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## COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS

### *Theme : Marginalised Social Groups: Dalits/Tribals/Minorities*

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#### ***Development of a Vulnerability to Debt Bondage Index***

**Collaboration/s:** International Labour Organization (ILO)

**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Prof. D.N. Reddy, Prof. Amitabh Kundu and Prof. Alakh N. Sharma

Sponsored by ILO, this study develops a Vulnerability to Debt Bondage Index (VDBI), composed of a set of indicators which can be used for identifying and targeting households that are vulnerable to debt bondage in the South Asian region. The VDBI has developed data from two baseline surveys conducted in Nepal with a focus on the former Kamaiyas of the western Terai, and in India with a focus on agricultural labourers in the Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh.

#### ***Functioning of Rural Credit System in a Tribal Region: Case of Jharkhand***

**Collaboration/s:** LBS National Academy of Administration, Mussourie

**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr. Harishwar Dayal, Dr. Ramashray Singh and Mr. S. Tripathy

Undertaken in collaboration with the LBS National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, the study, based on both primary and secondary data, analyses the functioning of the credit system—both formal and informal—in the tribal areas of Jharkhand.

#### ***Poverty and Employment among Tribal in India***

**Collaboration/s:** Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India

**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Prof. Navin Chandra

This study, conducted under sponsorship from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, aims to document the status of poverty and employment among tribals in India. Based on secondary data and review of literature, the study also analyses the various constraints that the tribals face in trying to eke out sustainable livelihoods.

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***Towards Dignity; Access, Aspiration, Assertion: The Status of India's***

**Collaboration/s:** DalitsHenrich Bol Foundation

**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Mr. Aseem Prakash

This project, undertaken under the sponsorship of the Henry Boll Foundation, tries to explore, analyse and document the socio-economic and political status of Dalits. It assesses the impact of the transformative instruments of the post-colonial Indian State and society on the Dalits. In addition, the project also seeks to devise an agenda for social change and communicate the vision of an equitable social order.

***Micro-Credit, Market Entry and Dalit Entrepreneurs in Select Regions of India***

**Collaboration/s:** ICICI Bank

**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Prof. Alakh N. Sharma and Mr. Aseem Prakash

This study was focused on three inter-related dimensions of micro-credit— Access, Market Entry and Governance. Access: This component of the study examined the involvement of Dalits in activities that rely heavily on social capital. Market Entry :The study laid emphasis on identifying the institutions and mechanisms of creating productive wealth and expanding the role of Dalits in the creation of India's modern capitalist structure, not just as labourers but as owners of capital. Governance : The study identified the governance structures that disburse micro-credit and also those that provide Dalits with avenues for sustainable livelihood opportunities by meeting their long-term financing needs at both the macro and micro levels.

***Study on Scheduled Tribes in India: A Calculation of Human Development Indicators and Indices***

**Collaboration/s:** International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)

**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr. Dev Nathan

The Institute had undertaken a study to prepare a brief profile of the human development of STs in India, particularly to calculate the development and deprivation indices for them. The study was sponsored by the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), Rome.

***Delhi Development Report: Chapters on Education, Industry and Vulnerable Groups*****Collaboration/s:** Government of NCT of Delhi**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Prof. Alakh N. Sharma and Dr. Vandana Parashar***Study on the Socio-economic Status of the Notified Minority Communities (Other than Muslims)*****Collaboration/s:** National Commission for Minorities (NCM)**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr. Preet Rustagi

This report focuses on the socio-economic status of the other four minorities excluding the Muslims, that is, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists (including Neo-Buddhists) and Zoroastrians (Parsis). It has analysed secondary sources of data such as the Census and National Sample Survey (NSS), in addition to information on the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) at the all-India level to provide a profile of the educational, social and economic status of these four minority communities. It covers the demographic profiles, educational and health attainments, land and poverty issues, and employment and unemployment aspects relating to all the four minorities. This project was conducted over a period of four months, and submitted to the National Commission of Minorities (NCM) in March 2008. The full report pertaining to the project is available on the NCM website: <http://ncm.nic.in/pdf/IHD%20Report%20Final.pdf>.

***Adivasi Human Development Report of Odisha*****Collaboration/s:** Skillshare International, UK**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr. Harishwar Dayal

The Institute prepared the Adivasi Human Development Report (AHDR) of Odisha for Skillshare International. It was a part of Skillshare's INGO Partnership Agreement Programme (IPAP) on tribal healthcare and livelihoods. The assignment consisted of two parts: (i) Data collection and compilation for the Adivasi Human Development Report (AHDR) of Odisha; and (ii) Data analysis and development for the same report.

The objective of the research was to identify the developmental gaps between the tribals and the non-tribals, and the nature and extent of poverty and deprivation among the tribals. It also aimed at investigating the causes of their deprivation and the issues of their land alienation, displacement, migration, food insecurity and social exclusion, while also assessing the type of intervention required for improving their conditions.

This study is based on a combination of both primary and secondary data analysis. Primary data were collected by using various tools of participatory data analysis, especially focus Group Interviews (FGDs), in-depth interviews, and case studies. The PRA exercises were conducted in eight villages and two resettlement colonies in five blocks of three districts of the state of Odisha. A wide range of secondary data sources, such as the Census 1961 to 2011, the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), NSS and other relevant sources have also been used.

Odisha is inhabited by 62 tribal communities, which constitute about 22 per cent of the total population of the state. The tribals of the state suffer from multiple forms of deprivation, and a very high incidence of poverty; and the Head Count Ratio (HCR) of poverty among them is higher than among the other communities. They also exhibit a very high incidence of malnutrition and child mortality.

The tribals are also geographically marginalized. The districts in which they are concentrated are less developed than the non-tribal belt. The HDI of the tribal-concentrated districts is usually less than the state average. Southern Odisha, which has a heavy tribal concentration, displays a much higher incidence of poverty than the northern and coastal regions.

The final report on the state, based on both primary and secondary data, has been submitted to Skillshare International.

### ***Modalities to Operationalise Mid-day Meal Schemes in Tribal Areas***

**Collaboration/s:** World Food Programme

**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr. Sandip Sarkar

This study collected data from the predominantly tribal districts of seven states in India and identified the number of targeted schools and children studying there. The objective was to operationalise the meal scheme with a focus on education, nutrition and health, and in particular, on the girl students. In this connection, a small workshop was organised in Delhi in which various stakeholders participated.

### ***Drought-proofing Chhattisgarh***

**Collaboration/s:** Planning Commission, Government of India

**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Prof. Jayati Ghosh and Ms. Smita Gupta

Sponsored by the Planning Commission, this study was to feed directly into the focus of the Tenth Five Year Plan on “Sustainable Agriculture And Reduction Of Vulnerability To Natural Calamities” by providing inputs on water management and the development strategy through the dispersal of growth to backward areas; sustainable and equitable decentralised natural resource management and drought-proofing to ensure food, fodder, fuel and water security. The study is based on secondary data as well as a large field survey.

### ***Promoting the Inclusion of Adivasi Children***

**Collaboration/s:** UNICEF

**Project Director/ Project Coordinator:** Dr. Dev Nathan

Recently, IHD had organised an International Seminar on Adivasis, which was supported by UNICEF, for promoting the inclusion of Adivasi children in the development process. This study will fill the knowledge gaps and develop a comprehensive analytical document and policy agenda for promoting the development of Adivasi children.