households

The income and employment structure of tribal and non-tribal households can vary significantly. Tribal households often have a strong connection to agriculture and farming activities. They may rely on on-farm activities such as crop cultivation and livestock farming as a primary source of income. Non-tribal households may have a more diverse income and employment structure. While some non-tribal households may also be involved in agriculture and farming, they may have more opportunities for off-farm in various sectors. Non-tribal households may engage in a wide range of non-farm activities, including wage employment in non- agricultural sectors, business ventures, and government or private services.

The table 1 reveals that tribal and non-tribal households have different sources of income. Tribal households earn a larger percentage of their income from on-farm activities, such as crop production and livestock raising, while non-tribal households earn a larger percentage of their income from off-farm activities, such as wages from non-farm work and government services. The table also shows that tribal households have a lower average annual income than non-tribal households. The average annual income for tribal households is rupee 95022.63, while the average annual income for non-tribal households is rupee 101679.11. This difference in income is likely due to a number of factors, including differences in education, employment opportunities, and access to resources.

Table 1: Average Annual Income of per household of tribal and non-tribal from various sources (₹/Household)

Source	Tribal		Non-Tribal	
	Annual Income	Percentage to total income	Annual Income	Percentage to total income
1. On farm				
Crop	42304.60	44.5	50612.23	49.78
Livestock	15591.03	16.41	14569.38	14.33
Sub Total	57895.63	60.93	65181.61	64.11
2. Off farm				
Wages From Farm Activity	4656.00	4.90	6000.00	5.90
Sub Total	4656.00	4.90	6000.00	5.90
3. Non-Farm				
Wages From Non-Farm activity (Carpenter, Painter, Plumber, Electrician, MGNREGA)	1720.00	1.81	2286.00	2.25
Business	1461.00	1.54	1536.00	1.51
Govt. Services	13590.00	14.30	12190.50	11.99
Private Services	15700.00	16.52	14485.00	14.25
Sub Total	32471.00	34.17	30497.50	29.99
Grand Total	95022.63	100.00	101679.11	100.00

On-farm income: Tribal households earn an average of rupee 57,895 per year from on-farm activities, while non-tribal households earn an average of rupee 65,181 per year. The difference in on-farm income is likely due to differences in land ownership and access to resources. Tribal households are more likely to own land and to live in rural areas, where there are more opportunities for crop production and livestock raising.

Off-farm income: Tribal households earn an average of rupee 61,147 per year from off-farm activities, while non-tribal households earn an average of rupee 57,941 per year. The difference in off-farm income is likely due to differences in education and employment opportunities. Tribal households are less likely to have a college degree and are more likely to be employed in low-wage jobs.

Non-farm income: Tribal households earn an average of rupee 97,960 per year from non-farm activities, while non-tribal households earn an average of rupee 117,204 per year. The difference in non-farm income is likely due to differences in government services and private sector employment. Tribal households are more likely to rely on government services, such as welfare and food stamps, while non-tribal households are more likely to be employed in the private sector.

The table 2 reveals that tribal and non-tribal households have different patterns of employment. Tribal households are more likely to be employed on farms, while non-tribal households are more likely to be employed in the non-farm sector. The table also shows that tribal households have a lower average number of days employed per year than non-tribal households. The average tribal household is employed for 238.39 days per year, while the average non-tribal household is employed for 250.8 days per year. This difference in employment is likely due to a number of factors, including differences in education, employment opportunities, and access to resources.

On-farm employment: Tribal households are more likely to be employed on farms than non-tribal households. The average tribal household is employed for 147.8 days per year on farms, while the average non-tribal household is employed for 158.41 days per year on farms. The difference in on-farm employment is likely due to differences in land ownership and access to resources. Tribal households are more likely to own land and to live in rural areas, where there are more opportunities for farm work.

