

Economic conditions of the Bedagampana community in Chamarajnagar district in Karnataka and Erode district in Tamilnadu

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ABSTRACT

India is a country of unity in diversity. The population of India is made up of many different races. Tribes are one of the races among the Indian races. They are considered the lowest section of society. There are so many sub-castes in tribes. The tribes are spread all over the country. Bedagampana is also one of the tribal communities. Social development paves the way for economic development. The tribes always face problems like a lack of education and skills, a lack of shelter, a lack of proper health facilities, and an inability to satisfy their basic needs. This paper tries to analyse the economic conditions of the Bedagampana community.

INTRODUCTION

Bedagampana is also called the Bedar tribe. They belong to the Dravidian language family group. This community is found in different parts of India. They are also known as Beda, Berad, Boya, Bendar, Berar, Burar, Ramoshi, Talwar, Byadar, and Valmiki. The word 'Bedar' word is derived from the word 'bed' or 'bedaru', which signifies a hunter.

The Bedagampanas originally came from a forest-culture background. As civilization developed and the Forest Act and Animal Protection Act were implemented, hunting professions were abandoned, and turned towards other professions. From this point of view, this community's life has been changing throughout history. Now days, it is common to be influenced by other cultures. However, most of the Bedagampanas are still in tribal status, and earn their livelihood by selling the wild produce they collect as labourers and petty traders.

The present study was carried out to know the occupation, land holding in acres and land ranges, livestock, literacy rate, and education level of the Bedagampana community in Chamarajnagar district in Karnataka and Erode district in Tamilnadu.

Objectives

1. To analyse the occupation of the Bedagampanas
2. To examine the land holdings in acres and land ranges, livestock, literacy rate, and education level of the

Bedagampana community in Chamarajnagar district in Karnataka and Erode district in Tamilnadu.

METHODOLOGY

Primary data is collected through questionnaire and interviews. Secondary data is collected sources like internet, books of different authors etc.

Table – 1: Bedagampanas Professional Wise Population In Village Panchayats Of Kollegala And Chamara Nagar Taluks Of Chamara Nagar Districts Of Karnataka

Occupatio ns	Kollegala														Chamaraj Nagar		Total
	K.Hosur		Martha lli		Mahadesw ara Betta		Dinnalli		Hugyam		Uttur		Hanur		Punajanur		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Agriculture	1	1	47	35	260	152	20	10	16	8	35	26	---	---	6	5	622
Agriculture			24	20	154	118											
Labour	10	12	7	6	1	4	110	89	111	107	191	172	3	3	27	31	4044
Sri																	
Madeswara					44	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	49
temple job	---	---	---	---			---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---			
Selling	---	---	---	---	---	14	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	14
lumber																	
Basket	---	---	---	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---			4
Weaving																	
Charcoal																	
Work	2	---	32	24	2	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---			62
Extracting																	
the nut	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	0
Petty																	
Business	---	---	6	3	21	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---			36
Govt. Job	---	---	2	3	17	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---			24
Private Job	---	---	4	--	14	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	18
Others	---	---	2	--	15	3	---	---	1	---	1	---	1	---	4		27
Total	13	13	34 0	27 1	191 4	136 7	130	99	128	115	227	198	7	3	38	37	4900

The Bedagampanas are trying to improve their economic situation through agriculture. This is evidenced by the fact that nearly 90 percent of people in this community are engaged in agriculture and agriculture-based activities. In a modern context, the economic status of this community is low. Many communities in a society have houses, land, and other facilities. But in this

Community members are facing many problems. Without a permanent base, they have to rely on modern careers instead of their traditional careers.

They are smart and professional without being literate. They have the power to work with the utmost diligence and loyalty in any work. They have the ability to adapt very quickly to any new profession. Due to this, they are earning their livelihood depending on various professions.

