

LAND DISTRIBUTION UNDER INDIRA PRABHA PROJECT: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY IN ADILABAD DISTRICT OF TELANGANA

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Abstract: The present study will be focused on the land distribution among the SC, ST and BC social categories in Adilabad district of Telangana state. The study uses the primary and secondary data sources. Since independent of India has been implemented different land distribution programmes, but all the programmes are concentrated on the male population only. But the only one programme i.e. the INDIRA PRABHA is one of the land distribution project and it is concentrated on women. In this context the present study made an effort how the INDIRA PRABHA land distribution to the women respondents is the main objective of the study.

Introduction: The Comprehensive land development project known as INDIRA PRABHA" was launched on 19, November 2004 in Sarigondayapalem of Guntur District by the former Chief Minister Late Dr. Y.S Rajashekar Reddy. The main aim of the project is about 50 lakh acres of government lands has been assigned to the landless poor people and at the same time 20.0 percent of the assigned land has to put into the productive use, the remaining 80.0 percent of lands have to distribute the vulnerable sections in the state of Andhra Pradesh. For the productive use of these lands are requiring the high investments and continuous support to convert them into productive assets. In the absence of such investments and the government have to decide to distribute the surplus assigned lands to the landless poorer sections like SC, ST and BC communities in the name of INDIRA PRABHA. The main objectives of this project is to develop the assigned lands in the aspects of control the soil degradation, to create the irrigation facilities, electrical and transport facilities to those lands. But these activities is a challenge task to the government alone in this context if the surplus assigned lands distribute the landless people, then the aim of the government is in the fruitful direction. This project has the following objectives

1. To provide an integrated and comprehensive livelihood options centred on development of compact blocks of assigned lands to ensure that lands become productive assets for the poor.
2. To provide food security and sustainable livelihoods.

Status of Indira Prabha: A minimum of 50.0 percent of physical and financial allocations should go to SCs, 10.0 percent of physical and financial allocations should go to STs. Wherever ST population is more the physical and financial allocations can be increased liberally in their favour. Wherever the percentage of Backward Classes is higher, the coverage under the project will be based on the percentage of BPL families within the BC, Minorities and other categories. In the financial aspect there are 800 crores have been allocation by the Government under RIDF projects for development of assigned lands. The pro-

ject is being implemented in two phases. Under phase-I: An amount of Rs.44891.57 lakhs of which Rs.20031.47 lakh under RIDF IX and Rs.24860.10 lakhs under RIDF-X. Under phase-II: Proposals were submitted to NABARD through Government of AP for sanction of Rs.30064.88 Lakhs under RIDF-XI. From 26th January 2005 to up to 2012 the government of Andhra Pradesh has distributed the assigned lands to the poorer sections in phase wise, in the duration of eight years the total 7.30 lakhs acres of land was distributed in six phases. In the first phase 1.55 lakh acres, second phase 1.70 lakhs, third phase 1.11 lakhs, fourth phase 1.66 lakhs, fifth phase 0.91 lakhs and in the sixth phase 0.37 lakhs of acres were distributed in the state for 22 districts of united Andhra Pradesh. In this context the present study will be carried out the land distribution among the SC, ST and BC categories in Adilabad district with the support of primary and secondary data.

Methodology: The present study is based on the primary and secondary data, the primary data has been collect through the administered structured questionnaire and it was applied on the beneficiaries of INDIRA PRABA in Adilabad district in Telangana. The sample respondents are sixth phase land distributed beneficiaries in the three mandals i.e Narnoor, Rebbani and Bhimini in Adilabad district. The sample selection criteria are who got the lands by this project among them 10 percent to the total beneficiaries in those particular mandals. To analyze the data the researcher used the simple statistical tools of simple averages and percentages.

Objectives:

1. To analyse the age-wise distribution of the respondents among the different social categories in the study area.
2. To evaluate the land ownership of the sample respondents and the average landholdings in the study.
3. To find out the land distribution to the respondents under Indira Praba project in the study area. To examine the social category wise land distribution of irrigated and un-irrigated lands of the study.

Table – 1: Community wise Distribution of the Respondents

Social Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Scheduled Caste	44	31.8
Scheduled Tribes	81	58.8
Backward Class	13	9.4
Total	138	100.0

Source: Field Study

Hypotheses:

1. The Indira Prabha Project was mostly implemented in the Social Categories of SC and STs.
2. The assigned distributed lands mostly un-irrigated.

