The Socio - Economic Status of the Malayali Tribal in Kalvarayan Hills

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Abstract

This study addresses the socio economic status of the scheduled tribes in kalvarayan hills Salem district TamilNadu. The majority of the household occupations is Agriculture. Cultivation is the primary occupation participated by the most heads of the sample households. Income from cultivation support majority of the sample population. More than 83 percent of the agriculture has from income around below Rs 5000-10000 level the economic system is the means by which goods are produced, distributed or marketed and consumed. Each people can and does resolve the difficulty of living within the limits of its own resources. It can also distribute goods according to its own priorities. Economic organization tribal communities can be classified differently, according to their environmental setting like the rural, settled and cattle. Scheduled Tribal families living below poverty line to The Malaiyali system of agriculture is terraced and rain dependent. Tapioca and paddy are the primary crops raised on a large scale, while vegetable and the cereals are cultivated in lesser areas and small scale. Paddy is cultivated both in wet (irrigated) and dry lands. Cattle are an important asset to the tribal households. It has been found that the traditional economy of the Malaiyali is changing into a relative market economy through the improved transport and communication systems and the available tribal development programs.

Key Words: Economic status, Kalvarayan Hills, Malayali Tribal, economic System and occupations.