A STUDY OF THE LIVELIHOOD PATTERNS, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF GOND TRIBE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE OF GADCHIROLI DISTRICT

By

Nitin R. Pandit

Under the Guidance of

Dr. P.P. Lokhande

Lecturer
Jawaharlal Nehru College Of Social Work
Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded

Synopsis
Submitted for the registration of Ph.D In Social Work under the faculty of Social Sciences

Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded
October 2017
A STUDY OF THE LIVELIHOOD PATTERNS, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF GOND TRIBE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE OF GADCHIROLI DISTRICT

1. Introduction
Livelihood is the important concept to understand about the life goings and different type of factors which are affecting people's day to day life particularly those are living in vulnerable condition in our society. For tribal development, improvement of their livelihood practices several government agencies and NGO's are working in our country and also in Maharashtra. But today also most of tribal communities in our country live with low income, problem facing in income generation and becoming more vulnerable in terms of socially, economically and politically. The present study aimed at exploring the subject of livelihood opportunities and challenges of Gond tribes in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra. Furthermore it sought to examine the socio-economic conditions of Gond tribes in same region.

1.1 Tribal in India

India is a country which consists of various communities and social groups which professes different culture, different religion, variety of dialects and uses of different and distinct labels, forming the broader society as Indian society. There is another society called the 'tribal society' which has been carrying a stigma with itself since time immemorial of being an excluded and closed society, even it has been subjected to cross exposures from both inside and outside and has had a breakthrough from its otherwise conventional picture.

In the world next to Africa, India has the largest concentration of tribal population. Our constitution uses the term tribe in its administrative connotation which may be because in Indian context, the tribe is basically a politico-administrative category and it has hardly retained its socio-cultural characteristics (N.N. Mathur, 1994).1 The constitution of India defined scheduled tribes as per article 366(25) “scheduled tribe as Tribes are those which are backward and which deserve special provisions for development”
Another definition by Ghurye says that, 'Scheduled Tribes as those which are declared by the president by public notification as tribal communities or parts or group within tribes or tribal communities which shall for the purposes of this constitution be deemed under article 342 to be scheduled tribes for the purpose of this constitution'(N.N.G. Mathur,1994 ).

In India tribal people are often called “Adivasis” and the government recognizes them as scheduled tribes (STs). Scheduled Tribes (STs) are the disadvantaged sections of the society similarly with Scheduled Castes (SCs) due to socio-economic exploitation and isolation since times immemorial.

Dubey (1977), in his book “Tribal Heritage of India” defined tribe this like “The term tribe, in the Indian context, has never been precisely defined satisfactory. It was used as one time, to denote a bewildering variety of social categories that were neither analogous nor comparable”

According to the Census of 2011, the ST population in India was 104.5 million, accounting for 8.63 percent of the total population of the country. According to Kulamani Padhi (2005) the major identified tribes in country number about the 428 scheduled tribes in India but the total numbers of tribal communities are reported to be 642 and several of them have become extinct or merged with other communities in continuous development process. Thus, if the sub-tribes and state tribes will be taken into consideration, the number will be many more. These 428 communities speaking 106 different languages have been so far notified as the scheduled tribes in 19 states and 6 union territories. Every tribe have their own socio-cultural and economic structure. In India tribal communities known with different names like Adiwasis, Vanya Jatis, Moolniwasis etc. Most of the tribal concentrated areas lack basic facilities such as roads, transport, communication, electricity, medical facilities etc. and also varies widely among different groups and regions. The tribal population in Maharashtra in 2011 was 10,51,021 constituting 9.4 percent of the total population of the state. The state has the second largest tribal population in the country, next only to Madhya Pradesh, with 10 percent of the total ST population of India. Numerically, Maharashtra state has the largest number of tribal population in the country.
Though the ST population in India is numerically less as compared to the general population, they deserve special attention as they are socio-economically and culturally backward and isolated from the general population. Even among the STs, there are large differences between them in terms of numerical strength, history of settlement, geographic location, livelihood pattern, language, culture, human development, political empowerment and developmental aspirations. Further, each tribe is an endogamous group and interaction between groups and outside world is very much limited.

