

DYNAMICS OF CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING IN TRIBAL ECONOMIES-

A STUDY OF NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCE MARKETING IN KERALA



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By

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CERTIFICATE

Certified that the thesis "DYNAMICS OF CO-OPRATIVE MARKETING IN TRIBAL ECONOMIES- A STUDY OF NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCE MARKETING IN KERALA" is the record of bonafide research carried out by Mr. Philip Thomas under my guidance. The thesis is worth submitting for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Social Sciences.

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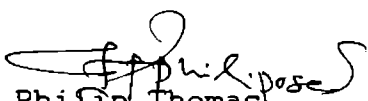
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DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis entitled "DYNAMICS OF CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING IN TRIBAL ECONOMIES- A STUDY OF NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCE MARKETING IN KERALA" is the record of bonafide research carried out by me under the supervision of Dr.M. Meera Bai, Lecturer, Department of Applied Economics, Cochin University of Science and Technology. I further declare that this has not previously formed the basis of the award of any degree, diploma, associateship, fellowship or other similar titles of recognition.

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DESIGN OF THE STUDY

CHAPTER I

DESIGN OF THE STUDY

1.1 Introduction

Tribes, the most down-trodden community of the country constitute a substantial segment of the Indian population. According to 1991 census they constitute about 8.01 per cent of the total population of the country. So far, about 250 scheduled tribe communities, speaking about 105 major languages and 225 subsidiary dialects have been identified in the country as a whole. They live mainly in hilly and forest regions, which are mostly inaccessible. Their economy is mainly agriculture and forest based. They produce food as well as commercial crops but not with an eye on market. But their stark realities of life force them to market a part of their agriculture produce. They also collect Minor Forest Produce (MFP) to make both ends meet. But the marketing system that existed was crude and exploitative. Hence the need for strengthening the marketing system with a view to help the tribals to enjoy their fruits of labour. This assumes significance particularly in view of the various developmental programmes contemplated by the Government in the tribal areas, with the objective of raising the income levels of the tribals. In the absence of a well organised net work of marketing system, the fruits of these developmental activities may not accrue to the tribals.

Keeping in view of the intensity of relations between the tribals and the forests, integrated development of the forest and forest dwellers have been rightly proposed by various bodies and individuals from time to time. Emphasis has been laid on this point in the reports of the Dhebar Commission (1961), the Harisingh Committee (1967), The National Commission on Agriculture (1976), The Conference of the state Ministers in Charge of Forest and Tribal Development (1978), The Working Group on Tribal Development during 1980-85 and The Committee on Forest and Tribals in India (1982).

Even though India was one of the few countries which formulated forest policies since 1894, it was only from the Vth plan period onwards that the relevance of Minor Forest produce (MFP) in the socio-economic development of the village/forest dwellers including tribals was emphasised. It was then onwards that MFP was integrated with overall development in the country under the tribal sub-plan in the 'United Agency Approach'. Since more than 80 per cent of the tribes are directly or indirectly attached with forests and it is they who possess the required talent to extract the various items of MFP, that most of the states in India including Kerala exclusively entrusted the right of collection of MFP to the tribes. But as per the recommendation of the Bawa Committee (1971) for an integrated approach to tribal development, the Tribal Co-operative Societies (TCS), are supposed to undertake all functions such as credit, collection

and marketing of MFP and other tribal products and distribution of consumer goods to tribes. The purpose was to eliminate middlemen/private traders from the tribal economy and to empower the tribal people to pursue a sustained and self-controlled economic activity in their day to day life.

Multi-purpose co-operatives exclusively for the tribals were started in Kerala in 1960s¹. As these societies were not re-financed by the Reserve Bank of India, the High Level Committee on Co-operative Credit in Kerala recommended to re-structure them on the lines of service co-operative societies. Initially, the tribal co-operative societies concentrated mainly on agricultural as well as consumption credit. But most of these loans became overdue and hence the functioning of most of the tribal co-operative societies remained paralised. But the recognition of the symbiotic relationship between tribes and forest and the introduction of collection and marketing of MFP through tribes and tribal co-operative societies by eliminating the contractor system gave a new impetus to the activities of Tribal Co-operative Societies of the state. The tribal life now centers round the Minor Forest Produce and the efficiency of tribal co-operative societies to fetch a better price for the tribal produce.

¹ Philip sabu and Paranjothi T., (1989), "Co-operative action for Tribal Development - Case Study of Attappady Co-operative Farminig Society Ltd., Agaly", Sahakaritha Samshodan, July-December, p.12.

1.2. Definition and Nomenclature of Minor Forest Produce (MFP)/Non-Wood Forest Produce (NWFP)/Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP)

In view of the importance of MFP in the creation of employment, generation of income and the ability to earn foreign exchange to the country, experts and researchers in this field differ on the nomenclature used for this branch of forest produce as Minor Forest Produce.

Minor Forest Produce (MFP) includes a wide variety of forest products such as medicinal herbs, edible plants, drugs, spices, insecticides, essential oils, fatty oils, gums and resins, fibres and flosses, bamboos and cane, beedi leaves, honey, lac and shellac and silk, etc. MFPs have been vaguely defined as forest products other than wood for timber, pulp wood and fuel. The nomenclature used by foresters was based on the meagre revenue earned by the forest department in comparison with timber and wood.

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pc According to the Kerala Hillmen Rules 1964², the term Minor Forest Produce is defined as "All Forest resources

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Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Kerala Institute for Research, Training and Development of SC/ST KIRTADS (1984), Training Programme for SC/ST youths in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Directorate of Extension, KAU, Thrissur, p.25.

except tree, bamboo, etc. cane and ivory" from Kerala forest. Accordingly 120 items (See Appendix I) from Kerala forest are designated as Minor Forest Produce.

Tirath Gupta and Amar Gupta³ and the Food and Agricultural Organisation⁴ in their work point out that this nomenclature (MFP) seems to be a misnomer with the gradual increase in value of MFPs in terms of their revenue, foreign exchange earning and capability of creating employment in the society. Tirath Gupta observed that the contribution of MFPs to total net revenue from the forestry sector in India increased from 30 to 40 per cent during the period 1968-69 to 1976-77. Similarly, average annual exports of MFPs accounted for gross foreign exchange earnings worth Rs.307 millions over a ten year period beginning 1967-68 and contributed more than 70 per cent to the total foreign exchange earnings from forest products. It has been estimated that current employment in collection of MFPs accounts more than 1.6 million man years, and the minimum potential employment in these activities were worked out to be over 4 million man years. But, current and potential employment opportunities available throughout the

³ Tirath Gupta, Amar Gupta, (1980), Non-Wood Forest Products in India - Economic Potentials, Centre for Management in Agriculture, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

⁴ Shiva M.P., (1992), "Production and Utilisation of MFP in India", Paper present in a National Seminar on socio-Economic Research in Forestry held at Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Thrissur on 18-20, May, Sponsored by Ford Foundation.

year was estimated at 68000 and 2,40,000 man years respectively. It has therefore been concluded that systematic efforts at harnessing these renewable resources would not only fruitfully engage some of the unemployed labour force in rural India, but also create conditions for dynamic and sustained change in the socio-economic fabric in general. Therefore, they pointed out that it is unfair on our part to call these products as Minor. They considered appropriate to use the term Non-Wood Forest Products (NWFP) in place of Minor.

According to Shiva⁵, the above nomenclature also does not appear appropriate as some woods obtained from Santalum album, Petro Carpus, Santalinus, Quebracho colorodo, Cedrus deodra yield the so called MFP. Therefore he suggested an alternative nomenclature as 'Multi-use Forest Produce (MFP). However he advocates the nomenclature given by Ford Foundation for Non-Wood Forest Products as Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP).

According to Campbell (1993)⁶, if the challenge of managing forests for multiple objectives is to be achieved, the distinctions of 'major' and 'minor' forest products must

5 Ibid...p.10.

6 Jeffrey Y. Campbell, (1993), "Changing Objectives, new Products and Management Challenges. Making the shift from major VS minor to many forest products" Paper present at the National Seminar on Forest Produce at Coimbatore.

be erased and the concern must focus on 'many' forest products.

