

Perception of The Tribal People in Inclusive Growth

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Abstract

This article focuses on the perception of the tribes about the development issues concerning their livelihood and social life. This is important as the policies and programmes contemplated for tribal development should be designed according to their needs and aspirations. The success of the implementation of these policies should reflect in their standard of living in one way or the other.

Key words: tribe, perception, inclusive growth, development.

Introduction

The benefits of development have not percolated to the underprivileged and the needy. To reduce these inequalities, the concept of "Inclusion of the excluded" was introduced for the first time in the eleventh plan document released by the Planning Commission. It aimed for direct income redistribution so as to augment the incomes of the excluded groups. The idea of inclusive growth has been brought in with the intention of creating productive economic opportunities for the vulnerable sections of our society like the Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Caste, and other marginalized and vulnerable sections of our society. One of the most excluded sections in the development process in the Kerala society is the Scheduled Tribes.

The Tribes

The identification of a Scheduled tribe is based on the following criteria: - (a) Indications of primitive traits (b) Distinctive culture, (c) Geographical isolation, (d) Shyness of contact with the

community at large, and (e) Backwardness. These features has been adopted from the 1931 Census, the reports of the first Backward Classes Commission (Kalelkar, 1955), Advisory Committee on Revision of SC/ST lists (Lokur Committee, 1965) and Joint Committee of Parliament on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders Amendment Bill of 1967 (Chanda Committee, 1969) and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, (Annual Report, 2015-16). The Indian Constitution has laid down rules and procedures for their conservation and development. But even after decades of development process, the Scheduled Tribes have been left out from reaping the benefits of economic development.

Profile of ST communities in Kerala

The 2011 Census has identified 37 tribal communities in Kerala which includes 5 PVTGs. As per the Census (2011) Kerala has 484839 scheduled tribes which constitutes 1.45 percent of the total population in the State. As per the data, the decennial growth rate has come down to 0.63 percent which is less than the preceding decennial period's growth rate. With regard to the sex-ratio as well, the ratio is low compared to the Kerala figures. Western Ghats region of the state is the major parts in which the tribes are concentrated and hence we can classify tribes as highly segregated as well as rural based. Almost one-third (31.24 percent) of the tribes are settled in Wayanad district, followed by Idukki (11.51 percent), Palakkad with 10.10 percent and Kasaragod with 10.08 percent. These four districts together constitute 62.93 percent of the total tribal population in the State.

Significance of the Study

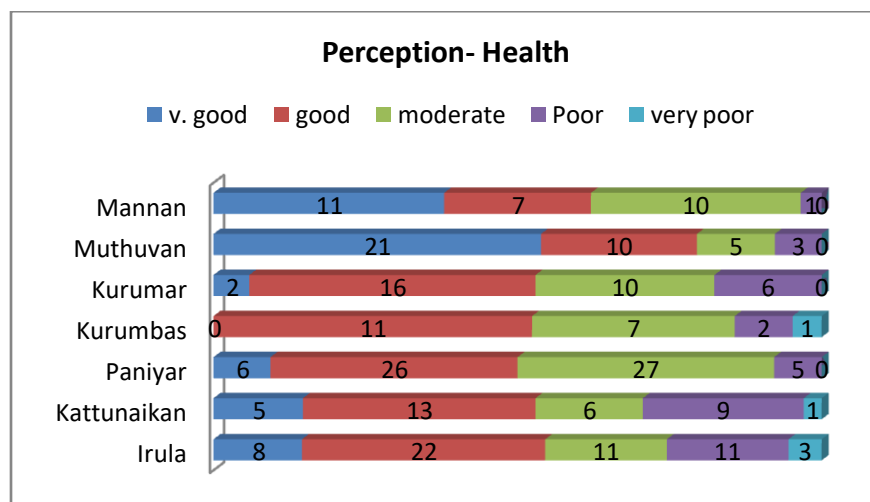
The development policies must be inclusive and it should reflect the traditional and ethnic mode of life of tribals. The voice of the tribals must be heard and it should be the focus of the developmental policies (Kalathil, 2004). The fifty years development history of Kerala is ubiquitous with diverse inequalities. The marginalised population is often cited very low in the development trajectory of our State. The land reforms are biased resulting in unequal distribution of land among the marginalised population. As a financial instrument, the Budget fails to achieve the objectives of equity. The policy framework of the government needs a substantial renovation to be more inclusive (Oommen, 2014).

