



TRIBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT IN GADCHIROLI DISTRICT OF MAHARASHTRA

Yogita Sanap* & Kalpana Jadhav**

*Krishivigyan Kendra, Gadchiroli.

** Professor & Head, Department of Home Science, RTMNU, Nagpur.

ABSTRACT

Tribals constitute the matrix of India's poverty though they are the sons of the same soil and the citizens of the same country, yet, they are practically deprived of many civic facilities. Since there is an urgency to provide facilities for entrepreneurs to running up of economically viable unit in the tribal farming sector the inculcation of entrepreneurship spirit has become the utmost need of the hour. Taking heed of these new approaches and opportunities, the present research article/ paper has been placed herewith to explore the forest produce enterprise development process in tribal dominated areas. For the said purpose the tribal dominated district Gadchiroli situated in the state of Maharashtra has been chosen as the study region.

INTRODUCTION

Forestry is the second major land use in India after agriculture. Millions of people throughout the world make extensive use of biological products from the wild. They add to peoples' livelihood security, especially for forest-dependent people. Non-timber forest products (NTFPs) are termed as "potential pillars of sustainable forestry." India as a country with a diverse population across the states has different socioeconomic and cultural variables. States like Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh,

Chhattisgarh & some regions in Maharashtra are considered to be tribal states due to presence of tribal communities with their distinct identities and lifestyles.

Forest product continue to be the main source of income and sustenance for many tribal communities. Without much capital investment and with little skill it provides employment opportunities to all groups of tribes and the income generated by NTFPs significantly contributes to household income in tribal areas. For enhancing the incomes of the



tribal community through diversification and value addition, micro-enterprise creation is emphasized through entrepreneurship development.

In India, major portion of the female community were involved with domestic works as a result their entrepreneurial skills and abilities were not properly utilized for the development of the nation. The emphasis was given for the promotion of women entrepreneurship after the 1970s with the introduction of the women's decade. The government of India declared the year 2000-01 as the Women Empowerment Year by keeping in view the social and economic well being of the female community. But majority of women do not undertake entrepreneurial ventures. There is need to strengthen and streamline the role of women in the development of various sectors by harnessing their power towards nation building and to attain accelerated economic growth. As the environment is conducive and perfect atmosphere exists, women have to come

forward to utilize their potential in a productive way (Pareek, U. and Nandkarni, M. (1978)).

The present study has been conducted in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra which constitutes about 11299 Km of the forest lands making home for a variety of Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) including gum plants, oil seeds, medicinal plants, flowers and fooding materials etc. Mahua, Jamun, Mango, tamarind, amla, etc., NTFP has been found to be highest income contributors. Many edible products like jam, chutney, squash, sauce, candy, juice, pickles etc., can be prepared from these forest produce and the products prepared from the same are very rich in nutritional values.

From the Gadchiroli block only, 10 Self Help Groups (SHG) of tribal women involved in bachat gats were selected for the present study purpose. Each of the said bachat gat comprised of 10 women members. These SHGs comprising of 50 subjects (members) are carrying out entrepreneurship with the technical guidance from the



Krishi Vighyan Kendra, Sonapur,
Gadchiroli.

OBJECTIVES

The study had following specific objectives:

1. To identify the Forest Produce (FP) from the Gadchiroli district.
2. To select the Forest Produce (FP) for food processing
3. To impart training to selected self help groups regarding value addition in forest produce.
4. To study the effect of training on income of SHG

METHODOLOGY

Location of the study area

The study was conducted in the Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra & the said district has been selected purposively because the maximum tribal population is residing in this dense forest region. From the Gadchiroli block of the said district 5 localities namely, Potegaon, chatgaon, Pardi, Wasa & Navergaon, were randomly selected as sample.

Methods of data collection

5 bachat gats comprising of 10 women members in each of the said gat from the above location were selected for the study purpose. Thus, in total 50 tribal women ($5 \times 10 = 50$) were considered as respondents for this study. The data were collected personally in cooperation with the Krishi Vighyan Kendra, Gadchiroli, by using pre-tested interview schedule.