In recognition of their backwardness and the need for government support, as early as India’s independence, provision has been made for administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes in the 5th Schedule of the Constitution of India. There are many constitutional safeguards for the welfare, development and protection of the STs such as equal rights and opportunities; protection against discrimination on the grounds of caste, religion, race, sex, etc; reservation in appointments and in Lok Sabha, Legislative Assembly, Local Government seats; protection against social injustice and all forms of exploitation; and so on. (Sample Survey)

1.2 Tribal Livelihoods

In India, the tribal communities have conventionally lived in about 15 percent of the country’s geographical area, mainly forests, hills, and the undulating inaccessible terrain in the plateau, rich in natural resources. However, due to change in natural resources like land, forests and forest products, tribal livelihood has been affected. In the process of industrialization and urbanization, tribal communities and their livelihood get affected. Natural resources in tribal belt have been destroyed by the private sector as well as government intervention. In the name of development, the government has acquired tribal land under the special economic zone act for industrial development. In the projects of constructing dams, which mainly are planned by the government, mostly tribal land and their natural resources have affected and community traditional assets have disappeared.

All such innovations by nontribal agencies affect the tribal community and their livelihood. By such replications, the tribal population started to migrate to urban areas for labour work. In such kind of assimilation and integrated process tribal
life gets affected. In addition, government schemes and programs of poverty reduction have failed in the scheduled area. On the other side, agricultural modernization, urbanization, and infrastructural development have led to the creation of new employment opportunities. So, the tribes get diversification from agriculture, the economy of the tribal community is influenced by the market. Assimilation with non-tribal culture / mainstream culture is also influenced to the tribal livelihood.

1.3 The Gond Tribe in India

Otherwise the most excluded section of society; the Gond tribe is most dominant tribe of India. Their niche extends from Satpura Range to the Godavari own the map, from Uttar Pradesh (Gonda district) and north Bihar to Andhra Pradesh, and from Maharashtra to Odisha. Their dominance is so much that they have lent their name to an ancient landmass, Gondwana, which gained prominence during medieval period. Since then the Gonds established their political power, found states and exercised influence everywhere. There were majorly four separate Gond kingdoms in the Gondwana region.

According to the census of India, 1961, the derivation of the name Gond is Unknown. In fact, the Gonds call themselves as Koitur or Koi (in Gondi dialect it means „human being“) and the name „Gond“ was given to them by outsiders.

Statement of the Problem :

Rationale behind the research on Gond Tribe in Gadchiroli is to understand the socio- economic condition and livelihood opportunity and challenges in so called modernised country. Gadchiroli which comes under Vidarbha region which is known as capital of forest. Historically, they were the residents of the Vidarbha and have fought for the rights of peoples of Berar region in the early 18th century with British and Marathas. And even though they have not been given concentration in the academic discourse and government implementing programmes and therefore they are been denied with the basic rights and forced them to migrate from their habitat to the cities where they could not find sustainable livelihood which they continually get change according to season. Gonds are educationally still lack to achieve a full literacy rate. As per the 2011 census the Literacy rate of the Gond in Maharashtra is about 74.36 per cent. But
though their participation in political and economic sphere is lack due to the hegemony of dominante culture of politics. They have been excluded in the process of participation for their development in the villages of Vidarbha, where very less research have been done and resulted into huge literature gap on the Gond tribes.

As they follows the practices of Hindu religion and spend their money to celebrate their festival results into a less income generation and leads to the poverty. education plays very important role in lives of people where it becomes a means to achieve the success in terms of accessing the quality of health, to generate the livelihood for survival and to live a healthy life but due to the less achievement in the socio-economic condition of the Gond people, they are facing a problems of education, health, livelihood etc. Hence this research will study the socio-economic condition, the contemporary livelihood opportunities and challenges of Gond people and the processes of development in their life.

As mentioned and talked earlier that the Gond tribe is one of the most backward community in Maharashtra; otherwise also it is a socially excluded community and lacks access to and opportunity for any facilities and resources. Therefore, the study is focussed majoritily on studying the challenges faced by the community and exploring the livelihood opportunities that would help them make a living. Furthermore, another aim will be studying the socio-economic conditions of the Gond tribe in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra.
2. Review of literature:

2.1 Definition of Tribal People

In India, the local equivalent of the term ‘tribe’ is often assumed to be ‘jana’ or ‘communities of people’ based on the usage of the term in ancient Buddhist and puranic texts. In this conception, the term jana was used in opposition to the term jati to indicate that these communities were outside the jati or hierarchical caste system of social organisation. This view, however, was not universally accepted; since other scholars point out that the categories of jana and jati do not neatly overlap with that of tribe and caste respectively in the present context.