Krishna Murthy (1993)⁷, points out that MFP creates an erroneous impression in the mind of a forester and unconsciously he feels that they are of minor importance and as such they do not deserve much attention.

According to Crucher Jack (1992)⁸, the term non-timber forest products encompasses all biological materials, other than timber which are extracted from natural forests for human use. General categories of NTFP of major importance include : fruit, edible oils, spices, herbs, fish and meat : medicines; fodder, fuel wood and charcoal; structural materials, such as rattan, bamboo poles, various fibres; chemically useful materials such as resins, essential oils, gums, latexes, tannins, and dyes; animal products such as honey, eggs, silk, reptile skins feathers and other decorative wild life products; live animals and ornamental plants.

⁷ Krishnamurthy T. (1993), "Non-Wood Forest Products - Their role in rural economy", paper presented at the National seminar on Forest Produce, Coimbatore.

⁸ Crucher Jack, (1992), Non-Timber Forest Products Commercialisation Feasibility Study for India and Nepal, A.T. international, 1331 4-street, NW. Swite 1200, Washington DC, 20005, USA.

The key point of distinction between these materials and timber is that the latter is harvested and managed on an industrial scale by and for interests well outside forest regions. While certain non-timber forest products may eventually become inputs for large scale urban based industries, all of them share the characteristic that they are extracted, using simple technologies by rural people living in or near the forests. The alternative label 'non-wood' is not precise since it excludes important material resources derived from the forests by rural people, such as fuel-wood, building poles and small wood for handicrafts and tools.

The present study supports the views of Tirath Gupta, Shiva, Krishnamurthy and the Food and Agriculture Organisation. So far only a part of the larger treasure of the forest wealth has been identified. If it can create this much amount of employment opportunities and bring a good amount of export earnings to the country, it is improper to call these products as minor. The researcher also supports the views of the above mentioned experts and name these branch products as Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP).

3 Theoretical framework of the study

The need to market a product is closely linked with the need to produce a product. Marketing in its developmental sense is expected to educate people, cultivate changes in

public attitude, spread civilization and improve the quality of life⁹. Marketing environment is a major factor that is to be considered while marketing a product from an area. Since the tribes are far away from the main tracts it is all the more applicable in the case of tribal economy. Two types of marketing environment have already been experienced in the collection and marketing of NTFP in the tribal economy viz, the informal marketing environment through contractors and formal or controlled marketing environment. Under these two systems, the tribals and the tribal products were subjected to exploitation mainly by the non-tribes. The informal system of marketing was followed till the co-operatives were started.

The tribal produce transfer existed even before the Britishers came to India. In those days, the tribes used to give gifts to Kings in occasions like festivals and birth days. A patron-client relationship existed in those days. The major gifts of those days were NTFP items like honey¹⁰, bark of trees, flesh of animals etc. In turn they were not in a position to get any gratification except the permission to live in forest without any disturbance.

⁹ Philip Kotler and Gerald Zaltman, (1971), "Social Marketing an Approach to Planned Social Change", Journal of Marketing, Vol.XXXV, Chicago, p.5.

¹⁰ Kunhaman. (1989), Development of Tribal Economy, Classical Publishing Company, New Delhi, p.42.

Britishers in an attempt to make India a wide market for their products, developed railways, roads and their system of education. All of them indirectly hit the tribal economy. Britishers did not make any effort to bring them to the mainstream of national life. Instead they used 'elimination technique' to administer the tribal area. Their life was moved around the forest and lived in the forest eco-system. Their economy was self-sufficient¹¹. However, the itinerant traders penetrated the tribal economy and exchanged their products mainly salt, arrack, beedi, tobacco etc. for NTFP on barter basis. The tribes were not in a position to know the value and use of their exchanged produces of NTFP.

Growth with social justice has been avowed as the objective of planned development in India. Immediately after independence, many measures have been initiated by the Central and State Governments to preserve their culture and improve the socio-economic conditions of the tribes in the country. Article 46 of the Directive Principles of the State Policy states

"the state shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and in particular of SC and ST

11 Kumaran, (1993), Kerala Tribal Land Act: Problems and Perspectives - An Emperical Study with Reference to Wayanad, Project Report Submitted to the Department of Law, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Cochin 22.

and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation".

During 1949-70 nearly about 18 Commissions and Study Groups have been appointed from time to time by the Union Government to study the different aspects of tribal life. As a result different policy measures have been adopted by the Government through five year plans. All along the plan period much stress was given on the income generating activities of tribes. But marketing which is as important as production for the development of tribals was totally neglected. The planners were seemed to be under the impression that the tribal produce would create its own competitive market. They failed to oversee the unscrupulous activities of contractors and traders who were competent enough to eat even the result of all developmental programmes for tribes.

The revenue-oriented forest policies¹² of the Government brought nationalisation of forest produce, reservation of forests, entrusting contractors to collect and market the NTFP. The single minded pursuit of commercial

Mishra K. Kamal. (1989), "National Forest Policy and Tribal Development", in Pati R.N. and Jena B.(eds.), Tribal Development in India, Ashish Publishing Company, New Delhi.

plantations also had grossly neglected the needs of tribals¹³. The tribals who formerly regarded themselves as lords of the forests, were through a deliberate process of law, turned in to subjects and brought under the control of forest Department. The traditional rights of the tribals were no longer recognised. In 1894 they became 'rights and privileges' and in 1952 they became 'rights and concessions'¹⁴ now it has turned to mere 'concessions'¹⁵. Introduction of contractor system to collect Non-Timber Forest Produce, forced the tribes to work as labourers of these contractors and extract NTFPs for them. The tribals did not have any right over these products.

Even after a long period of planning for tribal development the tribals are economically weak and socially exploited by contractors, middlemen, money lenders and petty traders due to the insufficient institutional arrangements for providing credit and marketing facilities for their agricultural and forest produces. Various Committees and Study Teams such as the Special Working Group on Co-operation

13 Rucha S. Ghate. (1988). Forest Policy and its Economic Impact on Tribals in Maharashtra, Ph.D Thesis submitted to Nagapur University.

14 Dube P.N., (1990), "Afforestation, Environment and Waste Land Development in Tribal Areas of Rajasthan", in Chaurasia B.P., (ed), SC and ST in India, Chugh Publications, Allahabad.

15 Singh, (1986). Common Property and Common Poverty, India's Forest, Forest Dwellers and Law, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, p.76.

for Backward Classes (1961), The Committee on Tribal Economy in Forest Areas (1962), the study Team on Co-operative Structure in Tribal Development Project Areas (1971), Study Group on Relief of Indebtedness, Land Alienation and Restoration in Tribal Development Agency Areas (1973) and the study Team on Marketing Credit and Co-operation in Tribal Areas (1978) have all repeatedly emphasised the significance of co-operativisation of the tribal economy in the country¹⁶.

In order to improve the operational efficiency of co-operatives in tribal areas, The Committee on Co-operative Structure in Tribal areas (1971) has recommended the organisation of new pattern of integrated credit cum-marketing co-operative societies (LAMPS) at the primary level, Federations at the state levels and TRIFED at the National level. Marketing co-operatives can exploit opportunities in the sphere and area of their operations through the establishment of clear goals and an effective organisation. Co-operative marketing societies are not only to ensure a higher price to the members but also at the same time to protect the consumers from the aggressive extortionary price policies of the private traders. Though it was accepted and implemented by the Government, the working of these

¹⁶ Mahalingam S., (1989), "Role of Co-operatives in Tribal Economy", Yojana, Vol.33, No.22, p.8.

institutional arrangement also showed a gloomy picture in the tribal scenario.