Table – 2: Bedagampanas Professionals Wise Population Village Panchayats Of Bhavani And Satyamangalam Taluks Of Erode District Of Tamilnadu

Occupations	Bhavan i														Chamara j Nagar		Tot al
	Bargur		Kuttam Palya		Guttiya Lattur		Gundr e		Eratti Palya		Gerumal		Talwa di		Tigalur		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Agriculture	1	1	47	35	26 0	15 2	20	1 0	1 6	8 1	35	26	-- -	-- -	6	5	622
Agriculture Labour	10	1 2	247	206	15 41	11 84	11 0	8 9	1 1	0 7	19 1	172	3 3	3 3	27	31	404 4
Sri Madeswara temple job		-- -		---	44	3	---	-- -	-- -	-- -		---	-- -	-- -	1	1	49

Selling lumber	---	--	---	---	---	14	---	--	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	14
Basket Weaving	---	--	---	---	---	4	---	--	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	4
Charcoal Work	2	-	32	24	2	2	---	-	-	-	---	---	-	-	---	---	62
Extracting the nut	---	--	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	0
Petty Business	---	--	6	3	21	4	---	--	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	36
Govt. Job	---	--	2	3	17	1	---	--	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	24
Private Job	---	--	4	--	14	---	---	--	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	18
Others	---	--	2	--	15	3	---	--	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	---	27
Total	13	3	340	271	14	67	0	9	2	1	22	198	7	3	38	37	490

Source: Field study

The Bedagampanas originally came from a forest-culture background. As civilization developed and the Forest Act and Animal Protection Act were implemented, hunting professions were abandoned and turned towards other professions. From this point of view, this community's life has been changing throughout history. Now days, it is common to be influenced by other cultures. However, the majority of Bedagampanas retain tribal status and make a living by selling the wild produce they collect as labourers and petty traders. Other professions that the Bedagampanas depend on are flower trade, vegetable selling, grocery shop trade, the sale of decorative items, vibhuti making, pawnshop sales, broom sales, and they used to collect and sell wild products such as soapnut, gooseberry, soapberry, etc. Apart from this, they are engaged in cattle grazing, house building, plastering, hotel work, driver work, radio repair, photographer work, etc. In the government sector, they are also working as school teachers, anganwadi assistants, hospital assistants, etc. For the convenience of study, the skills of Bedagampanas communities living in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are given separately in the following two tables (Tables 3 and 4).

When we see the occupation of Bedagampanas in Chamaraja Nagar district in Table 5, only 13% of the Bedagampanas in Chamaraja Nagar district are engaged in agriculture, with the rest in different professions. 83 percent of people are engaged in agricultural labour. As their lands are completely rain-fed and rainfall is uncertain, they are unable to make a living from their basic occupation. Besides this, the labour wages are also low, so they are working in different occupations rather than agriculture. They are working in 1 percent small businesses, 1 percent of the Shree Male Mahadeshwar temple mujarai department, 1 percent coal mines of Tamilnadu, and 1 percent in different occupations (we can see 36 villages of Kollegala taluk and one village in Chamarajanagar taluk in the table 5). Kostaka reveals that the Bedagampanas in the Erode district of Tamil Nadu were involved in various professions. Here too, most of the people are seen to be engaged in agriculture and agricultural labour. 8 percent are working in agriculture, 60% in agricultural labour, 10% in coal mines, 11% in extracting the nut, 2% in selling lumber, 2% in private jobs, and 4% in other occupations.

Nobody is working in Sri Malemadeswara Temple (it can be seen in Table 06 that there are 36 villages in Bhavani Taluk, including 29 villages in Satyamangalam Taluk). A perusal of the persons of Bedagampanas in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu states shows that most of the people are agricultural and agricultural labourers. In Karnataka, 13% (622 people) are engaged in agriculture, and 83% (404 people) are agricultural labourers. Similarly, in Tamil Nadu, 8% (or 807 people) are engaged in agriculture, and 60% (or 5940 people) are agricultural labourers. From this, it is clear that the original profession of Bedagampanas was agriculture. As their livelihood in agriculture becomes more difficult, we find Bedagampanas engaged in other professions. In Karnataka, they are engaged in other professions like petty business, work in Sri Malemadeswara Temple, charcoal work, selling lumber, basket weaving, government and private jobs, and other works. Similarly, in Tamilnadu, 32% of the population is engaged in other professions like coal grinding work, forest produce collections, selling lumber, basket weaving, government and private jobs, and other works.

