

A Study of Minor Forest Produce Marketing by Scheduled Tribes Profits for Sustainable Development Kodagu in Karnataka

Dr. Srikantah Nayaka G

Faculty PG in Economics, Field Marshal K M Cariappa College, Madikeri Kodagu, Karnataka - 571201, India

Abstract: *The Present Paper has made an attempt to examine the way of gathering Minor Forest Produce by forest tribal communities minor forest area availability in the Coorg region of Karnataka state. The minor forest products can be marketed by setting up of stalls in the tourist spots, resorts, etc. The non-wood forest products constructed by the tribal people are termed as Minor Forest Produce. The Minor Forest Products collected by the tribal persons will be marketed through this mobile unit, . (Tribal Co-operative Societies), and decentralized marketing initiatives. It is aimed at ensuring best prices for these products and helping the community get empowered economically. The majority of the tribal population of the district are either leaving within the forests or in resettled areas. Around of them are still dependent on the forest substantially for their livelihoods minor forest products are the livelihood for thousands of families. Altogether, the collection of all the available MFPs generated 66 days of employment per households., The local people to depend completely on the forest ecosystem for their daily needs. Collections and sell of different non-timber forest products (NTFPs) for domestic and commercial purposes are considered as important means of their livelihood. The tribal people seasonally collect various NTFPs to satisfy the needs for their food, fodder and also medicine. The Minor Forest Products are mainly sold by women across the country Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce Through Minimum Support Price (and Development of Value Chain for MFP provide MSP to gatherers of forest produces. The schemes ensure the sustainability of the resource base by addressing the problems that tribals face such as perishable nature of the produce, lack of holding capacity, lack of marketing infrastructure, exploitation by middlemen, etc. The present study tries to explore the importance of NTFPs on livelihood of the tribal people in the forest fringe areas. The reports and Co-operative societies visited were done with for data collection. The nature and pattern of NTFP utilization by the tribal people for domestic and commercial uses have been estimated indirectly. Result reveals that Coorg Honey and dalchini are the most important NTFPs which contribute significantly to the tribal livelihood. Hence, conservation of these forest products is to be given priority in forest management. Strategically, on the basis of information thus collected form visited in NTFP resources obtained in the local Lichens, Honey with Bees-wax, Shikakai, Antaval Nellikai, Arishina, Dalchini, Murugal, Uppage and Alalekai dominated forest ecosystem have been ranked according to their importance in tribal livelihood. Such importance has been assessed in terms of monetary value, volume of collection, availability and uses. The MFPs about 3 LAMPS in profit include sustainable provide employment and income Madikeri, Virajpet, and Somavarapete taluks. Because the study is descriptive and analytical in nature.*

Keywords: Non-Timber Forest Produce Marketing and Income

1.Introduction

The Forests are home to the people who are entirely or partly dependent on forests for their livelihood). A forest provides us not only a suitable or habitable environment but also livelihood opportunities to forest fringe people by supplying various non-timber forest products. It is now widely accepted that non-timber forest products (NTFPs) contribute significantly in the livelihood options of forest dependent inhabitants, many of whom have limited non-agricultural earning. Across the World the non-timber forest products are the important source of livelihood for the forest fringe tribal communities. The Non-timber forest products play vital role among the tribal people and provide a source of income and subsistence. The tribal economy is mainly concentrated around the collection and processing of Minor Forest Products (MFP) and cultivation largely for the purpose of domestic consumption. They usually struggle to meet their economic needs with a bare minimum income (cash). This is due to a substantial number of tribals being cut off from the civilized world, who are unable to adapt to modernization. The tribal economies lack organized markets as well as financial institutions to promote the tribal products. Fundamentally, the collection of MFP by tribals was taking place to fulfill their basic needs. However, MFP gained commercial value over the passage time, since then

enormous trade transaction taking place and level of income has increased followed by the rising demand for MFP. The Developing MSP regime through organised process of collection, value addition and marketing of the MFPs would enhance livelihood of 30 crores of forest dwelling population by generating opportunities for employment enterprise development. Across the globe more than two billion tribal people are residing in the forest, relying upon MFP for existence, generating income and livelihood security. MFP are playing very crucial role in sustainable livelihood, lessening poverty, conservation of biodiversity and promoting rural economic growth. Around 80 percent population of the developing world utilizes MFP for their health and nutritional needs. Over 50 million people in India are relying upon MFP for their sustenance and income. Evidently, 20 to 30 percent tribal's household income is deriving from the collection of MFPs. Out of 3000 species of forest products hardly 126 are being marketed and generate income. An estimated 100 million people derive their source of livelihood directly from the collection and marketing of MFPs (Report of the National Committee on Forest Rights Act, 2011). According to a World Bank estimate, the MFP economy is fragile but supports close to 275 million people in rural India.