The co-operativisation of tribal economy of Kerala led to monopoly procurement and marketing of NTFP by tribes and Tribal Co-operative Societies way back in 1978¹⁷ (till 1987 the TCS were known as Girijan Service Cooperative Societies). Within the formal institutional arrangement, the tribes have no right to sell the collected NTFP to outsiders. They were forced to market the produce at the price fixed by the tribal co-operative societies under the floor price of the SC/ST federation. As per the system they were denied the opportunity to take advantage of the changed situation for their products. The Kerala Pharmaceutical Corporation¹⁸ and the Forest Department¹⁹ failed to fetch reasonable price for NTFP. It was observed that monopoly procurement by any organisation under the pretext of tribal development ultimately lead to the failure of the system. Even after the setting of SC/ST federation²⁰, it could not collect the entire

¹⁷ Government of Kerala, (1978), G.O. M.S.200/78/AD dt. 28-7-1978, Agriculture (Forest Misc.) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

¹⁸ Government of Kerala, (1978), G.O. M.S. 3.5/78/AD dt. 25.11.1978, Agriculture (Forest Misc.) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

¹⁹ Government of Kerala, (1981), G.O. M.S. 25/81/AD dt. 2-2-1981, Agriculture (Forest Misc.) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

²⁰ Government of Kerala, (1982), G.O. M.S. 4/82/AD dt. 21-1-1982, Agriculture (Forest Misc.) Department Thiruvananthapuram.

NIFP from tribes. It was observed that both these systems - formal and informal, were not fully accepted by tribal economy. Therefore it is argued that the monopoly collection and marketing of any product through any particular arrangement will limit the market. It also denies the opportunities for tribes to have good interaction with the society. The marketing system of the tribal economy is not the free play of demand and supply of products as the economists visualised²¹. The rhythm and periodicity of markets and social life of the people are closely enmeshed²². Since the tribal economy is inter-related and inter-locked²³, the land, labour and credit transactions of the tribal economy will also make a great dent in the product market to determine exchange relations. Tribal development would not be possible through water-tight compartment policies. A free market with proper control of co-operatives will enable the tribes to decide the time and place of marketing and to realise the full value of their marketed surplus. In an imperfect market situation with the active operation of intermediaries these choices of tribes get restricted and consequently they are handicapped in realising the full value of the marketed

²¹ Polanyi Karl, et.al., (eds.), (1957), Trade and Market in the Early Empires, The Free Press, Glencoe, Illinois.

²² Karve Irawati and Acharya Hemalatha, (1970), The Role of Weekly Markets in the Tribal Rural and Urban Setting, Deccan College, Pune.

²³ Kunhaman, (1989), Op.Cit.

surplus. Therefore, it is understood that existence of a closed institutional arrangement will not help the tribes to fetch a better price for their NTFP. It would be possible only when the tribes get a chance to contact the end-users directly. A competitive environment alone will fetch a reasonable price for tribal produce. It is possible only when we introduce an alternative system for tribal produce marketing i.e., regulated market for tribal produce marketing, where direct interaction between the suppliers and the end-users of NTFP would be possible and the co-operatives can act as a catalyst and watch dog for tribal development.

1. Statement of the Problem

A marketing system can be considered efficient and effective only if it caters to the needs of market targets and particularly those below the poverty line. It is unfortunate that the marketing system in India is not well developed and as a result a large section of the people in the rural and particularly in tribal areas are deprived of the benefits that come from an efficient marketing system²⁴. The tribal development approach and the designated programmes for tribal development gave great thrust only on the production oriented activities of tribes. But little attention had been given to

Rao I.M.K., (1988), Marketing in Tribal Economy, Inter India Publications, New Delhi.

the market orientation of tribal products. However the formal marketing arrangement i.e., the co-operative approach to tribal development and the monopoly procurement and marketing of non-timber forest produce through tribal co-operatives also did not pay much dividends to tribes. The tribes are still under the clutches of private traders. Some of the tribes even now consider the non-co-operative channel as the best channel to market their NTFP. It is a challenge to the existing formal institutional arrangement for the marketing of NTFP in Kerala. However, it is also observed that the tribal co-operative societies have also fallen as a victim to the strong lobby of private traders in the market to market their produces. Even though Kerala is very famous for the Ayurvedic treatment and about 887 Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units have already been registered in Kerala, and inspite of their high potential demand to collect the entire medicinal herbs from co-operatives, it was observed that the tribal co-operatives in the state - the real potential suppliers of NTFP- have failed to create a forward linkage with the end-users of this product. As a result, the tribes as well as the society at large are very much affected by the unscrupulous activities of the private traders.

On account of the low operations of the tribal co-operative societies and lack of co-ordination among other institutions for the collection and marketing of NTFP such as forest department, SC/ST federation, Oushadhi, Tribal

Department and Co-operation Department, almost all tribal co-operative societies have been incurring heavy losses²⁵ from year to year and the Tribal Co-operative Societies even find it very difficult to dispose their collected produce from tribes. Most of the tribal co-operative societies in the state are experiencing accumulation of stock of NTFP from year to year.

As an integrated approach to tribal development, the tribal co-operative societies are supposed to undertake all the marketing, credit, and consumer activities of tribes by bringing all the tribes under its umbrella. But it was observed that the tribal participation in their organisation is very low.

It can be understood from the foregoing discussion that the co-operative marketing system constituted for the procurement and marketing of NTFP have not been properly accepted by tribes in the state. Both the system i.e., the informal and the existing formal marketing arrangements have failed to fetch a reasonable price for NTFP and to check the exploitative practices in the tribal economy. The cooperative marketing system also failed to bring all the tribes under its umbrella for marketing of NTFP.

²⁵ Government of Kerala, Handbook on Co-operation, 1981-82 to 1991-92, Department of Co-operation, Thiruvananthapuram.

1.5 Objectives of the Study

The following objectives have been formulated for the study.

1. To assess the procurement and marketing practices of Non-Timber Forest Produce by tribes and Tribal Co-operative Societies and examine the role of co-operatives in liberating the tribes from the clutches of private traders.
2. To study the relative efficiency of marketing channels.
3. To analyse the inter-difference between tribes and regions in the collection and marketing of Non-Timber Forest produce.
4. To examine the forward linkage of tribal co-operative societies with the Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units of the state.
5. To examine the impact of marketing on employment and income of tribes and
6. To examine the extent of involvement of tribes in Tribal Co-operative Societies in policy formulation and implementation.

1.6 Hypotheses of the Study

The following hypotheses have been formulated for the study.

1. Monopoly power in procurement and marketing of NTFP lead to institutional inefficiencies, which result in low prices for the tribal products.
2. There is direct relationship between institutional network and employment opportunities for tribes.
3. Procurement and marketing practices are directly related to economies of scale.
4. There is significant difference in the price of NTFP under co-operative and non-co-operative channels.
5. There is functional association between Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing units and Tribal Co-operative Societies in the state.
6. Collection and marketing of NTFP by TCS generated substantial employment opportunities and income.
7. There is strong association between member participation and decision making in Tribal Co-operative Societies.

2.7 Methodology

The study is based on primary as well as secondary data. The primary data was collected from the Tribal Households, Tribal Co-operative Societies (TCS), Private traders, Forest Officials, Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units, Collection agents of TCS and Board of Directors of TCS. The secondary data were collected from published records of Department of Co-operation, Thiruvananthapuram; Forest Department, Thiruvananthapuram; Tribal Department, Thiruvananthapuram; State Planning Board, Thiruvananthapuram; The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives (SC/ST Federation), Thiruvananthapuram; The Pharmaceutical Corporation (I.M) Kerala Ltd (Oushadhi) Thrissur; and various other National institutions like Forest Research Institute DehraDun, National Social Science Documentation Centre (NASSDOC) New Delhi; Indian Social Science Institute, New Delhi, National Council for Applied Economic Research, New Delhi and the National Institute for Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad.

At the macro level, the co-operative management of WFP marketing was analysed by collecting data from SC/ST Federation, Thiruvananthapuram. The perception of committee members of TCS, tribes, collection agents of TCS and responses of officials of tribal department, forest department and SC/ST Federation were also collected through schedules.

Multi-stage sampling technique was employed in the sample design of the study. A detailed description of the sample designs at various levels are given below. The primary data for the study was collected during the period between February to May 1994.