DATA ANALYSIS

Above FPs (Table 1) plays an important role in the upliftment of socio-economic condition and livelihood of the tribal communities residing in the study regions. The economy and livelihood of these communities is intimately connected with NTFPs, as they lived in or in the fringes of forests and depend entirely on forests for the same since centuries.

Aamchur is dried raw mango powder “Chaata Masala” “Curry Masala” and other spice mixtures have Aamchur as an ingredient.

From the table 2, it is seen that the first bachat gat comprising of 10 subjects incurred



cost Rs14,100/- while the total sales of aamchur powder was found to be Rs 29,350/-. Hence, they gained profit which was more than double their investment. Thus, the aamchur powder enterprise helped adding the family income of 10 households through the said home enterprise.

Amla syrup is a concentrated form of fruit beverage made from Amla or *Emblica officianalis*. It has also a good nutritive value and therefore liked by one and all. It is a very good source of Vitamin C.

From the table 3, it is seen that the second bachat gat comprising of 10 subjects incurred cost Rs 16550/- while the total sales of Amla syrup was found to be Rs 31,255/-. Hence, they gained 88.85% profit which was just nearing to double their investment. Thus, the Amla syrup enterprise helped adding the family income of 10 households through the said home enterprise.

Jamun a fruit of great antiquity is highly liked for its pleasing flavour. The juicy fruit

pulp and also the pulp powder, too, taste usually from acid to fairly sweet. The sweetened Jamun juice is a delicious fruit beverage.

From the table 4, it is seen that the third bachat gat comprising of 10 subjects incurred cost Rs 18850/-while the total sales of Jamun pulp powder & pulp was found out to be Rs 35,105/-. Hence, they gained 86.23% profit which was just nearing to double their investment. Thus, the Jamun pulp powder & pulp enterprise helped adding the family income of 10 households through the said home enterprise.

The tamarind sauce is the chief agent to bring sour taste in curries, sauces, chutneys and certain beverages.

From the table 5, it is seen that the fourth bachat gat comprising of 10 subjects incurred cost Rs 17575/- while the total sales of Tamarind sauce and chutney was found out to be Rs 26,390/-. Hence, they gained 50.15% profit in their investment. Thus, the Tamarind sauce& chutney enterprise helped adding



the family income of 10 households through the said home enterprise.

Delicious jams and chutneys are prepared from mahua floweres due to their high nutritive values.

From the table 6, it is seen that the last and the fifth batchat comprising of 10 subjects incurred cost Rs 59255/- while the total sales of mahua based squash, jam and chutney was found to be Rs 1,35,786/-. Hence, they gained 129.15% profit which is two and a half times more than their investment. Thus, the mahua based squash, jam and chutney enterprise helped adding the family income of 10 households through the said home enterprise.

The table 7 depicts that about 94% respondents are having joint families. Thus, it is seen that Joint families are part of the social norms in tribal culture as reported by many anthropological and sociological studies.

About 48% per cent respondents belong to SC/ST category followed by nomadic tribes inclusive of others. The high percentage under

SC/ST category is due to the fact that the said district is predominantly tribal district of Maharashtra.

So far as the Educational status of the respondents it is seen that maximum respondents are illiterate and only 4% of them have reached the middle school status.

Majority of the respondents are having income below poverty line and only 28% of them are earning just above the minimum poverty line income.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

1. Present study may reveal the opportunities and potentialities of various enterprises, thereby improving the income and employment of rural masses residing in the identified tribal areas.
2. Present study may highlight various promoters as well as constraints in promoting rural enterprises thereby eventually helping in encasing the promoters and also managing the constraints.
3. Present study may help in documentation of best practices



which can be replicated in other developmental programs elsewhere.

4. Ultimately, based on the outcomes, an effective strategy may be developed which may have cascading effect for other areas having the similar resource system.