In order to make study meaningful it is important to clear this term tribal people. in our country tribal people are generally termed as ‘Adivasis’, ‘Vanvasi’, ‘Vanyajati’, ‘Adimjati’, ‘Pahari’, ‘Girijan’ etc. According to the classical colonial anthropologists “tribal group is small, self-contained, Self sufficient communities practicing subsistence economy in which exploitation and social conflict did not have any place” (Rao, 1988).

Andre Beteille has defined tribe in very theoretical way; he says “tribals have some characteristics which make them a society. They have boundaries and they are self contained unit. Some of them are characterized by the presence of government. Above all tribal society has a common culture”. (Andre, year)

After independence special protection and development for tribal people was made constitutional obligation. The excluded area were made scheduled areas and list of tribal people was made and adopted.

Scores of concepts and theories have been given by a number of theorists. All the theories produced began with a common view that livelihood problems have global concerns. The practices related to livelihood are pivotal to tribal, rural development strategy.

2.2 Concept and Meaning of Livelihood

According to Oxford English Dictionary, Livelihood is defined as a set of economic activities, involving self - employment, and or wage employment by using one's
endowments (both human and material) to generate adequate resources for meeting the requirements of the self and household on a sustainable basis with dignity. The activity is usually carried out repeatedly. Livelihood is an umbrella term which covers many other aspects and topics, one of which is earning of wages, which is usually associated with employment. Livelihood in social sciences is defined as “the command an individual, family or other social group has over an income and/or bundles of resources that can be used or exchanged to satisfy its needs. This may involve information, cultural knowledge, social networks and legal rights as well as tools, land or other physical resources” (Piers Blaikie et.al 2003, p.12)

Another definition by Chambers and Conways(1991, tries to establish a relationship among various variables like capability of an individual or household, various types of resources and practices needed for living. “Livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (stores, resources, claims and access) and activities required for a means of living”. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stress and shocks, and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base.”

The Department of International Development (DFID) a UK based organization prepared its own approach to understand about the people livelihood practices, and adopted its own sustainable livelihood frame work.

The DFID"s livelihood approach describes several ways to understand livelihood. Their way of understanding livelihood depends on these following points.

A) The assets which people utilise  
B) Livelihood contexts  
C) The strategies they prepared to live with livelihood  
D) Factors that make livelihood more or less vulnerable from shocks and stress
A) Livelihood Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets/Resources</th>
<th>Classifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>Natural resources like land, water, live stock, bio-diversity, environmental resources etc., which are the main base for livelihoods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Resources</td>
<td>The basic infrastructure like roads and transport, communication, energy, markets, shelter, water etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Resources</td>
<td>Social resources such as networks, membership of group and/or access to wider institutions of society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Resources</td>
<td>Financial resources include savings, credit, remittances or other sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>Skills, knowledge, ability, health etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assets may be tangible or intangible. Tangible assets include cash, properties, tools etc. whereas intangible assets include information, education, employment skills etc. Assets can be recognized as something which gives living chances to individual, community etc. and based on these assets can be further divided into five categories. These five assets play key role in community development and if any community does not have any of these then they face livelihood problems in their day to day life. The five categories of assets (Ellis, 2000; Hoff, 2001) are natural, physical, social, economic, and political.

(b) Livelihood Context

A community can form its livelihood within social, economic and political contexts where they live. We can consider the contexts which affects individuals' livelihood as Institutional set up, land ownership policies, processes and policy implementation, market economy, and social norms of community. These affect individuals and community's ability to access and utilise assets for their socio-
economic development. Individuals may get opportunities or obstacles in their livelihood process based on the above mentioned changing patterns.

Going sequentially over livelihood contexts, first comes social relations, which can be defined as-culture, religion, kinships, gender etc. and based on these social relations one individual or community further get opportunities and if anyone does not have these then one may lose opportunities and create obstacles in their livelihood processes.

Second in line is social and political organization, which includes Government rules, GO's, policies which affect the livelihood of the community. Also we can take political system, people's participation level in political decision making, power, leadership etc.

The third one is governance, because with the government system including structure, rights, corruption level, and efficiency; they can decide livelihood of individual or community.

Fourth come service delivery system, because effective implementation of govt. rules, policies, schemes, welfare programmes in education, health, income generation activities, women empowerment, sanitation, irrigation etc. can decide the individuals and communities livelihood pattern and their growth. Another livelihood context like policy and their process also effects livelihood of community. Govt. policies which are prepared for development of larger section of people also create impact on people's livelihood opportunities.