1.7.1 Sample Design

a. Selection of Tribal Co-operative Societies

At first, Tribal Co-operative Societies which had a minimum of ten year service in the collection and marketing of NTFP were considered for the study from the four regions of the SC/ST federation viz. Thiruvananthapuram, Adimaly, Thrissur and Kalpetta regions. Secondly the average collection charge paid by these TCS from 1982-83 to 1991-92 (availability of secondary data) from a forest range to tribes was considered. Since there was inter-difference among regions about the availability of NTFP, each region was treated separately. Thirdly considering the range of payment of collection charge to tribes for NTFP, the TCS of each region was arranged in three classes- More Effective (ME), Effective (EF) and Less Effective (LE). Fourthly, three TCS from each region, representing one each from More Effective, Effective and Less Effective were selected randomly. Since there was only one TCS in Adimaly region which had a ten year record in the collection and marketing of NTFP and fourth rank

among the best NTFP collecting societies in the state, it alone was selected from that region. Altogether 10 TCS were selected for the detailed analysis of the study. The total number of TCS which were exclusively engaged in the collection and marketing of NTFP was only 30. Achencoil TCS (ME) Potomavu TCS (EF) and Njaraneeli TCS (LE) were selected from the Thiruvananthapuram region. The Adimaly region was represented by Adimaly TCS (ME). Malampuzha TCS (ME), Sholayoor TCS (EF) and Palappilly TCS (LE) represented the Thrissur region. The Kalpetta region was represented by Sultan Battery TCS (ME) Tirunelly TCS (EF) and Kannavam TCS(LE).

b. Selection of Tribal Households

Multi-stage sampling technique was employed for the selection of tribal households. Firstly, the number of tribal households who had been going for NTFP collection were identified with the help of secretaries of each TCS by examining the books and records of the society. Secondly through proportionate sampling method, ten percent of the NTFP collectors from each TCS was selected subject to a minimum of 15 tribal households from a TCS. Altogether 254 tribal households were selected, representing 55 tribal households from Thiruvananthapuram region, 75 from Thrissur region, 84 from Kalpetta region and 40 tribal households from Adimaly

region. While selecting the tribal households, due weightage was given to tribal communities also.

c. Selection of Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units

As per the records of the Drug Controllers Office (Ayurveda), Thiruvananthapuram, there were 887 registered Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units had been established in Kerala by 1993-94. Since there was no secondary information readily available to know the turnover of these institutions, five per cent of these units were selected for the study in consultation with the secretary Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufactures Association, Kerala. Since there was wide differences in the number of units registered among districts of Kerala, proportionate sampling method was employed to select five per cent of the total units for the study. Units such as the Kerala State Pharmaceutical Corporation (I.M), Kerala Ltd., Thrissur, The Kottackal Arya Vaidyasala, Kottackal, S.D. Pharmacy, Thiruvananthapuram, Nagarjuna Herbal Concentrates, Thodupuzha, Seetharam Ayurvedic Pharmacy, Thrissur etc. were a few among the 45 units selected for the study.

d. Selection of Collection Agents

Since collection agents appointed by TCS were a main link between the TCS and tribal households, a total of 25 of them were selected subject to a minimum of two from each TCS.

1.7.1 Selection of Forest Officials

Fourteen range officers in the area of operation of the TCS were covered in the study. Minimum one range officer from the area of operation of TCS was selected for the study.

1.7.2 Selection of Board of Directors

All the Board of Directors of the selected TCS were considered for the study. Altogether 41 members of the Board of Directors of TCS were interviewed subject to a minimum of 3 from each TCS.

1.7.2 Collection of Data

The primary data for the study were collected in three ways- Participatory observation method, schedule method and questionnaire method.

Participatory as well as schedule methods were employed to collect information from tribal households. Information such as the socio-economic conditions of tribes, their collection and marketing channels of NTFP, price at each channel, their participation with TCS etc. were collected through participatory and schedule method. Schedule method was also employed to collect information from collection agents, Board of Directors, officials of departments and

Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing units. However questionnaire method was employed to collect information from forest officials (Rangers). Even though questionnaire was sent to all the range officers in the area of operation of 30 TCS in the state, only 14 of them responded with the requisite details. Through a structured schedule, information relating to the collection and marketing of NTFP and the link between TCS and end-users of NTFP were collected from TCS.

1.7.3 Analysis of Data

The collected data were analysed by using appropriate statistical tools such as averages, indices and 't' test.

1.8 Scope of the Study

The study has covered the entire state of Kerala. The area of operation of the SC/ST Federation is divided into four regions viz. North (Kalpetta region), South (Thiruvananthapuram region), East (Adimaly region) and Central (Thrissur region). All districts of the state except Ernakulam and Alappuzha are covered by these regions (No TCS in Ernakulam and Alappuzha districts). Data relating to the collection and marketing of various NTFP's, its marketing channels, pricing etc. for the period from 1982-83 to 1993-94 were collected from TCS and tribes for the study. The study

also covered the end users of medicinal herbs such as 45 Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units in the state. In order to examine the linkage among different institutional arrangement for the procurement and marketing of NTFP, responses from forest rangers, collection agents of TCS, Tribal department, Forest Department and SC/ST federation, were collected and analysed in the study.

1.9 Scheme of the Study

The study is organised under nine chapters. The first chapter is the Design of the study. It covers the introduction, definition and nomenclature of NTFP, theoretical frame work of the study, statement of the problem, objectives, hypotheses, methodology, scope, scheme and limitations of the study. The second chapter reviews the literature. The tribal development in Kerala is discussed in the third chapter. The fourth chapter gives an over all view about the collection and marketing of NTFP at the international, national and state levels. Profile of the study region is depicted in the fifth chapter. Collection and marketing of NTFP by tribes, price spread under co-operative and non-co-operative marketing channels etc. are discussed in the sixth chapter. Chapter seven provides an overview of the demand of the Indian system of medicine and its linkage with Tribal Co-operative marketing societies in the state. Tribal participation in Tribal Co-operative societies and the responses of officials were

discussed in the eighth chapter. The last chapter presents the summary and conclusions.

1.9 Limitations of the Study

The study has the following limitations: Statistics relating to some aspects of the collection and marketing of TFP are scattered and inadequate. Secondly, the manufactures of Ayurvedic medicines were not willing to give data on several aspects of their firms. Thirdly, the limitations of tribal memory might have crept in the study and finally the exchange relations of product market with other segments of tribal life could not be established at the expected level.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The study on tribal economy was started way back in the 18th century. But most of these studies were in the area of ethnosociology or anthropology. Though the tribes have different products to market as a result of the various programmes for their development, little attention had been given by planners or researchers as to fact that the marketing alone would determine the purchasing power of the tribes. Even though the tribes collect various NTFPs from forest and market it through different channels, no specific work was done so far to examine the effectiveness of the system. However, the relevant literature available on tribal economy and their marketing of various products especially NTFP were collected and reviewed here under three heads: viz., 1) the Tribal Development Programmes and the socio economic conditions of tribes, 2) Tribes and forest and 3) the marketing in the tribal economy. The relevant literature connected with the tribal economy of Kerala and the marketing of products in the tribal economy were separately reviewed under the heading Kerala studies.

Tribal Development Programmes and Socio-Economic Conditions of Tribes

Verrior Elwin (1955) points out that the British, in an attempt to make India, a wide market for their produce, developed railways, roads, introduced their own education, all indirectly hit the tribal development. Britishers probably made an attempt to keep the tribals as museum specimen, segregated them from the rest of Indian people. With the advent of nationalisation of forest, tribals had been left with very nominal privileges and restricted rights to collect forest produce and to cultivatable patches lying within the boundary limits. Though forest villages had been established that also did not benefit them much.

Committee on Special Multipurpose Tribal Blocks (1960) found out that the tribal development programmes lacked a specific tribal bias, with the result that non-tribals residing within the project areas were benefited from the funds expended more than the tribals. The committee also pointed out that the officials in charge of the projects were more about spending the allocated funds more often on and elaborate buildings, than on meeting the urgent needs of the tribals.

The Report of the Commissioner of SC and ST 1962-63 (Part 1, New Delhi, 1965, p.81) pointed out that the size of holdings of SC and ST in the country was very limited and also the quality of land owned by these groups was much inferior. As regards the indebtedness of SC and ST, it has often been said that these groups are born in debt, live in debt and die in debt, despite several remedial measures initiated by Government during post-independence period. The report pointed out that mere allotment of land by itself might not help these weaker sections to come out of their backwardness, unless this land was made into an asset by providing necessary infrastructure facilities.