Data and Methodology

The research study uses both primary and secondary data. The primary data was collected from the three tribal predominant districts of Wayanad, Palakkad and Idukki districts with the help of a structured interview schedule. The communities selected from Wayanad were Kattunaikan, Paniya and Kurumar. The communities selected from Palakkad were Kurumbas and Irula. The communities selected from Idukki were Muthuvan and Mannan. The primary data had been analysed using relevant statistical tools.

1.1 Perception regarding Health

The Muthuvan community considers their health in a very good condition. Poor health condition is perceived by the Kattunaikan and Kurumar community. Very poor health conditions can be noted among the Irula, Kurumbas and the Kattunaikan community (Figure 1.1).

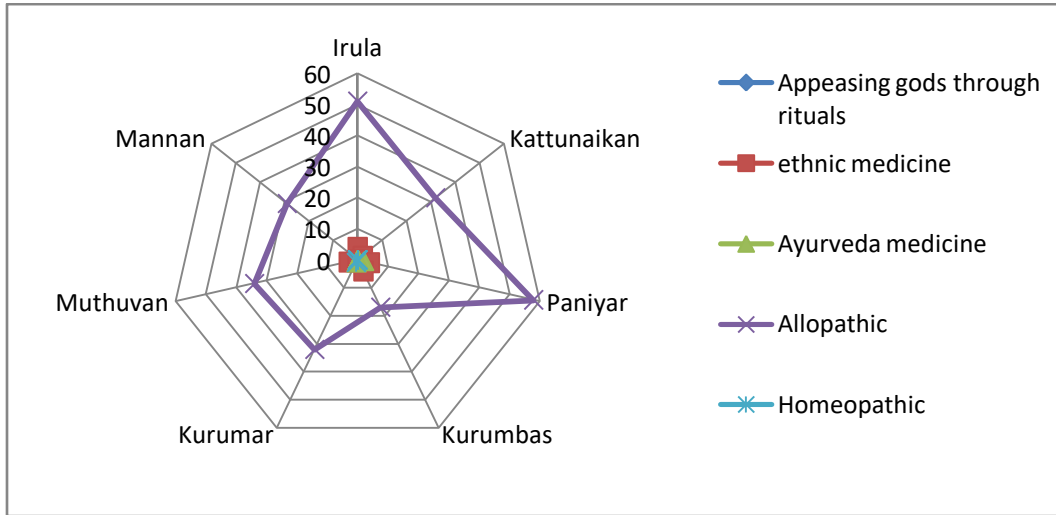


Source: Survey data

Figure 1.1: Perception regarding health conditions.

1.1.1 Preference towards different medical systems

The majority of the tribal population considers allopathic as the best medicare system. A negligible population also favours ethnic medicine and homeopathy (Figure 1.2).



Source: Survey data

Figure 1.2: Preference- medical system

1.1.2 Reasons for unavailing health care

Financial incapability and remoteness are the reasons cited for unavailing health care facilities in the tribal settlements (Figure 1.3). The income they receive from their employment does not suffice to meet their short term health emergencies. Most of the tribal settlements are situated in the interior areas and they face difficulties in transportation, which contributes significantly to negligence in medical aid.