CONCLUSION

It may be concluded that there is lot of scope for entrepreneurial orientation development among tribals and there is a change towards the

positive side because of the efforts of the various promoting agency like the 'Krishi Vigyan Kendra' working in the said district. If a conducive entrepreneurial environment is created, identified potential enterprises and others can find an easy way in this tribal district of Maharashtra. Forest produce play an important role in sustainable livelihood of the tribes living in the vicinity of forests. Forest produce also serve as an important source of food, nutrition, income and employment.

Table 1: Identifying Forest Produce (FP) From The Gadchiroli District

Sr. No.	Forest Produce	Botanical Name
1	Mahua	<i>Madhuca indica</i>
2	Jamun	<i>Syzygium cumini</i>
3	Mango	<i>Mangifera indica</i>
4	Tamarind	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>
5	Amla	<i>Phyllanthus Emblica</i>

Table 2: Contribution To Cash Income From The Forest Produce-Mango

Preparation of Aamchur (dried mango powder) (n=10)

Material Description	Costing	Total expenses	Total Sales	Profit in %
Stacking trays	1000/-	Rs 14100/-	Rs 29,350/-	108%
slicers and graters	2500/-			
Vibratory shaker	600/-			
Grinding mill	5,500/-			
fill and seal packing machine	2750/-			
Raw mango	1000/-			
Cartons & straps	750			



**Table 3:-Contribution To Cash Income From The Forest Produce-
Amla**

Preparation of Amla syrup (n=10)

Material Description	Costing	Total expenses	Total Sales	Profit in %
Fruit washing tank	1000/-	Rs 16550/-	Rs 31,255/-	88.85%
Juice extractor	3500/-			
Bottle washing machine	1600/-			
Steam jacketed kettle	5,800/-			
fill and seal packing machine	3350/-			
Raw amla	1500/-			
Packaging bottles	700/-			

**Table 4:- Contribution To Cash Income From The Forest Produce-
Jamun**

Preparation of Jamun pulp powder & pulp (n=10)

Material Description	Costing	Total expenses	Total Sales	Profit in %
Fruit washing tank	900/-	Rs 18850/-	Rs 35,105/-	86.23%
Fruit mill	4000/-			
Steam jacketed kettle	2900/-			
Pulper	5,600/-			
fill and seal packing machine	3350/-			
Raw jamun	1000/-			
Packaging cartons, tins & bottles	1100/-			

**Table 5: Contribution To Cash Income From The Forest Produce-
Tamarind**

Preparation of Tamarind sauce & chutney (n=10)

Material Description	Costing	Total expenses	Total Sales	Profit in %
washing tank	900/-	Rs 17575/-	Rs 26,390/-	50.15%
Fruit mill	4000/-			
Steam jacketed kettle	2900/-			
Pulper	5,300/-			
fill and seal packing machine	2275/-			
Raw tamarind	1000/-			
Packaging cartons, tins & bottles	1200/-			



**Table 6 :Contribution To Cash Income From The Forest Produce-
Mahua**

Preparation of Squash, Jam & chutney (n=10)

Material Description	Costing	Total expenses Rs 59255/-	Total Sales Rs 1,35,786/-	Profit in % 129.15%
washing tank	1100/-			
Processing Unit	49,635/-			
Fill & seal machine	4320/-			
Dried mahua flowers	2000/-			
Packaging cartons, tins & bottles	2200/-			

Table 7 :Socio-economic status of the subjects

Socio-economic status of the subjects (n=50)

S.No	Profile Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Marital Status		
	Single	2	4.0
	Married	48	96.0
2.	Family Type		
	Nuclear	3	6.0
	Joint	47	94.0
3.	Caste		
	S.C./ S.T.	24	48.0
	N.T. + Other	26	52.0
4.	Education		
	Illiterate	32	64.0
	Functional Literate	5	10
	Primary school	11	22.0
	Middle school	2	4.0
	College	-	-
5.	Annual icome		
	25,000/- p.a.	36	72.0
	More than 25,000/- p.a.	14	28.0

REFERENCES

- Pareek, U. and Nandkarni, M. (1978).Development of entrepreneurship.A conceptual mode.Developing entrepreneurship. A hand book (ed. Rao, T.V. and Pareek, U.) learning systems, New Delhi. Pp 29-41.