Bharadwaj (1979) points out that the allocations earmarked for SC and ST had not been able to create any significant impact on ameliorating the conditions of SC and ST. He stressed that very little effort had been made all round to evaluate and assess the impact of developmental programmes on improving the status and the conditions of SC and ST. The study observed that the tribals were not able to get a remunerative price for their produce from the traders while they had to buy the commodities of their need at exorbitant rates. Though he mentioned about problems like untouchability, woeful tales of atrocities, poor economic picture of tribes, under utilisation of plan-wise expenditure etc., none of these problems were studied factually.

Das B.Kumar (1986), in an article stressed two main points for the development of tribal economy: (1) The need for decentralised planning for economic and social development, and (2) Diversification of activities of tribes - need for establishing forest based industries. The article points out that the market mechanism in the complex town is beyond the comprehension of tribals. The tribal producers do not get a fair deal. The market is entirely controlled by marwadies, and dominated by middlemen. With the increasing tempo of modern economic activities the area of exploitation has also been broadened. Mostly tribal settlements are isolated, dispersed and inaccessible. Socio-economic conditions and resource potentials vastly differ from region to region in the tribal economy. This diversity necessitates a special type of planning at the micro level for the redressal of tribal poverty.

Hanumantha Rayappa and Mutharayappa (1986) in their study on Backwardness and Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes examined the asset ownership, employment, income, indebtedness and skill of SC and ST population. They pointed out that the attempts of the Government during the pre-independence period were mostly in the form of social reforms based on humanitarian principles. Organised attempts both at the national and state levels were made by the Government, since independence, in the light of constitutional

provisions. These attempts had not made any significant impact on the scheduled groups. The observations brings to light that still the socio-economic conditions of tribes are very poor.

Rao's (1988), study pointed out that there were 24 tribal communities dwelling in the agency areas of the district. But while framing the samples, the tribal differences were not noticed or not considered. When a consumer takes a particular course of activity, it is the result of many influences - cultural, social and economic. It is appropriately said that all social group influence on consumer behaviour start with the culture in which the consumer lives. But the present study fails in short of this major consideration which is very essential for tribal studies, since there is a very clear cut distinction existing between and among tribal communities. Therefore, an inter and intra and regional aspect in respect to tribes had also to be considered while framing the samples for the study. The study gave much thrust on the buying operations of tribes from different shandis. However, the researcher ignored the fact that the buying power of a tribal household was greatly influenced by his produce marketing.

Rao and Shankar Girija (1988), in their paper observed the reasons for the failure of majority of the

Programmes and strategies of Government for tribes. They pointed out that the authorities who were responsible for implementing the programme had failed to convince the beneficiaries to get involved in development programmes for whom the development activities had been formulated.

Dinesh Kumar and Deep Kishore Srivastava (1990) in their study concluded that the scheduled category had not been benefited fully by whatever the efforts made by the Government. The advantage was, not going to the really needy and poor people. The problem they pointed out was not scarcity of resources but mismanagement of resources available to the scheduled category. The agencies which were carrying out these programmes were usually involved in corrupt practices and did not pay proper attention to the advantages in the implementation of the programmes.

Baker David (1991) examined the tribal decline in the northern central Provinces between 1861-1920 and assessed the role of state policies and the market system in that process. He point out that increasing regulations governing the use of forests deepened tribal poverty and exposed them to further exploitation. Tribals were concentrated in or near forest areas, yet regulations deprived them of the use. The administrators attempt to impose an alien economic and social

system on the tribal community was an important element in its decline.

Naidu and Ramakrishna (1992) in their work pointed out the indebtedness of tribal people. They pointed out the indebtedness was the major cause of exploitation. The most important reason for their indebtedness was considered to be their dependence mainly on primitive agriculture and low level of economic operations. Their customs of marriage, death and religious ceremonies - which were generally beyond their means - further aggravated the deficit nature of their economy and compelled them to borrow.

Kerala Studies

Ayyappan (1948) made several systematic and scientific studies on the various tribes of Kerala. The socio-economic conditions of the aboriginal tribes of the province of Madras and a social and anthropological account of the Nayadies of Malabar were systematically prepared in his studies.

Krishna Iyer (1937) also did similar ethnographic work in the Travancore and Cochin area. He concentrated his study on the hill tribes, who were fast dying out or were getting detribalised. In the first volume he described seven

hill tribes, namely the Kanikkar, the Malakurumbar, the Malapandaram, the Malapulaya, the Malavedan, the Malayarayan and the Malasar. The second and the third volumes deal with the accounts of the tribes of Travancore. In a later study, he described the hill tribes of Kerala as pre-Dravidians.

Luiz (1962) has made a detailed study of the 48 tribes/communities of Kerala. He has discussed at length their mode of living, occupation, diet, religions, taboos, marriage and rituals. But no reference about the tribal products and their marketing was given.

Mathur's work (1977) was a descriptive study on the socio-linguistic evolution of the tribals in Kerala. In addition to providing valuable statistical information, the author has noticed some important problems of tribals of Wynad, like land alienation, bonded labour, and indebtedness in Attappady. Some general problems like non electrification, poor status of women etc. were also studied. The author has, however, just described the problems without analysing them and investigating the underlying factors.

Krishnan Nair (1986) in his article brought out two issues for tribal development:

1. The regulation of the Government and the forest policy of the state should be in accordance with economic system of tribes, and
2. The institutional arrangement for tribal development, i.e., Girijan Service Co-operative Societies should diversify the activities of tribes, train them in planting medicinal herbs in forests and teach them how to extract the MFP without losing the quality of the products.

Paul (1988) examined the problem of spatial disparity in the socio-economic standard to the hill tribes of Kerala with special attention on tribes of Wynad district. The study also analysed the problem from both inter-communal and intra-communal perspectives. The study proved that the spatial disparity had an influence in the socio-economic standard of the hill tribes and it also made some influence in the inter-communal and intra-communal aspects of tribes. The study claims that the developmental programmes undertaken by the various agencies of the government appear to have created exogenous pulls to the tradition-bound tribal economy for structural changes.

Kunhaman (1989) points out that the problems of the Scheduled Tribes of Kerala began to receive increasing

attention from planners and administrators only after independence. Several welfare and developmental programmes have been adopted both by the Central and State Governments to bring about the ultimate integration of these people in to the mainstream of national life. Nevertheless, by any standard, these people remain the most backward section of the society. However he does not go much ahead in establishing its findings with facts and figures.

Radhakrishnana Pillai (1991), in his study reveals that the intensity of tribals of Wynad on traditional system of medicines had declined. Indigenous health systems were discouraged and a new health culture was promoted that forced the individual to depend on modern drugs and other medicinal interventions. The study also proved that the health status among the tribals of Wynad were very poor mainly due to their social and economic disabilities.

Mohandas (1992), in his study revealed that the major economic impacts of large scale influx of settlers in the western ghat region was the progressive alienation of tribal lands. It also resulted in the destruction of common property resources like forests. At the same time it had influenced the tribal life in many ways. These relate to the structure of income, pattern of employment, extent of entitlements,

differential accessibility to public consumption, change in cropping pattern, extent of consumption of liquor etc.

II Tribes and Forest

The Dhebar Commission (1961), The Committee on Tribal economy in Forest Areas (Hari Singh committee 1967). The National Commission on Agriculture (1976), The National Committee on the Development of Back ward areas (1981) and the Reports of the Commissioner for SC/ST from time to time, stressed the need for considering the tribal economy with any of the programmes of forest as the tribes had a symbiotic relationship with forests. They also stressed for establishment of forest based industries for tribal development.

Jacob (1984) and Westoby (1987), highlight that large scale timber extraction from tropical forests has to be a process which do not lead to a considerable reduction in other economic and non-economic assets of the forest. Such assets include a wide variety of non-timber forest products. The role which these products play in the local economies of tropical regions has long been over looked.

Mohapatro Chandro Prafullo (1987), revealed that the numerous beliefs and practices of tribals were closely

associated with forests. Special sacrifices were made to the forests Gods before cutting a tree or before or after hunting. Their unhindered full rights over the forests and forests products since time immemorial has given them a conviction that forest is their own. The forest has thus become a part of their spiritual and economic heritage.