TABLE – 3: Bedagampanas Population Village Panchayats And Professionals of Bhavani and Satyamangalam Taluks of Erode Districts of Tamilnadu

Occupati ons	Bhavani		Satyamangalam Taluk																Total
	Bargur		Kutta m Palya		Guttiya Lattur		Gundre		Eratti Palya		Gerumal		Tal wad i		Tigalu r		Has nur		
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Agriculture	184	81	14	9	95	92	94	31	66	41	30	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	807
Agriculture			4			19	31	19					-	-					
Labour	2130	2134	6	54	185	4	5	6	127	103	106	92	4	2	28	21	96	115	5948
Sri Madeswara temple job	---	---	-	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-	-	---	---	---	---	0
Selling lumber	149	76	9	8	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-	-	---	---	---	2	244
Basket Weaving	87	241	-	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-	-	---	---	---	---	332
Charcoal Work	684	208	12	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-	-	---	---	39	8	952
Extracting the nut	324	721	7	9	33	46	---	---	---	---	---	---	-	-	---	---	1	5	1146
Petty Business	8	4	-	---	---	---	2	---	1	---	1	1	1	-	---	---	2	---	20
Govt. Job	3	4	-	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1	-	---	---	---	1	10
Private Job	152	6	-	---	2	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	-	-	---	---	2	---	163
Others	195	147	-	---	2	---	7	1	2	---	2	---	-	-	1	---	---	---	357
Total	3916	3622	88	85	317	332	419	228	197	144	139	110	6	2	37	29	160	148	9979

Source: Field study

In addition to the professions described earlier, Bedagampanas also do part-time occupations such as preparation of vibhuti lump and lump, animal husbandry, broom making, honey collection, etc. Apart from being a permanent employee of Sri Malemadeshwara Temple, they also work as part-time worship ritualists. Mainly, it is found that the system of serfdom is in force among them.

Agriculture is the main occupation of the Bedagampanas. 77% of the Bedgampanas in the two states are engaged in agriculture. The people here rely on rain because 96% of the farming is dry farming (see Land Tenure Tables 4 and 5). When the eight village panchayats of Bedagampan, Chamarajanagar taluk, Kollegala, in the Chamarajanagar district of Karnataka state, saw a farm, Ramapura Hobli Mahadeshwar Betta 79%, Martalli 6%, and K. Hosur 3%. It was discovered to have 1% dry land. Similarly, Mahadeshwar Betta has the highest irrigated land holding at 76%, while Martalli has the lowest at 24%. Secondly, north of Lokkanahalli Hobli, there is 11% dry land and 2% hoogium in Dinalli. Finally, Punjanur of Chandakawadi hobli in Chamarajanagar taluk has 2% dryland holding (see Table 07). Their agriculture is completely dependent on rains, and if it does not rain on time, their economy will not continue,

They are making a living by farming in the lands of advanced communities or upper castes. It is found that the economic level is not good enough to invest more capital, convert it into irrigated land, and take out economic crops.

The total land holdings of Bedagampana families are divided into ranks, *A, including those with large land holdings of more than 25 acres. *B = median size of land ranging from 10.1 acres to 25 acres; *C = 5.1 to 10 acres of medium size; *D = 2.51 acres to 5 acres; *E = small landholders of 0.50 to 2.50 acres; and *F = landless families are Bedagampana peasant families.