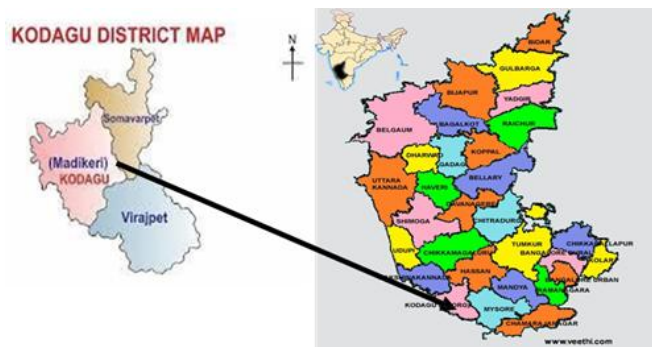
2.Objectives of the Study Area and Methodology

- 1.To examine the Minor Forest Produce Forest area and tribal co-operatives District in Karnataka state.
- 2.To analyze the sustainable marketing and business activities tribal co-operative Kodagu District in Karnataka.

Area of the Study of Methodology

The present paper is based purely on the secondary data., through the various reports, newspaper, tables, diagram and map, descriptive and analytical system will be used it. The nine schedule tribes were also been found in the study areas. The Methodology that are been involved and also, they are belonging to the tribal community.

The Study Area of Kodagu District in Karnataka, and also in India Map



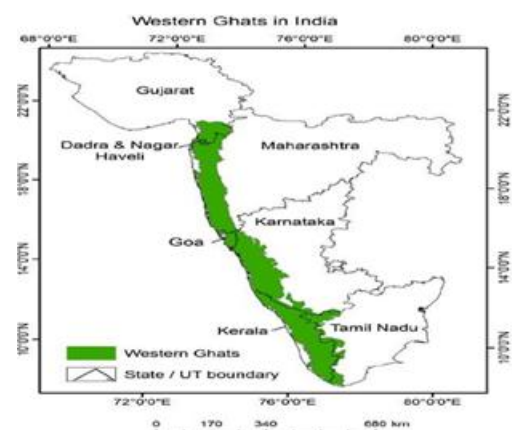
3.Discussion

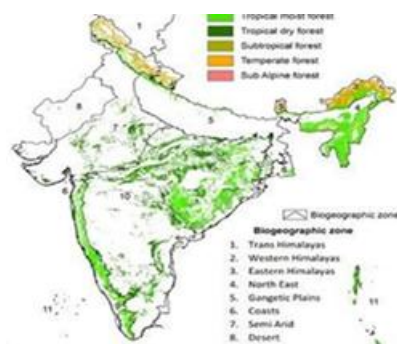
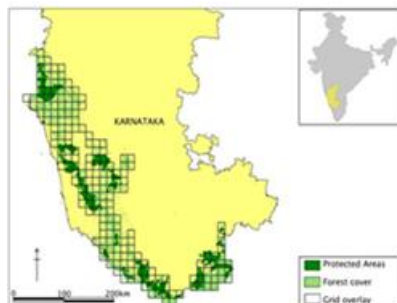
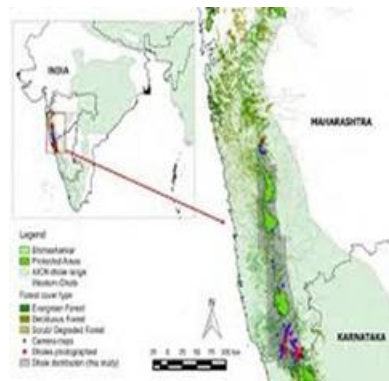
India's forests are not only inhabited by wilderness but also by indigenous forest dwellers for centuries. "Today, in India there are about 100 million forest dwellers in the country living in and around forest areas and another 275 million for whom forests have continued to be an important source of their livelihood and means of survival". Local communities in India besides, getting fuel wood, fodder, wood for house construction, also earn about one-third of their income from the sale of MFP. These evidences have validated the importance of forests for meeting livelihood needs of local communities all over India. The MFP constitute the single largest determinant of maintaining livelihoods of scores of forest fringe communities and people in the tropics. In India over 50 million people are believed to be directly dependent upon NTFPs for their subsistence. The "Forest Produce" is defined as "All material yielded by a forest estate". Forest produce was further classified as "Major Forest Produce" and "Minor Forest Produce". Major forest produce referred to timber, small wood and firewood and minor forest produce referred to all forest produce other than major forest produce including grass, fruit, leaves, animal products, soil and minerals MFPs contributes over 50 per cent of the forest revenue and 70 per cent of the export income. The Forests have been playing a vital role in the socio-economic and cultural life of the Tribal people of India.