Ghate S. Rucha (1988), in her thesis examined the economic impact of forest policy on the tribals. The study pointed out that the dwindling forest cover has severely affected tribal dependence on forests and adversely affect their standard of living. Insufficient employment and low opportunities of self employment have forced the tribals to indulge in illegal activities like encroaching forest lands, illicit felling. At the same time, the revenue-oriented forest policy of the Government, by its single-minded pursuit of commercial plantations, has grossly neglected the needs of tribals. It seems that many forest officials are not aware of the tribal problems, and consider the forest dwellers only as labourers for forestry works. The privileges and concessions enjoyed by the tribals are considered as burden on forests.

Maheswari (1990), highlights that tribals are the repository of vast knowledge on the uses of biological materials which is often kept secret and is passed on by verbal traditions only. As the tribal scene in the tropics is

fast changing due to deforestation, there is an urgent need to prepare ethnobiological inventories and to evolve strategies for conservation of ethnobiologically important species and overall protection of the forests.

Melkania (1990), highlights that the essence of forest management is to raise productivity on sustained yield basis through an integrated approach on land, labour and capital. By pointing out the alarming rate of deforestation i.e. by 11 million hectares or by 0.6 per cent a year (study by FAO 1982), the analiser called for people's participation in forest management by making suitable changes in the present internal structure of institutional arrangement for forest management.

Panayoton Theodore (1990), brings to the concern that managing tropical forests only for timber to the exclusion or neglect of non-timber products may fail to maximise the social values of a scarce resource and to ensure its sustainability over time.

Rajaraja Varma (1990), in his article points out that tribals form an important part of the forest eco-system. What is needed is that any activity in the name of biosphere reserve should begin with a genuine understanding of the life styles and problems of the tribal people in the concerned

area. He stressed that the most important measure to ensure tribal welfare is providing them uninterrupted employment.

Indurkar Pushpa (1992), pointed out that there was close symbolic relationship between tribal people and forests. Considering their dependence on forest, they should be identified as part and parcel of forest. Therefore it was the duty of all agencies responsible for forest management including Forest Development Corporations to ensure their participation in the protection, regeneration and development of forests. Efforts should be made for the upliftment of tribal community through forestry oriented schemes.

Sanjeev Kumar Chadha (1993), observes that the tribals have a symbiotic relationship with forests and their dependence on MFP is all the more same. But with the mounting biotic pressure, efforts need to be done to maintain a continuous supply of MFP, thereby sustaining the tribal economy. Chadha argue that one important step in this regard is for MFP plantations in pre-dominantly tribal areas with their active participation.

Mathur and Shiva (1993), in their paper 'issues for MFP oriented, need-based forest management' stress the need for maintaining a satisfactory balance between protection of the resource and its use for the poor and forest -dependent

communities. The paper discusses the various impediments and draws attention for drawing up the action plans both in the forestry and the farming Sectors. The role of Minor Forest Products has been stressed in Forest management with more emphasis to switch over to MFP oriented management, especially in areas near habitations on compared to the timber dominated management erstwhile in vogue. Introduction of need based MFP dominated management has potential to help in alleviating poverty among the weaker sections of the society.

Tewari (1993), in his keynote address mentioned that "Tribal community in India (as well as in other parts of the world) largely occupy forest regions where for long periods in their history they have lived in isolation but in harmony with nature. They draw sustenance largely from the forest. Tribal life is connected one way or the other with forest right from birth to death. In time of distress like famine, forest are their last succour. Tribal life is profoundly affected with whatever happens to the forests. Forest represent for them a way of life: home: culture: worship: food and wherewithal: employment: and income. Local tribal community, which has symbiotic relationship with the forests, should be accepted as partner in the local forestry development efforts in each area. The new national forest policy has rightly recognised the role of minor forest produce in poverty alleviation and therefore, all attempts should be made for their regeneration,

collection, processing, marketing and scientific management for improving the ecology and economy of the country."

Kerala Studies

Muraleedharan and Shankar (1990) pointed out that interaction between human beings and natural resources were the core of any development process. An understanding of the reciprocal influences between these two systems was essential for evolving suitable policies for sustainable resource management and eco-restoration.

Kumaran (1993) in his study brings to our notice that the tribal communities depended on the forests as a resource and a source for living and food supply. Thus they had an almost self sufficient economy and depended on the outside very little. But now their situation is deplorable, for, in every aspect of life they are locked in a sub-human standard. Poverty and deaths due to starvation and diseases due to malnutrition are their eternal masters. One of the main causes for this murky state of tribal life according to the study was the unabated process of land alienation, which converts year by year a large number of tribal people landless. Thus land has become one of the main questions for Adivasi.

III Marketing in the Tribal Economy

Stine (1962) in his study on periodic markets expressed his opinion that most explanations for periodic markets and mobile trading have been developed in an economic pattern which is free from social and cultural factors. He felt that periodic markets are no doubt developed on economic principles but at the same time they are also influenced by the social and cultural factors of the people living in these settlements.

Belsha (1965), was of the opinion that markets did not originate as places for local subsistence producers to dispose of their surplus production, but they were the result of increasingly specialised division of labour and growing exploitation of regional resources.

Irawati Karve and Hemalatha Acharya (1970) observed that the weekly markets represent an agency of modernisation and urbanisation. Exchange is a feature that expands the area of interactions. The study pointed out that the market penetrated the tribal life long before the study as itinerant traders and money lenders made their way as soon as they thought it profitable. The rhythm and periodicity of market and social life of the people are closely enmeshed. Such socio-cultural factors do affect transactions in the market.

Rao Raghava (1973), made a study about the marketing of produce and indebtedness among tribals of Visakhapatnam District. The study pointed out that a part of the marketed minor forest produce also was flowing to the private agencies inspite of the monopoly rights of the Girijan Co-operative Corporation. This is because (1) the sellers are unaware of the market condition, (2) the corporation could not adequately link up credit with marketing and (3) the trader influences the tribal by timely credit and his personal touch in the transaction. The development programmes of the Tribal Development Blocks could not achieve the expected results as they are too sophisticated and unsuitable for tribal areas. The study also points out that the tribals prefer to sell their produce to the traders because of their long-standing contact and intimacy. The co-operatives and the corporation could not replace the private traders and money lenders in the marketing of produce and the supply of credit. The study has its own limitations. It did not consider the inter and intra differences between tribes in the marketing of produce. Much concentration was given on agricultural produce marketing. The role or the effort of each institutional agencies in the produce marketing did not touch properly. Minor Forest Produce includes variety of items. some are medicinal herbs and others are purely commercial in nature. There is difference in price also. The study did not make any attempt

to compare the price offered by co-operatives and private channels for different items.

Brously et.al. (1975) postulated that exchange systems and patterns vary with the type of society and are founded upon value systems that are shaped by cultural processes. They further observed that exchange patterns are among the most important social relationship which bind the society together, and they make an impact on all aspect of social life.

Bhati (1975) in his study observed that the tribals' agriculture was not market-oriented and the advantages of bulk selling was not obtained to them. A major proportion of 'surplus production' was sold in the village itself to the traders and hawkers and they received a price for their produce which was much less than the prevailing market rates.

Henry A. Walter's (1976) research was an initial attempt to bring empirical data to bear on the concept of culture and its possible impact on consumer behaviour. The study proved that the culture is an underlying determinant of consumer behaviour.

Hartman (1976), argued that intangible environmental benefit of a tree exceeded or outweighed the timber benefits from that tree.

Pareek (1977), indicates that Barter system was prevalent during the reign of Britishers in India in the tribal economy and often the merchants encouraged the tribal folk to buy varying fancy clothes, cosmetics and other things which they really did not need. The tribal people were habituated to borrow money for various requirements such as marriage, illness, purchase of cattle, land and seeds and to pay the interest on loans. The study also highlights that the attached agricultural labourer gets his payment in a lesser unit of weight or measurement, while in repayment he is made to give against a bigger unit of weight or measure.