When the Bhusreni of Bedagampan in Chamarajanagar district are observed in Table 07, it shows 4 percent are small landholders, 42% are the smallest landholders, and 49% are landless families in Mahadeshwar Betta village panchayat. Secondly, 14% are small landholders, 54% of the smallest landholders, and 32% are landless families, all found in Dinnalli Village Panchayath. Thirdly, 4% are small landholders; 58% of the smallest landholders and 3.8% of landless families are found in Huguam Village panchayath. Fourthly, 19% are small landholders; 46% of the smallest landholders and 34% of landless families are found in Utturu Village Panchayath. A village called Arabagere in K. Hosur Gram Panchayat is the habitat of Bedagampanas. A total of eight families live there; they are all very small landholders. Similarly, 2% are small landholders, and 48% of the smallest landholders and 50% of landless families are found in Martahalli Village Panchayath. Finally, 3% are median land holders, 15% are small landholders, 26% of smallest landholders, and 56% are landless families. These families are found in Chandakawadi Hobli of Punjanur Village Panchayat.

TABLE 4: Land Tenure (in Acres) and Land Ranges of Bedagampanar in Taluks and Hoblis, Village Panchayats of Erode District, Tamil Nadu

Taluk	Hobali	Village Panchayath	Family	Land Holding in Acres			Land Ranges					
				Dry	Irrigation	Total	A*	B*	C*	D*	E*	F*
Bhavani	Andiyur	Baragur	2095	4068.5	54.5	4123		6	49	41	138	23
Sathyamangalam	Kuttampally	Kuttampally	55	73.5	20	93.5			1	10	30	14
	Guttiyalur	Guttiyalur	23.7	519.5	64	583.5			13	80	114	30
	Gundre	Gundre	268	487.5	24.5	512			9	55	159	45
	Talawadi	Erattipally	134	243	13.5	2565			4	28	67	35
		Gerumala	92	94.5	14	108.5			1	13	36	42
		Talawadi	4									4
		Tigalur	24	35	2	37			2	5	4	13
		Hasanur	120	91	3	94				10	37	73
			374	463.5	32.5	496			7	56	144	16
Tamilnadu state as a whole			3029	5612.5	195.5	5808		6	79	61	183	49
										9	1	4

Source: Field study

Table 4 shows the comparison of 09 village panchayat-wise dry farming systems in Bedagampanas of Bhavani and Sathyamangalam taluks in Erode district of Tamilnadu state. 72 percent of Baraguru Gram Panchayat of Andiyur Hobli in Bhavani Taluk, Kuttampally under Hobali, and the village panchayath of Sathyamangalam Taluk are each 1%; Guthiyalattur is 9%, Gundre is 9%. Similarly, Erattipally of Talwadihobli is 4%, Gerumala is 2%, Hasanur is 2%, Tigaluru is less than 1%, and Talwadi is a landless village (see Table 4).

If we look at the land tenure of the Bedagampanas in the gram panchayat wise districts of both states, the majority of the land is found in families with small land holdings. But in some areas, the landless families are living in other trends and working in the fields of the rich and landowners.

Due to the failure of rains, Bedagampanas in the states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are lagging behind in agriculture. Irrigation facilities are very limited in these areas, and farmers are dependent on dryland farming, where crops such as millet, maize, foxtail millet, mustard, pearl millet, pea, sama, groundnut, niger seeds, togari, beans, baragu, and other pulses are grown.

Animal Husbandry

Bedagampanas are rearing animals to facilitate their agriculture. According to some sources, herding of cattle, goats, sheep, and buffaloes was an important sub-occupation in the past. It is known that 50 to 100 cattle were reared in a family. Even now, cattle wealth is abundant among them. One person is employed in the house to graze the animals. They are called "Danagara". Generally, the practise is that if a cow gives birth to a male calf, it is sold. If a female calf is born, it is not sold but kept at home for breeding. Due to this, the number of animals cannot decrease, and they will find improvement in the economic situation. Sheep and chickens are raised to cover daily expenses. The wealth of Bedagampanas is abundant in the states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, as seen in table 5.