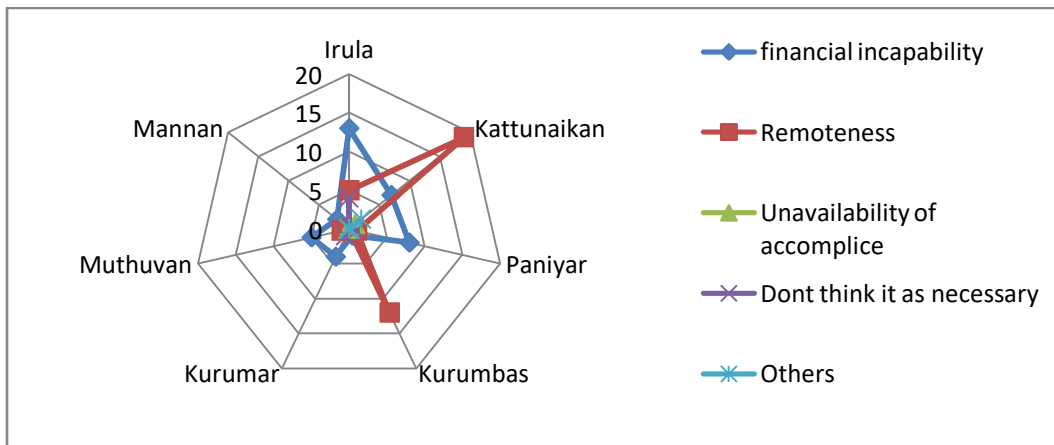
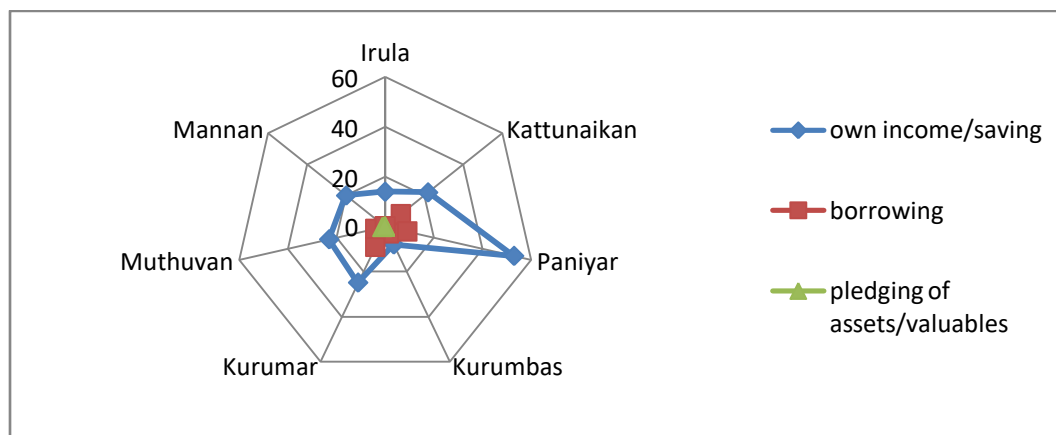


Figure 1.3: Reasons for unavailing health care

1.1.3 Source of financing health care expenditure

The usual source of financing health care among the tribal communities is their own income. Some of the tribal families have also resorted to borrowing in case of huge expenditure and they also find money from pledging their valuables (Figure 1.4).



Source: Survey data

Figure 1.4; Source of finance-Health

1.2 Benefits in residing in a segregated region based on factor analysis

For the purpose of identifying the factors that the tribal population considers as the benefits residing in a segregated area, the Factor analysis method has been employed. The respondents were asked thirteen questions on a five point scale strongly agree to strongly disagree. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measures sample adequacy. In this factor analysis KMO measure is .785 above the minimum score of 0.60 so that it is satisfactory to proceed the analysis (Table 6.1) . It also shows that the Barlett's test is significant.

Table 1.1 : KMO and Bartlett's Test- Reliability statistics- Benefits

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.785
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	672.143
	df	78
	Sig.	.000

The statements that have recorded above 0.50 loadings are 'comfortable neighborhood', 'majority of my community/caste belongs here', 'easy access to the workplace', 'can maintain

good network/strength', availability of common amenities, 'staying here is the best option', security for the members' and 'political strength' (Table 1.2). These statements are considered as the benefits to live in a segregated area by the tribal population. The tribal population would like to live in area where they are in majority. The statement 'easy access to the workplace' indicates that most of them tries to find labour only in the nearby areas. They do not go out and search for job. If they don't get job in off seasons, they remain unemployed.

Table 1.2 : Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
Comfortable neighbourhood	1.000	.590
Majority of my community/caste belongs here	1.000	.669
Easy access to the workplace	1.000	.703
Access to govt schemes if together	1.000	.275
My friends/relatives/parents live here	1.000	.448
Can maintain good network/strength	1.000	.639
Availability of common amenities	1.000	.617
Can attend social/community functions	1.000	.527
Staying here is the best option	1.000	.747
Build community/caste strength	1.000	.384
Security for the members	1.000	.772
Political strength	1.000	.684
Culture and tradition can be protected	1.000	.523

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

The total variance is explained by four factors out of the thirteen factors (Table 1.3). It accounts for 58.30 percent of variation. The first factor explains 31.72 percent of variation, the second factor explains 9.54 percent of variation, the third factor explains 9.24 percent of variation and the fourth factor 7.79 percent of variation.

