

Impact of the COVID-19 on the livelihood of nomadic tribe in Maharashtra

Introduction of the proposed study

The outbreak of COVID-19 and the resultant total lockdown in India has greatly affected the livelihoods across India. The total lockdown may help arrest the spread of corona virus; however, quick and effective intervention is required for minimize the disruptive effect on the livelihoods of vulnerable population in the state of Maharashtra. Due to lockdown everyone from organized sector or unorganized sector facing issues of employment and livelihood. As nomadic people carved their livelihoods through a variety of activities, they could be suitably classified in four categories : (a) pastorals and hunter-gatherers (b) goods and service nomads (c) entertainers and (d) religious performers. The characteristic of COVID-19 is highly contagious and respiratory disease and immediately impacted government and public health system. The most of government declaring a public health emergency and government adopting extraordinary measures to prevent the contagion and limit the outbreak. The government declared total lockdown for preventing from the spreading the COVID-19 but the community like nomadic tribe which is resources less community where their livelihood depend on the travel from one place to another place are more impacted.

Major Research Works reviewed:

The livelihood of the nomadic is deigned and decided by the structure of the society for example wandering blacksmiths, stone worker, stone dressers, earth and stone worker, metal casters and so on. The structure of the society did not allow to change their trade in rural areas in urban areas this community engaged into the unorganized sector as a daily wage worker with no social security. Thought nomadic communities carried out diversified economic activities but their livelihoods are seriously threatened by lockdown and COVID-19. The agriculture sector due to COVID-19 are in pressure and those

communities depend upon agriculture now losing livelihoods and now looking for the alternate occupations. The livelihoods of the nomadic tribe are challenges because of the mechanisation, urbanisation, commercialisation of agriculture and large scale infrastructure development.

Livelihoods of the pastorals and hunter gatherers are primarily affected because grazing lands and forests are no longer the open access regimes. The specific reasons for the impact on their livelihoods are (a) overall degradation of natural resources in terms of both quality and quantity (b) emergence of competitive use patterns between various users and sectors (c) increasing privatisation and commercialisation of resources and (d) restrictions on access to and control over natural resources. There are limited research work on the understand the livelihood of the nomadic tribe and most of the research is to understand the social life and violence on the nomadic tribe community.

Statement of research problem

Due to lockdown there is lots of uncertainty among the people on their livelihood and most of the people are in fear whether they are able to getting jobs opportunity in slow economic growth. The government declared various package to the industry, salary employed and the farmer. But the nomadic community are not eligible for any economic package. The government providing dry ration during the lockdown periods but most of the nomadic community did not have a ration card or Aadhaar card to avail government food support. The impact of the livelihood on farmer or worker in industries are very well document during lockdown period but the impact on the livelihood of the resourceless people are less important to the research community. To this research study the team of researcher wish to documents the impact of the lockdown on the nomadic community in Maharashtra state.

Objectives of the Proposed Study

1. To understand the impact of COVID-19 on the most vulnerable community or resources less community
2. Mapping the NT community and their traditional profession and how COVID-19 impact on their traditional profession.
3. To develop deep insight into socio-economic factors and their relation to livelihood impact during COVID-19 epidemic.
4. Impact of government economic package on the livelihood of nomadic tribe if any
5. To understand the difficulty facing by monadic tribe for engaging to work during lockdown

Framework and Methods proposed for research

The purpose of the propose study is to investigate empirically the impact on the livelihood due to COVID-19 epidemic. To understand the impact on livelihood on the nomadic tribe first understand the livelihood pattern before COVID-19 and after COVID-19 infection through the use of a standardized interview schedule. Through the interview schedule indexing livelihood and examining its relationship with socioeconomic status. Impact on the livelihood also impacted on the resources available with the community so through the questioner listing the resources available before and after lockdown to understand the impact on the existing resources. The multi stages random sample of individuals from the nomadic tribe household from Mumbai to understand the impact on livelihood of the nomadic tribe in urban set up. To understand the livelihood impact from rural areas of the Palghar district and Pune district. To generalizing the research study the sample size will be taken as a 10 per cent of the total nomadic tribe household from Mumbai, Pune rural and Palghar district of Maharashtra. The interview schedule also highlight the difficulty facing by the nomadic tribe on livelihood of changes due to COVID-19. During interview of the people question will ask about the what is a support system help to during COVID-19 and impact of government support during lockdown on their livelihood.