Diagram No1 Non-Timber Forest Produces in India



These tribal groups inhabit wide ecological and geo-climatic conditions in different concentrations throughout the country. They are homogeneous, culturally firm, have developed strong magico-religious health care systems and wish to retain their distinct life styles. Tribal livelihood systems vary considerably between different regions as also among various ethnic groups, depending on ecological, historical and cultural factors. They have developed a symbiotic relationship with forests. But the forests in India have suffered over the years due to excessive exploitation and are facing many threats affecting bio-diversity, species composition, forest communities, physiognomy, stratification, vitality, tropic structure, energetic and dynamics as forest resources get depleted, forest communities depending upon them get impoverished. Hence, the preservation of forests is vital for sustaining ecological balance and is the most important factor to protect the environment as well as the forest communities living in and around the forest. The Sustenance under the scheme is principally in the nature of Gap filling interventions. There are over 50 Scheduled Tribes notified under Article 342 of the Constitution of India Tribes in Karnataka. The Forest Communities where their population was highly namely ITDP Districts. In Karnataka scope exists for bringing 38 taluks spread across 9 districts where 15000 hamlets under this category.





The Non-timber forest products are important forest products. In Karnataka, forests play an important role in the socio-economic development of the state. Forests help in maintaining a stable environment conducive to sustained development of agriculture. Forests meet a large share of the energy needs of the population, more so in the rural areas. A significant portion of the fodder needs of the vast cattle population is also met from the forest. Forest products, in addition to contributing to the state's income, also play a very important role in the rural and tribal economy. Many of the forest products, including non-timber forest products (NTFPs), provide sustenance to the rural and tribal people, who collect a large part of their daily necessities, including food and medicines, from the forests. Most of these products represent a direct subsidy to the rural poor, and constitute an integral element of the factors alleviating their poverty. For landless and marginal farmers living in the vicinity of forests, forest-related activities generate their primary source of income. In Karnataka, collection of non-timber forest produce is being entrusted to Tribal Societies wherever these exist. There are 19 such Tribal Societies in Karnataka. Wherever the societies do not exist the NTFP collection leases are granted through tender-cum-auction sales. Firewood is sold at fixed rates at the depots for domestic consumption. Canes and bamboos are provided by the department on payment basis against the

quantity allotted to private artisans (Govt of Karnataka, 1996). These officially extracted NTFPs are included in the estimation of the state domestic product. The value of NTFPs collected by the local population is not included in the estimation of SDP. Failure to take these resources into account means neglecting a considerable source of wealth, at least locally. This also prevents optimal resource allocation.

4.Forest Area and Valuation of Non-timber Forest Products or MFPs in Karnataka

Karnataka, the seventh largest State of the country, with a geographical area of 1, 91, 791 sq km accounts for 5.83% of the geographical area of the country. the Forest Cover in the State is 38, 575.48 sq km which is 20.11% of the State's geographical area. In Karnataka, the proportion of reserved forests is as high as 75 % and for India this figure is much lower at about 55 % of the country's geographical area Five National Parks, 30 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 15 Conservation Reserves and one Community Reserve constitute the Protected Area network of the State covering 5.33% of its geographical area. Karnataka supports about 10% of total tiger population and 25% of elephant population of the country. About 19.3 % of its geographical area as forest cover (India is 20.6 %). the Uttara Kannada, Dakshina Kannada & Udupi, Mysore & Chamaraja Nagara, Shimoga, Belgaum and Chikmagalur districts account for almost two thirds of the forest area. the Uttara Kannada, Dakshina Kannada & Udupi and Mysore & Chamarajanagara account for more than 10 % of forest area with Districts with almost half or more than half of the forest cover are: Chamrajanagar, Chickmagalur, Shimoga, Udupi, Kannad Dakshin, Kannad Uttar, and Kodagu.

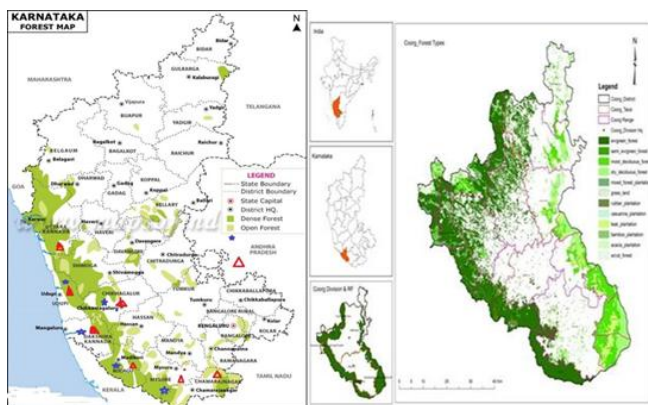
The Gross State Domestic Products takes into account in Major products comprising industrial wood (timber, round wood, match and pulpwood) and fuel-wood (firewood and charcoal wood); and, NTFPs in the minor products (to some extent) that consist of a large number of heterogeneous items the Such as bamboo, fodder, lac, sandalwood, honey, resin, gum, tendu leaves, etc. However, NTFPs remain under accounted to a large extent. This yields the value of all NTFPs collected to be equal to Rs 16850 million. The LAMPS Co-operative Societies are working hard to enhance the economic status of the tribals and also to boost their living norms. The Government has initiated many programs to stimulate these LAMPCS Co-operative Societies. In the State 3, 71, 397 Cooperative Societies are registered of which 23 lampscs co-operative societies are functioning. in the state.