Table 5: Livestock Of Bedagampanar In Taluks ,Hoblis And Village Panchayats Of Chamarajnagar Dist

Taluk	Hobli	Village Panchayat	Animal Husbandry					
			Ox	Buffalo	Cow	Sheep	Goat	Hen
Kollegal	Rampur	K. Hosur	11	3	5	---	---	---
		Marthalli	60	67	318	5	117	---
		Mahadeswara Hill	988	376	963	56	1644	6
			1059	446	1286	61	1761	6
	Lokanahalli	Dinnalli	51	2	45	5	10	---
		Hugyam	53	9	44	---	31	---
		Uttur	167	25	32	10	10	---
			271	36	121	15	51	
	Hanur	Hanur	--	--	--	--	--	--
			31	2	45	--	11	--
Total Grampanchayats			1361	484	1452	76	1823	6

Source: Field study

Cattle are the economic wealth of the tribal people when we observe the cattle wealth of Bedagampana community in Table 5. In the Chamarajanagar district of Karnataka state, it is known from the field study that cattle are the wealth for the good economic condition of most of the Bedagampanas. Most Bedagampanas are found to have animal husbandry as their means of agriculture and standard of economy. Most of these families are mostly engaged in agriculture and agricultural labor and depend on livestock. The overall livestock wealth of Kollegala taluk and Chamarajanagara taluk of Chamarajanagara district of Karnataka state is as follows. Ox - 26%, Buffalo - 9%, Goat - 36%, Sheep - 1%, Cow - 26% (including 01 villages of Chamarajanagara Taluk and Kollegala Taluk)

TABLE 6: Livestock of Bedagampanas in Taluks ,Hoblis and Village Panchayats of Erode Dist

Taluk	Hobli	Village Panchayat	Animal Husbandry					
			Ox	Buffalo	Cow	Sheep	Goat	Hen
Bhavani	Andiyuru	Bargur	3111	809	1716	325	2391	---
Satyamangalam	Kuttampalya	Kuttampalya	78	4	26	4	64	
	Guttiyalattur	Guttiyalattur	342	23	287	29	362	---
	Gundre	Gundre	360	78	304	83	474	---
	Talawadi	Erattipalya	93	6	120	13	16	---
		Gerumala	83	29	74	--	5	---
		Talawadi	---	---	---	---	---	---
		Tigalur	18	6	32	---	11	---
		Hasanur	61	5	151	---	---	---
			255	46	377	13	32	--
Total Grampanchayats			4146	960	2710	454	3323	--

Source: Field study

Similarly, in Table 6, Bedagampan in the Erode district of Tamil Nadu also has animal wealth. Here too, we can find them mostly engaged in agriculture and farming. Most of these families depend on livestock. The total cattle wealth of Bhavani taluk and Sathyamangalam taluk of Erode district, Tamil Nadu state, has oxen (36%), buffalo (8%), cows (23%), sheep (4%), and goats (29%). We can see 30 villages in Bhavani taluk and 29 villages in Satyamangalam (see table 6).

Educational Status of Bedagampanas The study reveals that most of the Bedagampanas remain illiterate. It is only possible if this community is financially empowered and educationally advanced enough to take the next step. Thus, how a community is deprived of education and relegates itself to the fringes of this society will be known if we look at their education and economic conditions. Table 7 shows the educational status of Bedagampana.

TABLE 7: Talukwise, Hobaliwise and Village panchayat wise Bedagampanar Literacy Rate of Chamarajnagar District

Dist	Taluk	Hobli	Village Panchayat	Realism (Common Sense)			Literate			Illeterate		
				M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Chamarajna gar	Kollega l	Rampur	K. Hosur Marthalli Mahade swara Hill	19	21	40	7	3	10	12	18	30
				477	451	928	217	9	366	0	302	562
				282	255	537	110	64	174	17		
				4	4	8	3	3	6	21	1911	3632
		332	302	634	132	79	212	19				
		0	6	6	7	5	2	93	2231	4224		
		Lokanahalli	Dinnalli	191	143	334	48	9	57	14	134	277
										3		
									11			
									6			
	Hanur	Hugyam	191	167	358	75	27	102	6	140	256	
									10			
								14				
								0				
Chandakavadi	Uttur	318	315	633	178	6	284	0	209	349		
		700	625	1325	301	142	443	399	483	882		
		Hanur	Hanur Punajan ur	9	6	15	5	1	6	4	5	9
				56	54	110	37	18	55	19	36	55
Overall Karnataka				4085	3711	7796	1670	956	2626	2415	2755	5170