According to Brian Morris (1979), tribal communities inhabiting the Western ghats maintained trade contacts with their agricultural neighbours. During the Sangam period, the Tamil Kingdom had trading relations with the Roman Empire. They exported peacocks etc. besides forest products like sandal wood from the Malabar Coast. The local chieftains and Zamindars had control over the forests and royalties were accordingly levied on such forest exports. Further more, services of the local tribal people were placed at the disposal of the Rajas or the members of the families of the chieftains when they went out on hunting expeditions.

Punalekar (1980), has made an elaborate study of the weekly markets in tribal areas of Surat-Valsad region of

Gujarat. His study was mainly concentrated on the variety or range of commodities brought for exchange, social composition of the traders, behaviour of tribals as sellers or buyers of commodities and the market participation of tribals belonging to different socio-economic background. The author classified the tribals into small and middle farmers and the landless. It was observed that the private merchants were making huge profits as there was no restriction on them for purchasing the minor-forest produce from the tribals. However, the study had its own drawbacks. Since there is inter and intra difference between tribes and regions in the collection and marketing of tribal product, it has not been considered in the study. The study also could not see or establish any exchange relations in the marketing of tribal products.

Gupta Tirath and Guleria Amar (1980), in their study assessed the current and potential contributions of Non-Wood Forest Products to (1) revenue, (2) employment, and (3) export earnings. They observed that a considerable number of NWFP, had not been identified, and very little efforts had been made for scientific management of the known resources.

Ghanshyam shah (1984), in his study points out that even though the tribes whose yield is insufficient for his own needs, sell a part of the crop immediately after harvest to petty shopkeepers or money lenders against their debt. But

the study is silent about the role of organised marketing arrangement such as co-operatives in the field of marketing or credit to tribes.

Rameshwar Singh, and Singh et.al., (1984), in their study made it clear that the marketing cost is very less when the product is marketed through co-operatives, as compared with the general marketing arrangement. In 1954, the Rural Credit Survey Report observed that of the 75 districts surveyed, only in 5, produce sold through co-operative exceeded 1 per cent of the total sales through all agencies. Even though the authors point out that the marketing cost in co-operatives is less, they failed in explaining the reasons for non-preference or non-marketing of products through co-operatives in the country.

Patil et. al. (1985), in their study examined the marketing efficiency of Co-operative organisation in the marketing of mangoes in Bombay city. Input output or cost benefit model could be used for analysing the efficiency. The study proved that the higher the layer, the lower would be the producer's share in consumer price that had to be paid by the consumer for the products.

Shah (1986), in his article stressed the importance of co-operatives for bringing about radical change in the

conditions of the tribal people. The tribal economy specially in the interior areas, is largely non-monetised and the centre of exchange is the weekly market place or 'hats', where a major portion of the transactions is carried on by barter. The tribals are exploited in this process mercilessly by traders, merchants and the moneylenders. Since the tribals require credit not only for his daily requirements but also for social functions, they suffer great exploitation at the hands of money lender-cum-trader.

John Gaikwad (1987), through his article points out that the MFP collection scheme has not been able to make a major headway in ameliorating the living conditions of the tribals mainly because (1) MFP quantity collection has gone down, (2) local processing could not be organised and (3) better price could not be obtained for the material sold in the market. The article also observed that there is an over-exploitation of accessible areas while the resources in more interior areas are likely to remain untapped. However, the authors observation was not supported with adequate facts and figures.

Rao Gopala (1987), in his study brought out the two channels of marketing of MFP in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The study had the following limitations:

1. The different MFP items and its share in the tribal income did not look in to.
2. The inter and intra differences between tribes and regions had not been considered in the study.
3. The study could not bring out the efficiency of each marketing channel for MFP.
4. The study was also silent about the reason for leaking the MFP in the hands of private traders.
5. The study was also not explained about the method by which the MFP had to be priced.

Christoph Von Furer - Haimendorf (1989), examined the relations between tribes and Government. The policy of non-interference and protection of British India enabled the tribal population to retain their land and their traditional life style. A small volume of barter trade between hills and plains were carried on by tribes men from the fort hills. No plains men were allowed to acquire land in the hills and the indigenous system of land tenure was retained virtually unchanged.

In terms of market size and pricing Khare (1990), noted that limited access to markets as well as great dependence on intermediaries, both Government and private, have a direct bearing in NTFP's prices. The cost of the produce as sold by the producer, whether to consumers or to

intermediaries, seems to have no relation to the cost of labour, inputs and transportation.

Mahalingam (1990), observed that the MFP collection, processing and marketing can generate a gainful employment of 10 million standard persons per year. The article covered the salient features of tribal marketing structure, institutional tribal market and basic constraint and policy implications required for tribal market. But how the present tribal marketing arrangement had helped the tribes in marketing of their various products would not be covered in the discussion.

Chambers et.al. (1990), argue that nationalisation was the primary reason for a decline in the production of NTFP in India. In spite of good intentions, they argue that nationalisation has become a disincentive to NTFP collectors. Nationalisation reduces the number of legal buyers, chokes the free flow of goods, and delays payments to gather, as Government agencies find it difficult to make prompt payment. This results in contractors entering from the back door, but they must now operate with higher margins required to cover uncertain and delayed payments by Government agencies, as well as to make the police and other authorities ignore their illegal activities. This all reduces tribal's collection and incomes.

Bapuji (1990), in his study on Tribal Development Agencies in Visakhapatnam District pointed out that the tribal development agencies - the T.D. Blocks, the ITDA and the Girijan Co-operative Corporation had come to stay. They were on the march to uplift the tribals through their package schemes. Even though, the tendency of these agencies was to concentrate on the agricultural development programmes, the delivery system of these programmes was not effective. Though the researcher suggested a change in the present pricing policy of which was not realistic enough to ensure remunerative prices to the tribals for their minor forest produce and agricultural produce, it was not properly supported with facts and figures.

Indra Kumar and Alok Kumar (1990), in their study point out that the Forest Corporation which is set up mainly to avoid the contractor system in the marketing of timber and other forest produce has failed to achieve the result. Apparently the forest corporation seems to have achieved this objective of eliminating contractor's agency from exploitation but in today's situation the middlemen become necessary components of timber and other forest produce trade, so the same contractors and middleman who were to be removed from the scene are very much there but in a new role as purchasers and agents under the state monopoly of forest produce trade.

There has only been a change of masters, from the erstwhile 'Maldars' (Forest contractors) to the Forest Corporation.

Mahalingam and Rajendran Vasanthi (1991), in their study observed that the agricultural practices in tribal areas were mostly subsistence in nature and were characterised by the production of food grains and millets. They were just sufficient to meet their own requirements at low living. However, to meet their urgent consumption needs, social purposes and to clear their old debts, would force them to sell the 'Surplus Agricultural Produce' in the market. The authors pointed out that the market places were not merely market places for products but also social centres around which most of the life of the tribals revolves.

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Prasad Mahesh (1991), strongly advocates market orientation to rural development. He points out that while in the case of extreme poverty, deprivation and destitution, it may be necessary to extend financial or material help for sometime, but to continue it on an ongoing basis for years together would make the population dependent on this package forever. Therefore, stress should be on helping the poor to engage themselves in the income-generating activities and giving a market orientation to the economy. The co-operative model can be successfully replicated to market the products.

Das (1992), pointed out that planning of sustainable utilization of the forest resources has become mandatory to meet the economic needs and environmental security of the people. Therefore correct valuation of the forest wealth has become important which will guide us in taking decisions for a sustainable utilisation of the forest resources. He also observed that the structure, operation channels and conditions of the market for NTFP's are crucial for determining the value of the timber and NTFP's.

Bawa and Hall Pamela (1992), observe that the efforts to value NTFPs have two basic aims. One is to show that the value of NTFPs on a per hectare basis can exceed or equal the value obtained from on-sustainable extraction of timber or conversion to other land uses. The other is to demonstrate that a system based on utilisation of NTFPs can provide rural communities as well as forest dwellers with supplemental income and lead to their participation in conservation of bio diversity.