The Minor Forest produce' means forest produce other than timber sandalwood, firewood, charcoal bamboos and minerals, and includes forest produce such as myrobalams barks, fibres, flosses, gums, resin, dyes, grass, leaves, roots, fruits, seeds, creepers, reeds, moss, lichens, wood-oil, honey, wax, lac, wild animals, wild birds, Government trophy's horns, horns, hides, bones, tusks, etc. The collection and sale of MFPs contribute 40 - 60 % of tribal annual earnings and further "Value Addition" helps in tripling or quadrupling their income. Since the launch of Van Dhan Yojana from the year 2019, in state TRIFED has

sanctioned 1946 Van Dhan Self Help Groups (VDSHG) to be subsumed into 140 Van Dhan Vikas Kendra Clusters (VDVKCs) in 31 ITDP and non ITDP districts and 41748 associating 2087.4 beneficiaries in Karnataka.

The Consisting of Karnataka State having a dispersed tribal population, areas of tribal concentration.30% based on geographical area of ITDP. The Departmental schemes are being implemented through the District Social Welfare Officers in 16 Districts and in 5 ITDP Districts, i.e., Project coordinators are working. The proportion of Scheduled Tribe population is less than 5 per cent in 12 districts, between 5 to 9 per cent in 7 districts and above 10 per cent in the remaining 11 districts. The state has 22.60 percent of its total area under forest cover, 5 Tribal districts and 6 Hill area districts. The Forest tribes people living in the south Western Ghats mountainous rain forests (61.5%) in south India

Map 2: The Forest Kodagu district in Karnataka



5. Concept and Purpose of Tribal Cooperative Societies

The Co-operatives are the democratic institutions aimed at eliminating economic disparities and poverty among the tribals. The economically weaker and the socially exploited tribals found some solace in the Co-operatives which help them to secure loan, market their produce and get agricultural inputs. But in the context of tribal development, social justice and empowerment of poor tribals it is indispensable that special provisions are to be made for ensuring concessional financial assistance through subsidized interest rate. Therefore, there should be dedicated and honest officials for promoting the cause of tribal development. The concept of Cooperative is a unique and revolutionary one. Few people with a common interest can form a cooperative and can do any kind of legal organised activity on the basis of their interest. As the financial participation occurs, the whole hearted approach towards its development remains. The social contribution of this concept specially in priority sector is incomparable. The forming a cooperative at rural and forest tribal area level helps the common people to become part of their own development. Besides priority sector, any other sector can

also similarly be benefitted.

The LAMPCS are cooperative Societies set up by the government for integrated tribal development in regions with significant tribal populations. They are generally one per taluka, and their membership is restricted to adult members of any Scheduled Tribe community. These societies have been organised with the objective of improving the social and financial conditions of the Adivasis.

6. Karnataka State Lamps Cooperative Federation Ltd., Mysore

The Karnataka State Lamps Co-operative Federation Ltd., Mysore is registered under Karnataka Co-operative Societies Act 1959-1997-98 dated on 17-01-1998 at Co-operative Registrar's Office, Bangalore. The head office is located in Mysuru, and also has member societies all over Karnataka. The jurisdiction of the Federation is limited to the 8 districts, Uttara Kannada, and Mandya District.

The societies conduct the following activities

To organize, plan the growth, development of natural products and their trade on traditional, scientific and commercial basis in the interest of the tribal population in the area of operation of the Federation.

- To strive to ensure higher earning and larger employment opportunities for the tribal population by
- formulation of suitable economic schemes based on natural products or otherwise.
- To ensure full utilization of natural products available in the tribal areas including farm and forest
- produce by exploring, and by improving their marketability through organized efforts.
- These societies have been organised with the objective of improving the social and financial conditions of the Adivasis.
- To Collection and marketing of Minor Forest Produce by the Tribal people and improving the financial position by providing employment.
- To Providing loans to its members and running processing units and other related activities

The identify items of MFP in different areas to be brought under the sector of the Co-operative marketing and make recommendations for fixation of minimum prices of such MFP in the tribal areas by each member society. Federation is extending financial assistance to member societies for procurement of MFP. Federation is assisting the Member societies for better Marketing of MFP. The Federation is Coordinating with Forest Department for better coordination in the interest of societies. Federation is organizing training and workshop programmes with the assistance of The Karnataka State Cooperative Federation.