Table 1.3 : Total Variance Explained

Component	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	4.124	31.725	31.725	4.124	31.725	31.725
2	1.240	9.541	41.266	1.240	9.541	41.266
3	1.201	9.241	50.507	1.201	9.241	50.507
4	1.013	7.795	58.302	1.013	7.795	58.302
5	.914	7.032	65.334			
6	.845	6.503	71.837			
7	.827	6.359	78.196			
8	.690	5.306	83.502			
9	.635	4.882	88.384			
10	.584	4.493	92.877			
11	.407	3.127	96.004			
12	.295	2.269	98.273			
13	.225	1.727	100.000			

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

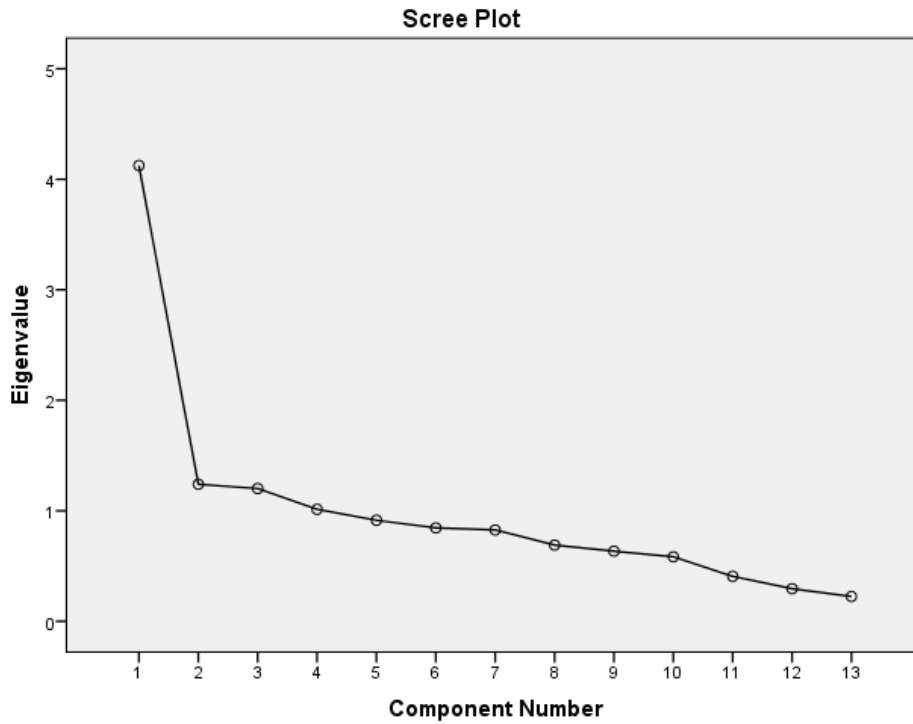


Figure 1.5 : Scree plot diagram

The factors that have been identified with above 0.50 loadings in the first instance are:- 'comfortable neighborhood,' can maintain good network/strength, 'availability of common amenities,' staying here is the best option,' security for the members,' political strength,' culture and tradition can be protected'. In the second extraction, 'easy access to the workplace', is the only significant factor. In the third segment, majority of my community/caste belongs here' is the significant factor (Table 1.4).

Table 1.4: Component Matrix^a

	Component			
	1	2	3	4
Comfortable neighborhood	.613	.442	.130	-.037
majority of my community/caste belongs here	.310	.113	.190	.724
easy access to the workplace	.173	.596	-.471	.309
access to govt schemes if together	.351	-.305	-.090	.225
my friends/relatives/parents live here	.509	.165	.346	-.205
can maintain good network/strength	.755	.194	.001	-.179
availability of common amenities	.599	-.504	-.054	.047
can attend social/community functions	.472	.061	.497	.232
staying here is the best option	.687	.150	-.501	-.040
build community/caste strength	.369	.203	.151	-.429
security for the members	.723	-.230	-.427	-.120
political strength	.728	-.380	-.009	.099
culture and tradition can be protected	.655	.007	.304	-.048
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.				
a. 4 components extracted.				

1.3 Problems faced by the respondents in residing in a segregated region based on factor analysis.

For the purpose of identifying the problems that the tribal population face when lives in a segregated area, the Factor analysis method has been employed. The respondents were asked eleven questions on a five point scale strongly agree to strongly disagree. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measures sample adequacy. In this factor analysis KMO measure is 0.773 above the minimum sore of 0.60 so that it is satisfactory to proceed the analysis (Table 1.5). It also shows that the Barlett's test is significant.

Table 1.5: KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.773
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	364.961
	Df	45
	Sig.	.000

The significant factors identified were 'unfriendly attitude of my community members', 'residing here will hinder new avenues for my 'income and livelihood', 'access to education is difficult' and 'dropout increases due to residing here' (Table 1.6).