To fulfil the study objectives and hypotheses the researcher has been used the six tables with the simple

percentages and simple averages the following debate will be useful to justify the objectives and hypotheses. The scheme of Indira Prabha is one of the land developments and as well as land distribution scheme to the lands levels SC&ST and poorer status in the country. The above table reveals the community wise distribution of the respondent women in the study areas. The total 138 respondents were distributed in different social categories SC & ST and BC. Out, of 58.8 percent respondents belonging to scheduled tribes as the highest followed by scheduled caste are 31.8 and backward classes are 9.4 percent only. The respondents are not unique it is due to the implementation of the scheme is based on the land less population as category wise. The study area is Adilabad district Narnoor, Bhimini and Rebbani mandals these mandals major population is belonging to ST and SC and at the same time the two categories are more land less households in the study areas thus the two categories are reported as the significantly.

Table – 2: Age wise Distribution of the Respondents

Social Category	20 – 30	31 – 40	41 – 50	Above 50	Total
Scheduled Caste	12 [27.27]	26 [59.09]	04 [9.09]	02 [4.04]	44 [31.8]
Scheduled Tribes	21 [25.92]	49 [60.49]	08 [9.87]	03 [3.70]	81 [58.8]
Backward Class	02 [15.38]	06 [46.15]	03 [23.07]	02 [15.38]	13 [9.43]
Total	35 [25.36]	81 [58.69]	15 [10.86]	07 [5.07]	138 [100.0]

Source: Field Study

The beneficiaries of Indira Prabha scheme were distributed in different age groups. The above table age wise distribution of respondents in the study area. The total respondents are distributed in different age groups are 20-30, 31-40, 41-50 and 51-60 age groups. Out of 138 respondents 58.69 percent of respondents are in 31-40 age group in the overall study and it is 60.49, 59.09 and 46.15 percent are from ST, SC and BC categories respectively. There are 25.36 percent of respondents are in the age group of 20-30, years and it is 27.27 percent in SC, 25.92 percent in ST and 15.38 percent are in BC category. Out of 10.86 percent of respondents are in the age group of 41-50 years in the whole study it was 23.07, 9.87 and 9.09 percent of respondents in BC, ST and SC categories respectively. In the total respondents 5.07 percent are in above 50 years in this age category BC, SC and ST are 15.38, 4.54 and 3.70 percent respectively. More than 84.0 percent of respondents are reported in active age group of 20-30 and 31-40 age groups together and it is

relatively more in ST categories and low in BC category. In the age groups of 41-50 and above 50 age groups are relatively more in BC and this is similar in SC and ST categories. On the whole the active age group respondents are relatively higher in all the social categories it shows the land is the yielding property for the agricultural people in the rural areas it is very particular in the active and productive age group people in this regard the land distribution in Indira Prabha is in the right direction this study is the one of the evident that it can be assured the this scheme will give the fruitful yield to the landless people in the rural areas.

The scheme of Indira Prabha is one of the land development programme along with the land distribution. Under this study all the respondents are women and all of them married but the majority respondents are noted in active age groups, the following table reveals the particulars of marriage age of the respondents in the study area.

Table – 3: Marriage age of the Respondents

Social Category	Above 18 Years	Below 18 Years	Total
Scheduled Caste	04 [9.09]	40 [90.90]	44 [31.8]
Scheduled Tribes	20 [24.69]	61 [75.30]	81 [58.8]
Backward Class	11 84.61]	02 [15.39]	13 [9.43]
Total	31 [22.46]	107 [77.54]	138 [100.0]

Source: Field Study

In this regard the researcher made an effort to find out the marriage age of the respondents. The above table reveals the marriage age of the respondent women in the study area. Out of 138 respondents, 77.54 percent are having the age at below 18 years and it is 90.9 percent in SC, 75.3 percent of ST and 15.39 percent of BC categories respectively. Out of 22.5 percent are having the legal aged marriage of above 18 years in this aspect 84.61 percent are in BC's as the highest, 9.09 percent of SC and ST's are 24.70 percent. This fact shows the early marriages are significantly in SC&ST categories and it is relatively low in BC category.

Majority of respondent women was before 1990s at that period the awareness on legal marriages and literacy levels are very insignificant particularly in rural areas and also in Dalit communities this study is an evident.

Table-4: Source of Land Ownership of the Respondents

Social Category	Heredity	Patta Lands	Assigned Lands	Total
Scheduled Caste	18 [16.36]	06 [5.45]	86 [78.18]	110 [29.02]
Scheduled Tribes	28 [13.52]	22 [10.62]	157 [75.84]	207 [54.61]
Backward Class	39 [62.90]	07 [11.29]	16 [25.80]	62 [16.35]
Total	85 [22.42]	35 [9.23]	259 [68.33]	379 [100.0]

Source: Field Study

Source of ownership of land to the respondents particulars are given from the following table - 4. The land ownership sources are heredity, Pattaland purchased and Government assigned lands. The total area is 379 acres from all the sources of it was distributed as 68.3 percent of ownership from distributed land by the Government under the Indira Prabha

scheme in this regard 78.18 percent of SC, 75.84 percent of ST and 25.80 percent of BC categories respectively.