(c) Livelihood strategies

How one individual or community utilise their resources viz. social, natural, political, economic, and physical for their socio-economic development is what livelihood strategies talk about. Every community has their own traditional or modern livelihood methods for their well-bein. A family's socio-economic development will depend on how each member takes their responsibility for income generation activities and apply livelihood strategies.

(d) Factors that make livelihood more or less vulnerable from shocks & stress
Strength of livelihood of a community or an individual cannot be measured by how productive outcome is being generated with their livelihood activities, but by the capacity their livelihood practices have to face seasonal changes, bad impacts of market economy, disasters and trends. How shocks are tackled, be it natural or man-made disasters, how another category of shocks are tackled like politics of state, governance system, available technology in market, micro-macro economics and availability of resources put serious impact and may cause obstacles to livelihoods. In such conditions how people apply new type of strategies may decide people’s livelihood condition.

“Livelihoods are people's capacity to generate and maintain their means of living, enhance their well-being and that of future generations' places people at the centre of framings around livelihood”. He goes on to note that the above capacity is dependent on “available and accessible resources, options which can further give equality in society, ownership on resources to individual or community and improve their decision making process” (Muriviah, 2011; Satge's 2002).

One important issue of livelihoods analysis is how various strategies affect people’s livelihood chances and within these livelihood strategies what type of capabilities people need to adorn to overcome economic burden.

The term capabilities first time came in the definition of Sen (1999) when he defined about livelihoods and poverty. Sen (1999) defines various reasons for poverty like endowment failure, entitlement failure and social exclusion. Endowments are combination of all types of legally owned resources including both tangible and intangible. Entitlement means set of all possible combinations of goods and services that a person can obtain legally by using the resources of his endowment set. Poverty caused throws the failure of endowment set, failure of entitlement set. In the case of entitlement failure Sen classifies it further into direct entitlement failure and trade entitlement failure, production failure, exchange & transfer failure. Social exclusion can be constitutively a part of capability deprivation, and instrumentally cause of diverse capability features Sen (1999) argued that “poverty must be studied both from the causation of poverty and effects of poverty which affects the well-being”. To get a better understanding of the causes and effects of poverty first there should be an understanding of types of livelihood approach people need to follow. The practice of livelihoods is based on the resources available to individual and community, and the way they
utilise these resources with their capabilities or skills can judge the possibility of livelihood outcomes.

Sustainable Livelihood Approach (SLA) was adopted by DFID in 1999 for better understanding of individual's development practices and to implement better livelihood interventions which can give benefit to people. Sustainable Livelihood Approach identifies entry points and critical processes with proper priorities for change which can improve people's economic well-being. Sustainable refers to the improvement or maintenance of resource productivity on a long term basis.

**Sustainable Livelihood Approach**

Every individual have their different livelihood practices for economic sources. Livelihood practices are the systematic methods which are used to encourage and implement people oriented development. In favour of multidisciplinary development actions these livelihood approaches have responsibilities. Any sustainable livelihood approach can give broader and deeper understanding of types of livelihood strategies that are followed by people in any particular area for minimisation of their poverty. Livelihood practices should have the connection with micro economic of that area mean with the individual's livelihood methods, communities' livelihood practices and their socio, cultural, economic and political connections with the macro level of economy practices. Livelihood practices give one systematic view to any developer about which type of interventions need for further livelihood practices improvement. The main objective of livelihood practices is to solve poverty related issues and for that there are several principles that are needed. Firstly policies that are formed for poverty reduction should be people centred and with such approach there is a possibility of reduction in poverty. This people centred approach can give brief idea about one community culture, their resources, needs, skills, particular group of people who are living in area and after understanding of all these if we implement any poverty reduction strategy than it will work.

Second is people's participation in planning and implementation of poverty reduction strategy. If people can't participate actively, and they can't open up with the types of problems they are facing and which type of interventions they further need then no poverty reduction intervention would be helpful.
Third in queue is that poverty has multi dimensions so poverty cannot be solved with only peoples support, and available resources but there are other challenges also we should consider at a time like macro level market structure, international political condition, environment etc. and based on these we should further strengthen the people skills, and participation to solve livelihood related problems. Fourth one is sustainability, because any poverty reduction method should be sustainable in nature. If we use approaches like environment, and natural resources degradation approach for poverty reduction then for short time period we can get success but in long term it would not be successful. If any poverty reduction strategy is not sustainable in nature then future generation people would face livelihood problems. So, livelihood approaches should be sustainable oriented. This sustainability should not only be environment oriented but also it should be economically, culturally, and socially sustainable in manner.