Table 1.6: Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
lack of basic amenities	1.000	.460
discrimination by others as i am residing here	1.000	.464
discrimination due to caste/community	1.000	.293
denial of public amenities	1.000	.249
denial of service amenities like loan/bank	1.000	.523
unfriendly attitude of my community members	1.000	.702
residing here will hinder new avenues for my income and livelihood	1.000	.551
inaccessibility of healthcare options	1.000	.475
access to education is difficult	1.000	.547
dropout increases due to residing here	1.000	.697
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.		

The total variance is explained by three factors. The first factor explains 27.36 percent of variation followed by 11.77 and 10.47 respectively by the second and third factors (Table 1.7). As shown in the scree plot most of the variation is explained by a single factor (Figure 1.6).

Table 1.7: Total Variance Explained

Component	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	2.736	27.365	27.365	2.736	27.365	27.365
2	1.178	11.779	39.144	1.178	11.779	39.144
3	1.048	10.476	49.619	1.048	10.476	49.619
4	.977	9.773	59.392			
5	.882	8.818	68.210			
6	.842	8.418	76.629			
7	.787	7.875	84.504			
8	.615	6.145	90.649			
9	.558	5.581	96.230			
10	.377	3.770	100.000			

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

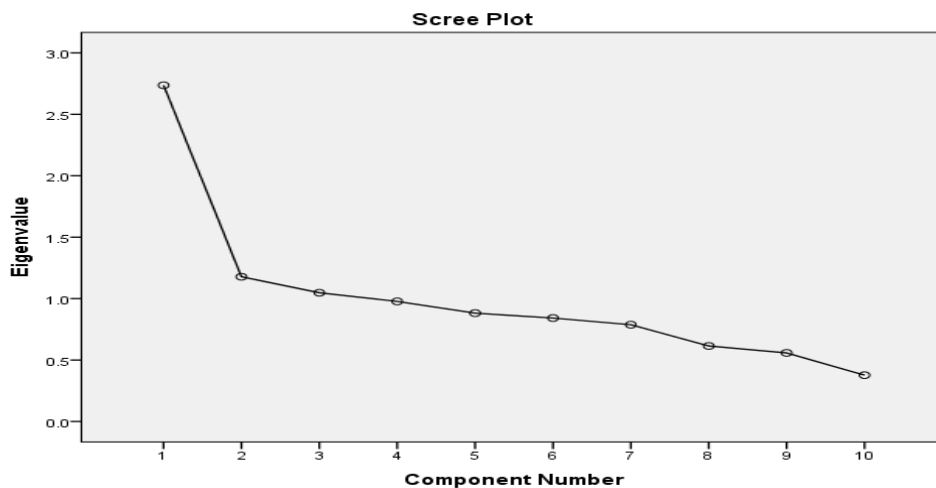


Figure 1.6 : Scree Plot

In the initial extraction, the significant factors are 'denial of service amenities like loan/bank', 'residing here will hinder new avenues for my income and livelihood',' access to education is difficult', ' dropout increases due to residing here'. In the second instance, the factor is ' lack of basic amenities'. In the third segment, the significant factor is 'unfriendly attitude of my community members' (Table 1.8).

Table 1.8: Component Matrixa

	Component		
	1	2	3
Lack of basic amenities	.284	.614	-.055
Discrimination by others as i am residing here	.414	-.432	-.324
Discrimination due to caste/community	.368	-.383	-.103
Denial of public amenities	.283	.299	.282
Denial of service amenities like loan/bank	.627	-.324	.161
Unfriendly attitude of my community members	.159	.004	.822
Residing here will hinder new avenues for my income and livelihood	.700	-.114	.219
Inaccessibility of healthcare options	.449	.455	-.258
Access to education is difficult	.682	.230	-.172
Dropout increases due to residing here	.833	-.021	-.053
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.			
a. 3 components extracted.			

1.4 Perception regarding movements, political freedom, social coercion and gender

In order to identify the perception of the tribal population regarding movements, political freedom, social coercion and gender, the factor analysis method has been employed. The respondents were asked fifteen questions on a five point scale strongly agree to strongly disagree. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measures sample adequacy. In this factor analysis KMO measure is .794 above the minimum score of 0.60 so that it is satisfactory to proceed the analysis (Table 1.9). It also shows that the Bartlett's test is significant.

Table 1.9 : KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.794
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	1464.455
	df	105
	Sig.	.000

The significant factors identified were :- ' used to vote for the candidate whom i choose the best', 'there is full freedom to express my views in any public space', ' there is full freedom to move across any area', ' fear nobody for doing any type of employment', ' never experience crime and violence against my community', ' no threat under political terror', ' experience no discrimination and violence from police/officials/non community member', ' women are treated with respect in our community', ' women are allowed to work and educate as they desires', ' women have full freedom to voice their views in the family' and ' believe in any religion as i please' (Table 1.10).