Table No: 1. Coverage Area Membership, Share capital and Transactions of LAMPCS in Karnataka
As on 2023-2024 (In lakhs)

Sl. N O	Name of the LAMPCS	Area of Operation (Taluk)	Members	Share capital		Transaction		2021 as on	
				By members	By Government	MFP s	Other busine ss	Profit	Los ss
1.	Hunsur	Hunsur, Periyapatn	2503	3.56	17.23	36.00	0.92	0.56	-
2.	H. D. Kote	H. D. Kote	4175	25.38	10.51	40.00	41.00	2.86	-
3.	Chamarajan agar	Chamarajan agar	2375	1.18	12.75	10.00	-	6.60	-
4.	Gundlup	Gundlupets	5237	26.16	15.34	-	-	1.90	-
5.	Hanur	Hanur	5660	30.55	12.16	76.50	-	1.75	-
6.	B. R. Hills	Yelandur	1766	1.64	19.82	37.71	-	3.08	-
7.	Thithimathi	Virajpet	3800	0.75	13.00	20.00	2.50	3.40	-
8.	Basavanahal I	Somwarpet	3747	7.03	17.85	41.21	12.10	4.58	-
9.	Bhagamanda	Madikeri	2924	4.74	9.54	3.12	2.74	0.60	-
10	Koppa	Sringeri, N. R. Pura, Koppa	4270	15.36	34.00	126.61	110.03	6.16	-
11	Moodigere	Mudigere, Kadur, Chikmagalor e	4137	8.07	27.00	5.39	386.00	0.44	-
12	Udupi	Udupi	7137	38.05	20.00	-	3.72	66.7	
13	Kundapur	Kundapur	3760	4.98	18.50	-	-	-	1.52
14	Karkala	Karkala	467	77.29	-	9.66	26.27	30.40	-
15	Sulya	Sulya	4203	23.54	21.00	-	52.70	9.92	-
16	Puttur	Puttur	4795	38.45	9-35	-	40.50	16.33	
17	Belthangadi	Belthangadi	2141	9.00	14.42	-	-	-	3.74
18	Bantwal	Bantwal	237	1, 19		-	11.90	2.97	
19	LAMPCS Mangalore	Mangalore	1557	2, 40	9.46	-	-	0.90	
20	Bhatkal	Bhatkal	2850	40.50	0.39	-	26.78	-4.94	2.00
21	Vanashree LAMPCS Haliyala	Haliyala, Joida, Karwar	4685	1.12	2.60	10.50	2.50		
22	Sahyadri LAMPCS Yellapur	Yellapur	4000	1.20	22.00	-	-	-	2.00
23	Muthathi	Malavalli	444	0.17	-	-	-	-	5.29
Total	23	30	76866	380.97	333.71	419.69	688.18	104.48	12.55

Source: Annual Report of Karnataka LAMPCS Federation, Various Issues, Mysore.

The above table show that total 23 numbers LAMPCS were set up in 30 Blocks spread over 8 Districts by the end of 2022-23 In a Karnataka, in Karnataka scope exists for bringing 38 taluks spread across 9 districts where are 1500 hamlets under this Adivasi (forest peoples). The LAMPCS are cooperative Societies set up by the government for integrated tribal development in regions with significant tribal populations. They are generally, one per taluka, and their membership is restricted to adult members of any Scheduled Tribe communities, there are about 80, 224 tribal members where all the amount to their membership is paid by the Government of Karnataka to encourage the collection of forest products. The loss of four societies viz., kundapura, belthangady yellapura and muthhathi, reaming all societies profit has been business activities. the working capital amount 100.47.09loan borrowing to members

47110.26 lakh and deposit amount 5647.92. Over 23 LAMPCS Co-Operative Societies has paid share capital of Rs 4.25 Lakh and Government has a capital share of Rs 4.00 Lakh which makes a total share of Rs 8.35 Lakh and a share of Rs 10.00 lakh has been sanctioned as redeemable. Out of this, Rs 9.00 Lakh has been returned to the Government and Rs 1.00 Lakh is pending repayment/return the both governments equity subsidies from the year 1998-99 till date, a sum of Rs 312.21 Lakh amount has been allocated by the Central and State Government to the development of basic facilities of Co-Operative societies and collection of forest products.

7.Scheduled Tribes in Kodagu District

A total of 15433 ST families lives in Kodagu district. Scheduled Tribes (STs) form 10.47% of Kodagu's population. Their proportion of population is higher in Kodagu in comparison to the state (6.97%) Most of ST populations in the district are concentrated in the rural areas of the districts. The proportion of STs is higher in the district, in comparison to the state and national figures. The highest proportion of ST population in the district is found in Viraj pet taluk (19.61%). In other taluks, the proportion of ST population is lesser than the state average. The Total

342 various types of cooperative societies in the district while 3 LAMPS were organized in Kodagu district in Karnataka. The scheduled tribal communities Yerava, Jenu Kuruba, Kadu Kuruba, Soliga, Malekuidya and other minor tribal communities like Nayaka, Meda, Marata, Kuruba (both of the geographical Restricted tribes) are also living in these districts. The Kodagu is home to forest dependent tribes such tribes are Jenu Kuruba, Kadu Kuruba, Kudiya, Soliga and Yerava Much of the tribal population live within forests or in resettled colonies (167, hamlets) in interior rural area. (ITDP Repot.2018)

Table No 2: Name of the ST Population in Kodagu District (2011, Census)