Livelihood approaches can be applied to work with any type of community. With the Livelihood approach method there is chances of poverty reduction. Better utilising of available resources and proper available of Govt. services to people can improve their livelihood chances.

**2.3 Tribal Development and Five Year Plans**

Reddy and Kumar, (2009) analyse the five year plans. They make the following observations. From first five year plans (1951) there were special programmes initiated by central govt. for the purpose of development of tribes in India. Some of important landmark achievement was happened during these five year plans in India and these are like.

First Five Year Plan (1951-56) started with the major objective of improve the living standard of people and open the opportunities to backward section of people. But first year plan did not play any special attention towards the improvement of living standard of tribal people except several initiatives in education and welfare schemes.

The Second Five Year Plan (1956-61) was provided nearly Rs. 90 Crore for the development of backward section and 2/3 of this budget allotted for tribal development in the areas like school, providing of safe drinking water, irrigation etc. Along with these in this plan there were Special Multi-Purpose Tribal Blocks (SMPTBs) were also created.
The Third Five Year Plan (1961-66) was followed the approach of second five year plan and during this plan Govt. was concentrated to agriculture development and Rs. 50 crore budget was allotted for tribal development.

The Fourth Five Year Plan (1969-74) was concentrated on improvement of living standard of tribal’s, expansion of services to tribal areas etc. During this plan state allotted Rs. 75 crores of budget for tribal welfare.

The Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-78) was make a special shift in approaching of tribal development. During this plan state was launched Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for development of tribals. This TSP stipulated that centre and state govt. should allocate budget for tribal welfare based on their population. For implementation of this sub plan, Integrated Tribal Development Agencies/Projects were set up in tribal concentrated states. For implementation of Sub Plan and to allocation of additional funds Special Central Assistance (SCA), Grant in Aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution also initiated. The main aim of these initiatives are to develop welfare programmes according to need of people and available local resources and for also to start income generating activities in tribal areas, infrastructure development, and for the administrative reinforcement. During this plan 145 ITDA/P „s were established.

During the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85) importance was given more to family oriented development activities rather than only infrastructure development. During this plan Modified Area Development Approach was selected for tribal populated pockets of 10,000. But for applying of MADA to any region their at least half of tribal people should be present in total 10,000 population. Objectives of this plan are to improve and integrate the services from the down to top and develop the skill based human resources in scheduled areas.

During the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90) govt. increased the flow of funds and also established Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Corporations (TRIFED) to provide suitable price for Forest and Agriculture Produce of tribal’s, and National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) to credit support for self-employment generation in tribal people. This plan also concentrated on improvement of socio-economic condition of tribal people.
The Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) was given importance to elimination of tribal exploitation in land and wages besides the development of tribes with various schemes.

The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-02) succeeded in set up of Ministry of Tribal Affairs Ministry for welfare of tribal people in India. Along with, this plan also concentrated development of tribal’s through social and economic empowerment, social justice for socio-economic development. During this plan the efforts was also be made to strengthen the tribal economy and to protect their economy from the external markets threats.

The Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) continued the approach of ninth five year plan of social empowerment of tribes through promotion of educational schemes, economic empowerment through income generation activities and social justice through elimination of all types of social discrimination.

After the implementation of several plans and welfare programmes still tribal’s in India are under-developed. For tribal’s underdevelopment there are several reasons like isolation, ignorance etc.

Tribal livelihood has studied by many research scholars. There are number of studies has been carried out.

3. **Research Questions** :

After the preceding discussion of review of literature some questions arises in mind to attain the objectives of this study the following research questions are framed as given below:

1. What is the socio-economic status of Gond tribe?

2. What are the conditions of their traditional livelihoods?

3. What are the livelihood opportunities at study area?

4. What are the major challenges faced by them in day to day life?
4. Objectives of the study:

The Major Objectives is to Study the livelihood patterns, opportunities and challenges of Gond Tribe in which researcher want to study what are the living standards, employment or occupational status, literacy and their livelihood, life values and habits and life standards.

The specific objectives of this research are;

1. To explore the Socio- Economic conditions of Gond tribe
2. To understand the status of their traditional livelihood patterns.
3. To identify the contemporary livelihood opportunities using various government schemes and programmes for them.
4. To study the challenges faced by them in their daily livelihood pattern.