Table 1.10: Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
Used to vote for the candidate whom i choose the best	1.000	.787
There is full freedom to express my views in any public space	1.000	.720
There is full freedom to move across any area	1.000	.637
There is full freedom to own any property	1.000	.316
Fear nobody for doing any type of employment	1.000	.735
Never experience crime and violence against my community	1.000	.669
No threat under political terror	1.000	.723
Good tolerance towards immigrants	1.000	.382
Experience no discrimination and violence from police/officials/non community member	1.000	.671
Women are treated with respect in our community	1.000	.764
Women are allowed to work and educate as they desires	1.000	.600
Women have full freedom to voice their views in the family	1.000	.733
Believe in any religion as i please	1.000	.652
Strong community network to protect in case of insecurity	1.000	.308
Strong political affiliation and have strong political network	1.000	.497

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

The total variation is explained by four factors i.e., 61.29. Out of this, the first factor explains 29.40, the second factor 14.33, the third factor 10.53 and the fourth factor 7.02 (Table 1.11).

Table 1.11 : Total variance explained.

Component	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	4.411	29.406	29.406	4.411	29.406	29.406
2	2.150	14.333	43.739	2.150	14.333	43.739
3	1.580	10.530	54.270	1.580	10.530	54.270
4	1.054	7.028	61.298	1.054	7.028	61.298
5	.935	6.231	67.528			
6	.779	5.190	72.718			
7	.704	4.695	77.414			
8	.613	4.083	81.497			
9	.595	3.967	85.464			
10	.508	3.387	88.851			
11	.471	3.137	91.988			
12	.398	2.655	94.643			
13	.288	1.918	96.561			
14	.266	1.774	98.335			
15	.250	1.665	100.000			