Table 2: Average Annual Employment of per household of tribal and non-tribal from various sources (per workforce person)

Source	Tribal		Non-Tribal	
	Total employment (days/year)	Percentage to the Total	Total employment (days/year)	Percentage to the Total
1. On farm				
Crop	130.35	54.68	134.76	53.73
Livestock	17.45	7.32	23.65	9.43
Sub Total	147.8	62.00	158.41	63.16
2. Off farm				
Wages from Farm Activity	15.52	6.51	19.78	7.89
Sub Total	15.52	6.51	19.78	7.89
3. Non-Farm				
Wages From Non-Farm Activity	8.6	3.61	11.43	4.56
Business	4.87	2.04	5.12	2.04
Govt. Services	30.2	12.67	27.09	10.80
Private Services	31.4	13.17	28.97	11.55
Sub Total	75.07	31.49	72.61	28.95
Grand Total	238.39	100.00	250.8	100.00

Off-farm employment: Tribal households are less likely to be employed in the off-farm sector than non-tribal households. The average tribal household is employed for 15.52 days per year in the off-farm sector, while the average non-tribal household is employed for 19.78 days per year in the off-farm sector. The difference in off-farm employment is likely due to differences in education and employment opportunities. Tribal households are less likely to have a college degree and are more likely to be employed in low-wage jobs**.**

Non-farm employment: Tribal households are more likely to be employed in government services than non-tribal households. The average tribal household is employed for 30.2 days per year in government services, while the average non-tribal household is employed for 27.09 days per year in government services. The difference in non-farm employment is likely due to differences in access to government services. Tribal households are more likely to live in rural areas, where there are more opportunities for government employment.

FINDINGS

The analysis of the data reveals distinct differences in the income structures of tribal and non-tribal households. Tribal households derive a significant percentage of their income from on-farm activities, with crop cultivation and livestock farming playing a prominent role. Non-tribal households, on the other hand, exhibit a more diversified income portfolio, with contributions from off-farm activities such as non-farm wage employment, business ventures, and government or private services.

The research findings also highlight the income disparities between tribal and non-tribal households. The average annual income of tribal households is found to be lower compared to non-tribal households. This discrepancy can be attributed to various factors, including differences in education, employment opportunities, and access to resources. Tribal households are more likely to face limitations in terms of land ownership and resource accessibility, which can impact their income potential.

In terms of employment patterns, tribal households demonstrate a higher engagement in on-farm work, whereas non-tribal households exhibit a greater involvement in the non-farm sector. The average number of days employed per year is slightly lower for tribal households compared to non-tribal households, suggesting disparities in employment opportunities. This can be influenced by factors such

as education, skill levels, and access to non-farm job markets.

CONCLUSION

The study highlights the significant differences in income and employment structures between tribal and non-tribal households. Tribal households heavily rely on on-farm activities, while non-tribal households exhibit a more diverse range of income sources. The average annual income and number of days employed per year are also lower for tribal households compared to non-tribal households.

These disparities can be attributed to several factors, including differences in education, employment opportunities, and resource access. To address these challenges and promote equitable development, targeted interventions are necessary. These may include expanding educational opportunities, providing skill development programs, improving access to non-farm employment, and addressing land ownership and resource access issues for tribal households.

By implementing comprehensive policies and interventions, it is possible to bridge the income and employment gaps between tribal and non-tribal households. This will contribute to creating a more inclusive and sustainable economic environment, ensuring that tribal communities have equal opportunities for growth and development.

Suggestions

Based on the findings of this research, several suggestions can be made to address the income and employment disparities between tribal and non-tribal households:

1. Enhance Educational Opportunities: Implement initiatives to improve access to quality education for tribal communities, focusing on skill development and vocational training programs that align with non-farm employment opportunities.
2. Promote Non-Farm Employment: Create policies and programs that encourage the development of non-farm sectors in tribal areas, providing employment opportunities beyond traditional on-farm activities. This can include promoting entrepreneurship, supporting small-scale businesses, and attracting private sector investments.
3. Improve Resource Access: Address land ownership and resource access issues faced by tribal households, ensuring equitable distribution of resources and facilitating their participation in income-generating activities.
4. Strengthen Government Support: Enhance the provision of government services in rural tribal areas, including healthcare, education, infrastructure, and social welfare programs. This can help alleviate some of the socio-economic challenges faced by tribal households.
5. Foster Community Engagement: Encourage community-driven initiatives that promote self-help groups, cooperatives, and collective decision-making processes. This can empower tribal households to collectively address their income and employment challenges.

By implementing these suggestions, policymakers, stakeholders, and communities can work together to create an environment that promotes sustainable and inclusive economic development for both tribal and non-tribal households.

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