5. Research Design:

Research design of the study will be exploratory qualitative and quantitative (empirical) and descriptive in nature. Researcher is trying to explore the socio-economic conditions of Gond tribe in Vidarbha region, Gadchiroli district, Maharashtra. As an exploratory study, it aims to understand the status of traditional livelihood, contemporary livelihood opportunities and challenges faced them to getting livelihood. The study will be exploratory. The present study will be mixed one it means it will be partly qualitative and a partly quantitative. Some case studies, ethnographic data through Semi-structured interview, Non-participatory Observation for primary data collection and partly it is quantitative because we are going to cover samples from two blocks of the districts. Lastly the present study will be descriptive in nature because an attempt has been made to analyze each and every aspect related to their daily livelihood pattern.
6. Area of Study:

Gadchiroli district was created on 26th August 1986, by the division of Chandrapur district. Ancient times Chandrapur-Gadchiroli district was dominated by the Rashtrakutas, Chalukyas, Yadava and later by Gond kings. Gadchiroli district is situated along the north-eastern side of the Maharashtra state. Gadchiroli district has state borders of Telangana and Chhattisgarh. Gadchiroli district is known as for a Naxalite movement, it is one of the Red corridors of India. Because of dense forest and hills, Naxalite movements are highly prevalent in the district. Gadchiroli district is known as for the tribal district in Maharashtra state. It covers 40 percent of the forest of the Maharashtra state. Hyderabad and Nagpur are the closest and major cities to Gadchiroli. Local people, youths of Gadchiroli prefers to go to Hyderabad to work than going to Nagpur. The district has six sub-divisions i.e. Aheri, Gadchiroli, Desaiganj, Chamorshi, Etappally and Kurkheda. The district has 12 tehsils, 457 Gram Panchayats and 2 Municipalities, 10 Nagar Panchayats. Roughly 75.96% land is covered with forest; Gadchiroli is famous for tendoo leaves, Teak wood and the Bamboo.

7. Universe of the Study:

The data for this study will be collected from 10 villages, five each from two blocks Bhamragad (05-Villages) and Etapalli (05-Villages) in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra. Maharashtra is a state in the western region of India. The density of Maharashtra state is 365 per sq. km. and spread over 307,713 sq. km. Gadchiroli district covers 14412 sq. km. Land area. Gadchiroli stands with the lowest density at 74 having population of 1072942. The literacy rate is 74.36% , Male 82.31% and Female 66.27%. The sex ratio of this district is 1000:961 (Census, 2011).

8. Sampling method:

For the present study Sampling Procedure Under non-probability sampling, of purposive sampling will be used by the researcher for the selection of villages and respondents under study. It will be conducted with particular community in particular geographical area for specific purpose that is why purposive sampling has been selected and within Gond community researcher will pick his respondents randomly.
9. Sample Size:

The study will cover 200 respondents, 20 respondents will be selected from each village. The interviews will be taken at the age group of 18 to above to conduct the research.

10. Tools of the DATA Collection:

Since the nature of study will be exploratory, qualitative as well as quantitative, both primary and secondary sources of data collection will be used. Interview schedule will be prepared to collect primary data. Some case-studies of respondents will be conducted to analyse their livelihood pattern. Secondary sources i.e. Govt. reports publication; articles, journals, books etc will be used.

a) Primary Data
   - Interview schedule
   - Observations (Non-participatory)

A primary data was collected by face to face interview with the respondents by asking questions. Moreover this method of data collection was extremely reliable. There was literate and illiterate people in Gond community in that situation this method had played an important role. Observation is one of the other effective methods in Primary method of data collection.

Primarily observation is Non-participatory observation and helps a lot to understand the responses and analyse the situation of respondents.

b) Secondary data
   - Govt. census
   - Articles, Journals and Books etc.

11. Data Interpretation:

Data will be analyzed and interpreted with the help of “SPSS package” and with the help of Case studies.
References

1. **Books/Journals/Articles:**

   **Encyclopedia.com**
   1. “Gond Facts, Information, Pictures| Encyclopedia.com articles about gond”


Mr. Nitin Rajat Pandit
(Research Student)
CIDCO, Nanded

Dr. Mrs. Lokhande Pratibha. P.
(Guide)
Jawaharlal Nehru
College of Social Work CIDCO, Nanded