Source: Field study

When comparing the literacy rate of eight village panchayats in Kollegala and Chamarajanagar taluks related to the scope of the study, Mahadeshwara betta has the highest rate. Punajanur is the village panchayat with the lowest literacy rate. In the overall gender literacy rate of Karnataka state, males have a 64% literacy dominance, while the female literacy rate is 36%. It can be seen that the literacy rate of women is lower than that of men. The overall literacy rate of Rampur Hobli is 36% male and 37% female. Village panchayats that were included in the study included Marthahalli (13.94%, Mahadeshwar Betta (66.49%) (both male and female). Secondly, the overall literacy rate of Lokanahalli Hobli is 68% male and 32% female, and under village panchayaths like Dinnalli (2.17%, Hugyam (3.89%), Uttur (10.81%), gender literacy can be seen. Chandakavadi hobli of Chamarajnagar taluk has a 67% male and 33% female literacy rate. Punajanur, which falls under village panchayat, has a literacy rate of 2.10%.

When comparing the literacy rate of 9 village Panchayats of Bhavani and Satyamangalam taluks related to the scope of the study Baraguru is the highest. Tigaluru is the village panchayat with lowest literacy rate. In the overall gender literacy rate of Tamilnadu state, males have a 72% of literacy dominance, while the female literacy rate is 28%. It can be seen that the literacy rate of women is less than that of men.

Table 8: Talukwise, Hobaliwise and Village panchayat wise Bedagampanar Literacy Rate of Erode District

				M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Erode	Bhavani	Andiyur	Baragur	5254	4759	10013	1206	425	1631	4048	4334	8382
	Satyamangalam	Kuttampalaya	Kuttampalaya	117	123	240	44	17	61	73	106	179
		Guttiyalur	Guttiyalur	538	475	1013	195	74	269	343	401	744
		Gundre	Gundre	607	570	1177	174	63	237	433	507	940
		Talawadi	Erattipalya	271	251	522	145	76	221	126	175	301
			Gerumala	181	169	350	109	50	159	72	119	191
			Talawadi	9	5	14	5	2	7	4	3	7
			Tigalur	51	38	89	18	3	21	33	35	68
			Hasanur	216	215	431	131	101	252	65	114	176
				728	678	1406	428	232	660	300	446	746
Overall Tamilnadu				7244	6605	13849	2047	811	2858	5197	5794	10991

Source: Field study

Overall literacy in Baraguru Gram Panchayat under Andiyur Hobli of Bhawani Taluk was 74% male and 26% female. Secondly, Kuttampalya of Sathyamangalam taluk is covered by Hobli, and the village Panchayat literacy rate is 72% males and 28% females, Guthiyalattur has Hobli and Gram Panchayat jurisdiction, , total literary rate is found to be 73% male and 27% female, the total literacy rate in Talawadi Hobli is 65% male and 35% female, and the villages that come under this are Erattipalya (33.49%, both male and female). Second, the gender literacy rate in Gerumala is 24.09%, Talawadi is 1.06%, Tigaluru is 3.18%, and Hasanur is 38.18%.

Table 9: Talukwise, Hobaliwise And Village Panchayath Wise Education Level Of Bedagampana In Chamaraajnagar District

Taluk	Hobli	Village	Primary			Secondary			Higher			PUC			Graduate			Other			
			M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	
Kollegal	Rampur	K. Hosur	3	1	4	4	2	6	---	---	---	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	
		Marthalli Mahadeswara Hill	69	53	2	71	65	6	57	23	80	1	6	17	3	-	3	6	2	8	
			40	29	69	39	23	63	20	29	8	1	10	--	--	--	1	1	1		
			2	0	2	2	8	0	5	92	7	5	9	4	7	-	7	2	4	6	
		47	34	81	46	30	77	26	11	37	9	2	12	1		1	1		2		
		4	4	8	7	5	2	2	5	7	6	5	1	0	0	0	8	6	4		
		Lokanahalli	Dinnalli	13	4	17	23	5	28	12	---	12	-	-	---	-	-	-	-	-	-
			Hugyam	27	15	42	32	12	44	13	---	13	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1
	Uttur		50	38	88	67	47	4	60	20	80	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Hanur	Hanur	90	57	14	12		18		20	10	2	1	3	1	0	1	1	--	1	
				7	2	64	6	85		5								-			
Chamaraj Nagar	Chandakavadi	Punajanur	9	4	13	22	7	29	6	6											
Overall Karnataka			573	405	978	612	376	988	334	141	415	99	27	126	11		12	21	6	27	