	Name of Scheduled Tribes	Urban		Total	Rural		Total	Grand Total
		M	F		F	M		
1.	Jenu Kuruba	29	37	66	5, 978	6, 147	12, 125	12, 191
2.	Kadu Kuruba	1	2	3	94	96	190	193
3.	Melakudi	27	29	56	1, 001	959	1, 960	2, 016
4.	Kuruba	85	62	147	1, 462	1, 502	2, 964	3, 111
5.	Maratha	108	100	208	1, 537	1, 651	3, 188	3, 396
6.	Meda	30	21	51	466	472	938	989
7.	Nayaka	335	365	700	2, 656	2, 706	5, 362	6, 062
8.	Soligar	7	4	11	579	627	1, 206	1, 217
9.	Yerava	86	93	179	12, 881	13, 473	26, 354	26, 533
	Total	752	757	1509	27187	28197	55384	56893

Sources: Co-Ordinator, ITDP Office Report (2021) Madikeri.

As per 2011 Census, the Scheduled Tribes total population of the district is 55384, out of which 28197 lakhs are males and 27187are females. The majority of ST populations live in rural areas. STs, there are sub-castes having distinctly different traditions and culture and hereditary pursuits.

The Coorg district is an integral part of the Western Ghat region of Karnataka State. The Western Ghat is recognized as one of the important biodiversity "hotspots" in the Indian subcontinent. This district is situated in this environmentally sensitive area. Coorg is endowed with rich and unique biodiversity and it is referred to, as an "environmentally high potential area". The unique biodiversity therefore, needs to be conserved to foster environmentally sustainable development. The Coorg district is known for well-preserved National Park and Sanctuaries. Nagarhole National Park comprises an area of 643.39 sq km spread over Coorg and Mysore districts. The district also has other wildlife sanctuaries constituted by the Karnataka State Government in 1974. They are viz., Brahmagiri, Pushpagiri and Talakaveri sanctuaries. Brahmagiri sanctuary consisting of Brahmagiri and Urty reserve forests covers an area of 180 sq km. Pushpagiri sanctuary covers an area of 102 sq km and Talakaveri covers an area of 105 sq km. The Virajpet taluk in particular (Nagarhole and adjoining areas) has a high inhabitation of tribals and their proportion to total population comes to 8.2 per cent.

Medicinal Plants in Kodagu District, Karnataka

Kodagu district situated in Central Western Ghats embraces a rich biodiversity and is the treasure house of ethnobotanical wealth. The district has one of the highest densities of community managed sacred groves in the world with rich floral and faunal diversity. The tribal people of this region possess a plethora of traditional plant knowledge

and health care practices. An ethnobotanical survey was made in the forests of Kodagu district in which a total of 205 ethnomedicinal plant species belonging to 72 families have been documented. Information about medicinal plants and their therapeutic uses was gathered by interaction with traditional medicinal practitioners. Of the total species documented herbs were predominately used (70 species) followed by shrubs (57 species), trees (51 species) and climbers (21 species). They are used to treat a wide range of diseases such as diabetes, jaundice, skin diseases, snake bite, dysentery, hyperacidity, abortifacient, anthelmintic, antiseptic, stomachic, piles, fever, cough and so on. The medicine's formulation and mode of administration of these plants were recorded. The Medicinal plants are largely found in the Coorg district especially in evergreen forests. There are 700 species found in Coorg used in Aurveda and Siddha system of medicines. Local communities and forest dwellers have the intimate knowledge about bio-resources including medicinal plants.

8.Tribal Sub Plan - Marketing Infrastructure facilities to LAMPS Federation

The Members of LAMP societies will get market for their minor forest produce and thereby they are economically benefited. The dependence on forests for MFPs is substantial among these communities. The concentrated in rural areas. The hilly and thickly forested terrain, there are three LAMPS the district that aim towards the improvement of economic and financial conditions of the tribal communities. The LAMPS are cooperative Societies set up by the government for integrated tribal development in regions with significant tribal populations. They are generally, one per taluka, and their membership is restricted to adult members of any Scheduled Tribe community. a

while 3 LAMPS were organized in Kodagu district in Karnataka. In a detailed analysis of the LAMPS in Kodagu. The Forest tribes are the people living mainly in forest fringe areas Among the STs Communities, these societies conduct the following activities: The Collection and marketing of Minor Forest Produce by the Tribal people and

improving the financial position by providing employment. The Distribution of essential commodities and other consumer articles to its members and supply of foodgrains to the student hostels of SC and ST communities. The Providing loans to its members and running processing units and other related activities.