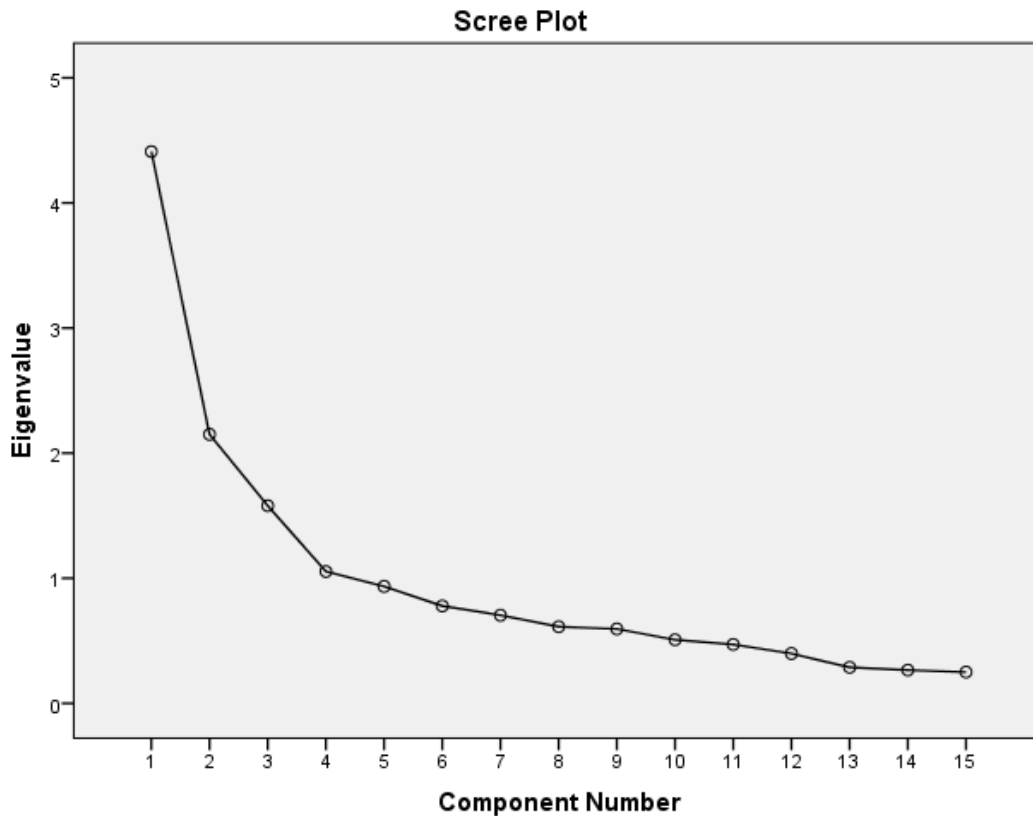


Figure 1.7 : Scree Plot

The significant factors in the first component are 'women have full freedom to voice their views in the family, fear nobody for doing any type of employment, believe in any religion as they please, women are allowed to work and educate as they desires, there is full freedom to move across any area, strong political affiliation and have strong political network, good tolerance towards immigrants'. In the second component, the factors are 'no threat under political terror', 'never experience crime and violence against my community', 'experience no discrimination and violence from police/officials/non-community member'. The factors in the third component are, 'used to vote for the candidate whom i choose the best', 'there is full freedom to express my views in any public space'. In the last component the significant factor is 'women are treated with respect in our community' (Table 1.12).

Table 1.12 : Component Matrixa

	Component			
	1	2	3	4
women have full freedom to voice their views in the family	.797	-.212	-.182	.139
fear nobody for doing any type of employment	.788	-.071	-.076	-.321
believe in any religion as i please	.761	-.150	-.226	-.015
women are allowed to work and educate as they desires	.709	-.158	-.141	.231
there is full freedom to move across any area	.648	-.151	.045	-.438
strong political affiliation and have strong political network	.567	.414	-.069	-.019
good tolerance towards immigrants	.551	.210	-.183	.014
strong community network to protect in case of insecurity	.497	.056	-.232	-.057
there is full freedom to own any property	.416	-.083	.339	-.144
no threat under political terror	.232	.816	-.031	-.038
never experience crime and violence against my community	.171	.785	.152	.015
experience no discrimination and violence from police/officials/non community member	.192	.598	.495	.178
used to vote for the candidate whom i choose the best	.273	-.326	.744	.229
there is full freedom to express my views in any public space	.531	-.235	.619	.001
women are treated with respect in our community	.361	-.055	-.233	.759

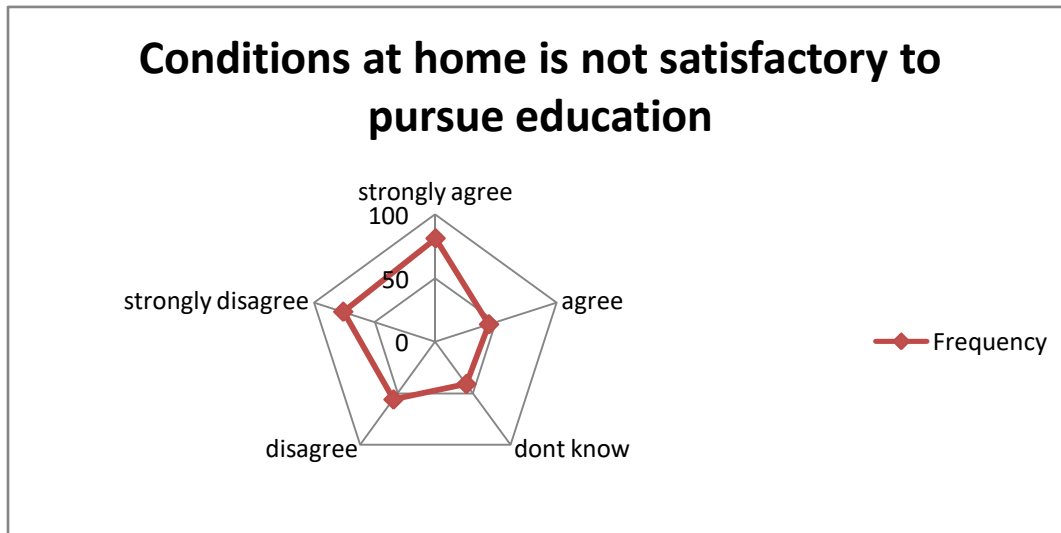
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

a. 4 components extracted.

1.5 Perception of the tribal people - Education

The analysis of the survey data concludes that most of the respondents strongly agree that their conditions at home is not satisfactory to pursue education. In certain colonies, some of them

strongly disagrees with this condition (Figure 6.8). The increase in the dropout rates among tribal children also points to the existence of unsatisfactory conditions at home. The conditions include consumption of alcohol, low earnings of the parents, existence of child labour, medical emergencies etc. The authorities have failed to notice this situation in most of the colonies.