Source: Field study

Overall, the literacy rate among Talukwise and Gram Panchayat wise in the two states is 25%.75% are illiterates. Thus, considering the level of literacy, it is imperative that the Bedagampan community is inclined and focused towards education.

Table 10: Talukwise, Hobaliwise and Village Panchayath wise Education Level of Bedagampana Tribe in Erode District

Taluk	Hobli	Village	Primary			Secondary			Higher			PUC			Graduate			Other			
			M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	
Bhavani Satyamangal am	Andiyur Kuttampal ya	Baragur Kuttampal ya	47	23		43	13		26		31	2		3					--		
			5	7	712	2	4	566	3	51	4	8	2	0	5	1	6	3	-	3	
	Guttiyalur	Guttiyalur	12	8	20	23	9	32	9	---	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			73	35	108	80	26	106	32	13	45	8	-	8	1	-	1	1	-		
	Gundre Talawadi	Gundre Erattipaly a	49	26	75	82	27	109	39	9	48	4	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			49	30	79	50	33	83	38	13	51	7	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Gerumala	35	27	62	48	18	66	19	5	24	6	-	6	1	-	1	-	-	-	
			Talawadi	2	1	3	1	1	2	1	---	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
		Tigalur	3	2	5	10	1	11	4	---	4	1	-		1	-	-	-	-	-	
			Hasanur	43	29	72	61	47	108	35	19	54	9	6	1	5	3	-	3	-	-
				13			17	10				13	2		2		--		--		
				2	89	221	0	0	270	97	37	4	3	6	9	4	-	4	2	-	2
	Overall Tamilnadu			74	39	113	78	29	107	44	11	54	6		7	1		1		--	
				1	5	6	7	6	9	0	0	8	3	9	2	0	1	1	6	-	6

Source: Field study

Education Certificate of Bedagampana Community of Chamarajanagar District of Karnataka State at Primary Education Level is 38%, Secondary Education Level is 37%, Higher Education is 19%, PUC Level is 3%, Graduates are nil percentage, Other Education is 1%, and this is gender wise. The community of Bedagampanas is well educated up to high school level, but graduates, post-graduates, and other education levels do not achieve as much as claimed. Likewise, Table 10 shows that the education level of bedagampanas in Erode district of Tamilnadu state is low. When looking at the figures in the table, 40% are primary level, 38% are secondary level, 19% are higher education, 0% are undergrads and graduates, and 1% are other education. In this district also, the community of Bedagampanas is well educated up to the high school level, but graduates, post-graduates, and other education levels do not achieve as much as claimed.

It is found that literacy rates and educational attainment rates are higher in Kollegala, Chamarajnagar, and taluks of Erode in the Chamarajanagar district of Karnataka than in Bhavani and Sathyamangalam taluks of Tamil Nadu. Their agricultural activity is not very profitable. In addition, socially, this community is not in a good condition, so it can be said that they are backward in literacy. But landlessness, non-agricultural labour, unskilled labour, and some other social factors have their own influence and consequences. It is known from the study that the results may have affected the literacy development of these villages.

CONCLUSION

As a whole, the Bedagampana community is a forest-dwelling community. They are under the influence of other castes and have become gendered. Mahadeswara is their deity. They are socially, economically, and educationally very backward. Even after six decades of India's independence, they have not been included in any reservation list. Most of their villages are also deprived of basic facilities like electricity, transport, etc. Therefore, the government should focus on the all-round development of Bedagampana.

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