Table No 3: Year of Establishment, Area coverage and membership in Kodagu District

Sl. No	Name of Blocks	Name of the LAMPS	Year of Established	Total members	Name of the communities in membership	Forest (in Hectares)
1	Madikeri	Bhagamandal a	09/10/1982 (40)	M.1576 F 1348 2924	Marati, Kudiyaand Meda	47514
2	Somwarpet	Basavanahali	17/01/1979 (49)	M 2221. F 1526 3747	Soliga, Meda Yerava Jenukuruba, Kuruba Bettakuruba. Marati, Nayaka and Kadukuruba	20849
3	Virajpet	Thimathi	18/12/1976 (46)	M.2142 F 1658 3800	Jenukuruba, Kuruba Yerava and Bettakuruba	66234
	Total	3	-	10471	9	134597

Note () brackets older of the years

Sources: Co-Ordinator, ITDP Office Report (2021) Madikeri.

In a detailed table analysis of the LAMPCS in kodgu district. The above table shows that in Coorg name of the 3 taluk has the Viraj pet highest forest Area and membership; Madikeri taluk and district head quitters has the lowest in tribal co-operative societies as against this, Somwarpet has the second highest forest area. The LAMPCS are cooperative Societies set up by the government for integrated tribal development in regions with significant tribal populations. They are generally, one per taluka, and their membership is restricted to adult members of any Scheduled Tribe community. the highest membership in virajapete taluk both male and female members in the

district. This societies near to celebration golden year has been celebration fourth coming soon years. The Collection of minor forest produce and tribal cooperatives: Tribal people living in hilly, forest areas depend heavily on minor forest produce (nontimber forest produce) for their livelihood. As much as 50 per cent of the income of the Tribal communities in Kodagu district, for example, comes from the collection of MFP. The LAMPS were formed in the late 1970s, with tribal people as members, to market NTFP procured from the forests by the tribal people. It also supplies essential food commodities and consumer items to its members.

Table No 4: Taluk Wise LAMPS Working Capital Deposit and loan Borrowing in Kodagu 2022-23

Sl. No	Name of Blocks	Name of the LAMPS	Working Capital	Deposit	Loan borrowing to members
1	Madikeri	Bhagamandal a	112.25	43.35	-
2	Somwarpet	Basavanahali	112.00	8.28	-
3	Virajpet	Thimathi	25.00	8.00	-
	Total	3	249.25	59.83	Nil

Sources: Karnataka State Co-operative Federation Mysore

The LAMPS are functioning in the district of Kodagu to provide credit facilities to the tribal poor. The Forests are a precious gift of nature, meant to be intensively exploited and simultaneously tended and cultured so that they go on giving a sustained or even an increasing yield every year. This is because forests provide array of goods such as timber, firewood, industrial raw materials for making paper, rayon and minor forest produce like honey, wax, soap nut, medicinal plants etc. The minor forest produce" includes all non-timber forest produce of plant origin including bamboo, brush wood, honey, medicinal plants and herbs, roots, tubers and the like. The MFPs provide essential nutrition to

people living in forested areas, and are used for household purposes, thus forming an important part of their non-cash income. For many tribal communities who practice agriculture, MFPs are also a source of cash income, especially during slack seasons. Apart from this, 101 fair price shops are also being run by LAMPS. Tribal people sell coffee, pepper, honey, tamarind, tea, fruits, flowers, grains and spices to the societies located in hill areas and in tribal populated areas. The cold storage facilities for all the LAMPS in the State and also sales representatives for promoting the products so as to reduce unemployment among graduates of tribal youths.

Table No 5: Particulars of MFP Harvesting Tribes in Koadgu district

	Name of the MFPs	MSP in Rs	Usage Harvesting	Season
1	Lichens (Indian stone moss)		Traditional Medicine and Perfumes, Dyes	June-September
2	Honey with Beeswax	225	Medicine, Consumption	April-May
3	Shikakai	50	Medicine and hair oil	February-May
4	Antavala (Soap nuts)	14	Medicine and Soap and Detergents	March-April
5	Nellikai (Indian gooseberry)		Medicine, Pickle, Juice	December-February
6	Arishina (Turmeric)		Medicine, Cosmetics	Cooking March-April
7	Dalchini (cinnamon)		Ayurveda Medicine	May and November
8	Murugal (cocum, garcinia indica)		Medicine	March-April
9	Uppage (garcinia gummi-gutta)		Medicine	March And July
10	Alalekai (terminalia chebula)		Health Benefits	May-June

Sources: Personally visited LAMPCS societies collected information 2022. Kodagu

This centrally-sponsored initiative is officially known as “Mechanism for Marketing of MFP through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and development of value chain for MFP,” and is meant for the social safety of MFP gatherers. While tribal communities have been subject to numerous socio-economic difficulties of resettlement, the provision for ownership of land for tribal communities through the Forest Rights Act (FRA) has been an important legislation towards recognizing tribal rights and guaranteeing sustainable livelihoods and ownership of resources for them. In Kodagu, a total of 3524 applications claiming ownership of forest land have been received out of which 1189 individuals have been provided land deeds. These districts are blessed with rich flora and fauna, due to its forest cover and also there are three wild-life sanctuaries (Brahmagiri, Talakaveri and Pushpagiri) and one national park (Nagarahole National Park, also known as Rajiv Gandhi National Park).