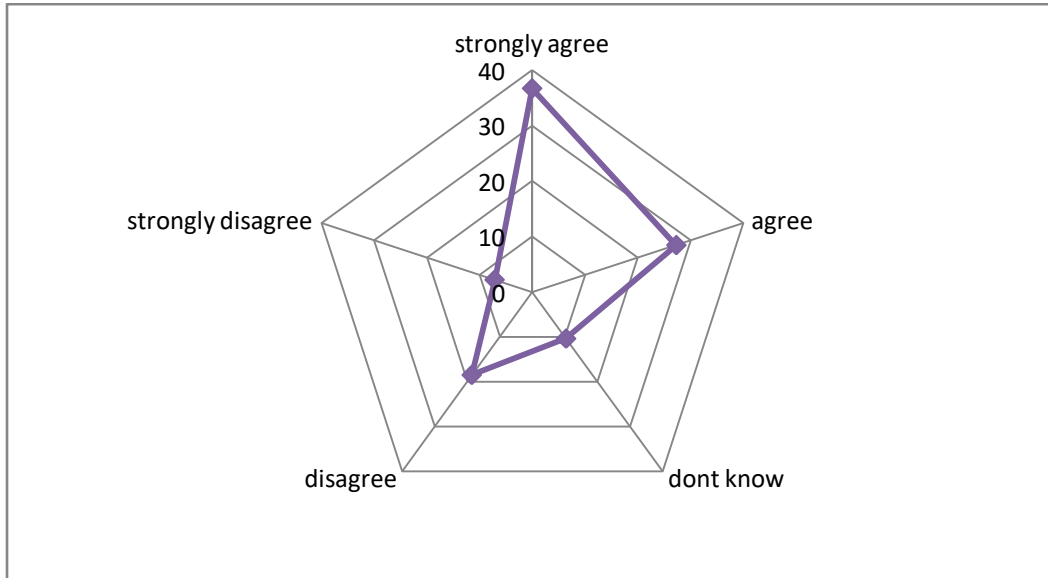


Source: Survey data

Figure 1.8: Conditions at home is not satisfactory to pursue education

1.6 Perception of the tribal people - Employment

The tribal people do not want to part their traditional employment. Most of the respondents wants to revive their traditional employment and earn income from it (Figure 1.9). Their livelihood and their soul still remain in their traditional employment. The officials must take initiatives and provide sufficient inputs to revive their traditional employment and make it advantageous to them.

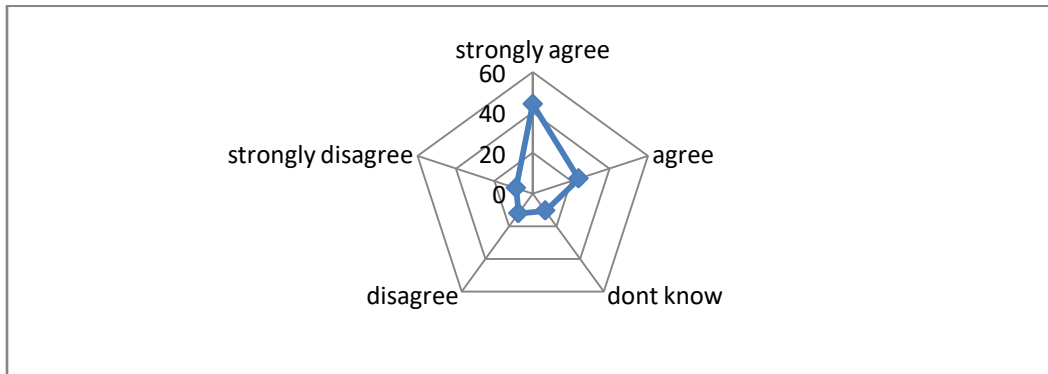


Source: Survey data

Figure 1.9 : Do not want to part my traditional employment

1.7 Perception of the tribal people - Livelihood

The tribal people strongly agree that they have limited livelihood options (Figure 1.10). The revival of traditional employment, decrease in dropout rates, creating an awareness on the significance of education indirectly helps the tribal people in increasing livelihood opportunities.



Source: Survey data

Figure 1.10: Livelihood options are limited for tribal communities

Conclusion

The perception inference of the sample respondents show that they perceive weakly about their development and inclusion in the society. Statistical inference based on Factor Analysis shows that they are not well perceived in the areas of education, health and livelihood. Even

though, they experience political and religious freedom they are in the clutches of policy options for capability deprivation and as a result of social and economic exclusion. It shows the need of several policy options for overcoming their perceptual problems.

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