



Value orientation and activities performed by tribal lambani women of North Karnataka

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ABSTRACT

An attempt was made in this study to know the value orientation of Lambani women towards scientific farming, girls education and family planning and association between value orientation and selected independent variables, considering 200 randomly selected Lambani women in Shirahatti and Ranebennur Talukas of Haveri district. A vast majority of Lambani women had higher value orientation towards scientific farming. Whereas, majority had low value orientation with respect to family planning and girls education. Age, family size and size of land holdings of respondents were significantly associated with the value orientation towards girls education. Cleaning the house, serving food and child care works were done by all the women folk. Except chilli transplanting, all other agriculture operations were performed by women. Embroidery was a major subsidiary work. Collection and selling of forest produce were the important activities among works.

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INTRODUCTION

In the land of cultural diversity, Lambani caste (synonymous names are, Banjara, Brinjar, Bripari, Lambadi, Lamani, Labhana, Mukeri, Sugali, Sukali, Wanjari, etc.) contributed a lot to the 'culture by their rich and unique styles'. They normally live in tandas (tanda is an area where lambani caste people reside exclusively). Their traditional occupation was salt trading, harvesting and selling of forest produce besides engaging in petty business. Thus, they were leading nomadic life. After India's independence Lambani caste was included under backward caste list to extend benefits to improve their living conditions. However, in Karnataka, from July 1977 onwards, Lambani caste was included under scheduled castes. This facility has opened wider avenues for them to get better education and employment opportunities in government and private organisations. This also helped them to avail incentives from various developmental programmes to improve agriculture, housing, public health and sanitation, self-employment etc. According to 1981 census, in Karnataka as many as 44518 Lambanis are living in 136

tandas have availed one or the other benefits from various welfare programmes.

The female folk in the Lambani caste play relatively a significant role in the family affairs. Understanding of their value orientation with respect to scientific farming, girls education and family planning as well as, factors influencing the value orientation of women was felt important to develop a strategy to influence their decision making ability to improve the farm productivity, girls education and to have control over the population growth. Therefore, an attempt has been made to study the orientation of Lambani women towards scientific farming, family planning and girls' education, and to understand the association if any, between value orientation of Lambani women and selected independent variables.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Shirahatti and Ranebennur Talukas of Haveri district. These Talukas were purposively selected in view of the highest population of Lambanis. In each Taluk, five tandas were selected randomly. In each tanda, 20 women heads of the family were

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