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Out of 22.42 percent of land ownership belongs to heredity source in this aspect 62.90 percent of land belongs to BC, as the highest followed by SCs and STs are 16.36 and 13.52 percent respectively.

There are 9.23 percent of land having the ownership source is pattaland which means the respondents are purchased from others in this regard 11.29, 10.62 and 5.45 percent are noted from BC, SC and ST categories respectively.

On the whole the land ownership source to the respondent women in the three social categories are not in similar directions. But at the same time 68.0 percent of land ownership was given by the scheme of Indira Prabha. The SC&ST social categories were got the ownership benefit through the Indira Prabha than BC category it shows the BC categories are somehow better in other land ownership sources. Thus the Indira Prabha land development and land distribution scheme was implemented in the right direction of empowering of SC&ST Dalit categories.

The land particulars of irrigated and un-irrigated of the respondents have been presented in the following table - 5. Out of 379 acres 339 acres of land is un-irrigated and rest of 40 acres are irrigated land. In un-irrigated land 339 acres constitutes of 89.4 percent in the whole study and it is 92.7 percent of SC, 91.3 percent of ST and 77.4 percent of BC categories. The irrigated land is at significant level 10.56 percent of land in this aspect 22.58 percent from BC category, 8.8

percent of ST, and 7.27 percent of SC categories. Thus the un-irrigated land is at significant level in all the social categories and it is very high in ST&SC categories. It is clear the distributed land is almost dry land.

Table – 5: Land Particulars of Irrigated and Un-irrigated of the Respondents

Social Category	Un-Irrigated	Irrigated	Total
Scheduled Caste	102 [92.72]	08 [7.27]	110 [29.02]
Scheduled Tribes	189 [91.30]	18 [8.70]	207 [54.61]
Backward Class	48 [77.41]	14 [22.58]	62 [16.35]
Total	339 [89.44]	40 [10.56]	379 [100.0]

Source: Field Study

Table – 6: Average Landholdings in acres

Social Category	Own Patta Land	Government Distributed Lands	Average
Scheduled Caste	0.54	1.95	2.50
Scheduled Tribes	0.61	1.93	2.55
Backward Class	3.53	1.23	4.76
Total	0.86	1.87	2.74

Source: Field Study

The average land holdings of the respondents of the study area have been given from the above table-6. The average landholdings i.e. own and patta land and distributed land of Government land. The overall land distributed landholding is 1.87 acres and patta land landholdings are 0.86 acres.

The average landholdings of Patta land are 0.86 as the whole study and it is 3.53 acres of BCs, 0.61 acres of STs and 0.54 of SCs respectively. In case of Government assigned land average landholdings are 1.87 as the whole study and it is 1.95 acres of SC, 1.93 acres of STs and 1.23 acres of BCs respectively. As the whole study the average landholdings are 2.74 acres of landholdings are in the overall study and it is 4.76

acres, 2.55 acres and 2.50 acres of BC, ST and SC social categories respectively. Thus this study find out the land distribution under Indira Prabha is relatively more in SC&ST categories and low in BC category.

Conclusion: Indira Prabha program is not only land development programme but also land distribution programme to the needed people. The beneficiaries are belongs to SC, ST and BC, among these ST&SC together 90.6 percent. Thus this scheme is in right direction. When we look into age-wise distribution of respondents more than 84.0 percent of respondents are in the active age group and the active age group population led to production the land is the primary source for the primary occupation people particularly in rural and agency areas in this direction this programme is spread over to the productive population thus it has given the fruitful yields to the beneficiaries in the study area. Unfortunately around 78.0 percent of respondents got the marriages at illegal age below 18 years it is due to early marriage before 1990s and also ignorance and illiteracy it is also one of the reason more active age group beneficiaries. Majority of respondents are got assigned patta land ownership due to distribution of land through Indira Prabha scheme and it is relatively more in Dalit categories. Majority of land which was distributed by the Government as dry land. The majority of land was distributed to the SC&ST categories.

1. Majority of Indira Prabha beneficiaries are dalits categories it was identified in this study.
2. The active age groups of 20-30, 31-40 are relatively higher than rest of age groups thus this scheme was in the right direction.
3. The majority beneficiaries are got the land ownerships through this scheme.
4. The un-irrigated land (dry land) was distributed to the respondents.
5. The average land holds are 2.74 acres it is equals to one hector only it shows their land holding status as marginal farmers.
6. There is need to improve the adults literary programme in the study area.
7. There is need to improve land development programme like irrigation, transport, electricity facilities to the distributed land under thus scheme then only the women farming community will empower.

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