Karnataka chief ministers Respected Bommai told reporters that his Kerala counterpart during the talks had sought permission for various railway and road projects connecting the two states but C. M said these projects falling ecologically sensitive areas and wild-life sanctuaries and hence can be taken up. The strongly a statement from Kerala chief minister Respected Pinarai Vijayan office said that Karnataka must consider the proposal for the new railway between Kaniyur and in Dakshina Kannada (Mangalore) and Kannighad in Kasargod district of Kerala. Mr. Bommai said that Kerala has sought cooperation for various railway projects including Kaniyur and in Dakshina Kannada (Mangalore) and Kannighad rail line spans a length 40 K M in Kerala and 31 KM in Karnataka. However, this project is not beneficial for Karnataka, besides it must pass through the rich biodiversity and ecologically sensitive areas of western ghats old project of Thalserry-Mysore rail line but was told that it is not possible to give permission as the proposal through Bandipura and (Chamaraja Nagar District LAMPCS) Nagarhole National (Mysore and Kodagu District LAMPCS in forest areas) parks (Heccan Herald, 2022)

9. Findings

- The success of Scheduled Tribes Cooperatives is the institutional aspect is evaluated by analyzing the socio-

economic benefits enjoyed by the members. The Presidents and Secretaries of various Tribal co-operative societies were also made as part of the study.

- The cooperative societies are functioning under the administrative control of different departments of the government. But the audit of all societies is conducted by the department of cooperation.
- The share of females in the tribal population is more than that of the males. But in the membership of cooperatives the share of males is much higher than the share of females. So, there is male domination in the membership of cooperatives.
- The present study is conducted with the principal objective of evaluating the performance of co-operative societies functioning and suggests measures to overcome the problems encountered by the societies.
- The LAMPCs cooperative societies in Kodagu District could bring small portion of the total tribal population in the district.
- The cooperative societies are functioning under the administrative control of different departments of the government. But the audit of all societies is conducted by the department of cooperation.
- The share of females in the tribal population is more than that of the males. But in
- the membership of cooperatives the share of males is much higher than the share of females. So there is male domination in the membership of cooperatives.
- The LAMPCs are catering to the development units of tribals in the State. They have various activities, which include collection & marketing of honey.
- The LAMPCs at Bhagamandala & B R Hills are engaged in collection of forest honey and sell in bulk to pharma companies engaged in manufacture of ayurvedic & other medicinal products.

10. Conclusion

Since tribal communities live in close proximity with rich biodiversity (flora and fauna), approximately 80percent of the population evolved specific and novel livelihood strategies based on their indigenous knowledge. Majority of the Tribal population actively participated in the development programme and economically benefited. Around 60.80 percent of the tribals solely depend on the

forest (collection of NTFPs) and wage slaves (supplementary earning for their livelihood Collection and marketing of minor forest produce are highly influenced by the implementation of Forest Act of 2006., whereas lack off policy implication by the state and conflict between forest department and Tribals has increased the gap between them which directly have impact on the collection of minor forest produce in the study area and it will also directly affect the operations of LAMPS which are completely dependent on minor forest products. The Co-operatives are the democratic institutions aimed at eliminating economic disparities and poverty among the tribals.

References

- [1] Government of India, 2011 Census of India, New Delhi. Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs (2017) New Delhi.
- [2] Government of Karnataka, Karnataka Human Development Report (2005) Planning, program Monitoring and Statistics Department. Bengaluru
- [3] Government of Karnataka, Kodagu District Statistics at A Glance 2016-17, Planning, Program me Monitoring and Statistics Department, Bengaluru
- [4] Government of Karnataka. Co-Ordinator (2017) Integrated Tribal Development Program District Office Madikeri. Kodagu district.
- [5] Government of Karnataka Karnataka Forest Rules, 1969 Bengaluru
- [6] Government of Karnataka. Kodagu District Human Development Report (2014), Planning, Program Monitoring and Statistics Department, Bangalore.
- [7] Gowda, H. R. Krishnaiah. (2003). Tribal Cooperatives in India. Serials Publications. Delhi
- [8] Nanjundaiah, C 2004 Forests, environment and local community, A case study of Coorg (Kodagu) district, (Unpublished Thesis) Mysore University. Mysore
- [9] Nayaka Srikantha G (2013) Integrated Tribal Development Program and Human Development - Study of Mysore District in Karnataka (Unpublished Thesis) Mysore University. Mysore
- [10] Nayaka Srikantha G, (2016) Development and Marginalization of Primitive Tribal Groups in Karnataka: A Study on Koraga Community of Dakshin Kannada District Quest International Multidisciplinary Research Journal, Vol- V, Issue - VII, Aug-Sept, Publish World Anand, Gujarat.
- [11] Tribal people want strengthening of Lamps Tamil Nadu The Hindu English News Paper: April 11, 2016
- [12] Deccan Herald, 9, September 2022, English Daily News Paper-P1
- [13] Government of Karnataka. (2014) Kodagu District Human Development Report. Bangalore