Kumari Punam and Sinha (1992), in their study point out that the MFP collection scheme has not been able to make a major headway in ameliorating the living conditions of the tribals. The reasons they attributed were (a) MFP Quantity collection had gone down (b) Local processing could not be organised and (c) better price could not be obtained for the

materials sold in the market. They point out that over exploitation of accessible areas, untapping of MFP's from interior areas and unscientific and indiscriminate exploitation of MFPs have been making serious inroads into our resource base. Processing is essential for enhancement of value which can be done stage wise - at the household level, at the society level and finally at the apex level. Processing can be a great source of employment for the tribals and would prevent much of the migration from among the tribals. Improved storage techniques need to be evolved by scientific methods. However, the study did not touch the role of institutional arrangement in the procurement and marketing of MFP.

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Mahalingam (1992), through his paper pointed out a lot of institutions in the organised sector for marketing the tribal products. But he failed in projecting the efficiency of these institutional arrangements in the marketing of tribal products. The article also pointed out that the imperfect marketing system in the tribal areas also led to the development of a pernicious social system called 'gothi' or bonded labour. But none of his arguments were supported by clear evidence.

Godey Ricardo and Lubowski Ruben (1992), critically examined the different methods of valuing of NTFP in tropical

regions. The work brought out the problems like this incompatibility of different results, failure to value wild life, lack of attention to sustainability etc. They highlight that the most accurate method of valuing the goods taken by people from the forest is to count, weigh, measure and value them as they enter the village each days.

Bawa Kamaljit (1993), brings to light that the sustainability is the critical but ignored issue in the exploration of NTFP's. If the extraction rates of NTFP's from natural forests are not sustainable over time, then the often proposed linking of conservation of biodiversity with multiple use of tropical forests through harvest of NTFP is untenable. It is not the harvester's interest to harvest sustainably since short term gains can always potentially exceed gains made from sustainable extraction if market costs do not incorporate environmental costs of harvest (eg. loss of environmental services etc.). Hence the researcher argued that the economic as well as the ecological sustainability must be considered while valuing the price of NTFP. He gave more stress on ecological sustainability in the valuation of NTFP.

Marothia K. Dinesh (1993), made an overview of co-operative management of Minor Forest Products (MFP) in Madhya Pradesh. The study concludes that the current states

of co-operative management seems to be 'Government oriented co-operate network,' and hence co-operation has not been able to provide substantial benefits to the members except to ensure proper wages. The quantity of MFP's collection has also been fluctuating over the years due to government policies and natural calamities. The primary co-operative societies are poorly equipped with infrastructural facilities and members do not have much participation except to collect MFPs and dispose it of.

Chandrakanth and Lokamanya (1993), point out that the gatherers of the forest based medicinal tree parts, who formed the prime source of supply of the medicines were reported to receive a very small proportion of the consumer price. This calls for market regulation to reduce the unhealthy market practices for the healthy promotion of the system of forest based Indian system of medicine.

Shiva (1994), through his article indicates that quite skillful forest management is essential to harness the MFP resources for rationalising the status of tribals in the pountry. In addition to MFP-based industries, tribal areas have great opportunities to develop wood based industries like pod carving, toy making, sports goods industries and industries for makings tool handles, agriculture implements, pencils etc. The improvement in the quality of life of the

tribals thus will, not only go a long way in ameliorating their own lots but will also provide good quality finished products for the use of rural and urban population as well, if appropriate marketing avenues will be created.

Kerala Studies

From the available literature it appears that the first information about the South Indian tribes was provided by Edger Thruster (1907) in his monumental six volumes work during the pre-independence period. In volume II he mentioned that the Irular of Chigleput exchanged fire wood in return for price, rice, and sour fermented rice gruel which was kept by higher classes. Though volume IV make some references about the tribes of Wynad, Calicut and the Ernad Taluk of Malabar and the different products of tribes, the volume does not mention anything about how these products were being sold by them.

Ethrenfels (1952), had held that the advent of the contractors at the beginning of the century had changed the Kadan food gathering subsistence economy to the collection of forest produce for Barter. Ethrenfels, for example, maintained that the Kadans of Cochin were "isolated in their forests" for a long period and were not influenced by the plains' culture. Brian Morris holds that there is "ample

evidence to show that the external trading contacts had been going on since earlier times among South Indian hunter - gathering communities - the Kadar, Paniyan and Hill Pandaram".

According to Mathur (1980), the collection and marketing Minor Forest produce plays a very important role in the cultural and economic life style of cholanaicken of Kerala. They collected forest products for barter and falls under three categories. Firstly, there is illicit barter of honey which is common in interior forests. Secondly pepper, cardamom and ginger were sometimes bartered with the local Muslim traders. Finally, there is the barter of minor forest products through Muslim contractors. Since the contractor has the exclusive right to collect the minor forest produce, the cholanaickans are obliged to sell their collections at a nominal price. They cannot influence these prices as "they have to be accepted on a take it or leave it basis".

Conclusion

While reviewing the various studies on tribal economy and the marketing of NTFP, it is understood that little importance had been given either by the researchers or by the planners to bring together these two arena to examine the socio-economic improvement of tribes in the country. The tribal life is more attached with the forest economy. A

symbiotic relationship exists between forest and tribal life. Even though we created organised institutional arrangement i.e., co-operatives, for marketing the tribal produce particularly NTFP, so far no attempt has been made to examine the effectiveness of the system. The inter and intra difference of tribes and regions in the collection and marketing of medicinal as well as non-medicinal items of NTFP and the forward and backward linkages of organised institutions for tribal development and tribal participation in their own institutions etc. had not been covered in any of the studies under review. Therefore the present study is an attempt to fill the gap.

TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT IN KERALA

CHAPTER III

TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT IN KERALA

Tribes in Kerala account for 1.1 per cent of the total population (3.21 lakh as per 1991 census) of the state and are mostly concentrated in Wayanad, Palakkad and Idukki districts. Even though 45 communities have been identified as tribes in the state, so far only 35 tribal communities (Appendix II) have been notified as scheduled tribes under the provisions of the Indian constitution. The tribal people of Kerala, like their counterparts as elsewhere in India, live in the midst of poverty, suffering and exploitation in every sphere of their life. Being the most backward community, their economy is characterised by land alienation^{1,2,3}, indebtedness, exploitation, bonded labour system and poverty. Over the years the Central and State governments have initiated a number of measures to ameliorate their economic conditions and to preserve their culture. However, these measures have been sporadic and lack an integrated approach.

Mathur P.R.G., (1977), Tribal Situation in Kerala, Kerala Historical Society, Thiruvananthapuram.

Kunhaman M., (1989), Development of Tribal Economy, Classical Publishing Company, New Delhi.

Mohandas M., (1992), Impact of New Settlers in the Western Ghat Region - on the socio-economic conditions of the Tribal Population, The case of Wayanad District in Kerala, Report of the Research Project Sponsored by Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur.

.1 District-wise Tribal Population of Kerala

Table 3.1 depicts the district-wise Tribal population of Kerala.

Table 3.1
Tribal Population of Kerala- District-wise
(from 1961 to 1991)

S. No.	Name of Districts	1961	1971	1981	1991	% 1961-91
.	Thiruvananthapuram	9784 (4.6)	11059 (4.1)	14145 (5.4)	16181 (5.3)	1.67
.	Kollam	3799 (1.8)	3737 (1.4)	7442 (2.8)	3884 (1.2)	2.82
.	Pathanamthitta	--	--	--	6922 (2.1)	
.	Alappuzha	584 (.002)	435 (.001)	3273 (1.3)	2801 (0.9)	2.82
.	Kottayam	21391 (10.1)	23172 (8.6)	15227 (5.9)	17996 (5.6)	-1.03
.	Ernakulam	10030 (4.7)	11648 (4.3)	3551 (1.3)	4941 (1.5)	1.80
.	Idukki	--	--	38712 (14.9)	50269 (15.6)	
.	Thrissur	5878 (2.7)	9383 (3.5)	3227 (1.2)	4051 (1.2)	-1.96
.	Palakkad	20433 (9.6)	25594 (9.5)	28794 (11.0)	35465 (11.0)	1.90
0.	Malappuram	--	8882 (3.3)	7955 (3.0)	10555 (3.3)	1.72
1.	Kozhikode	69958 (32.9)	84982 (31.5)	3888 (1.5)	5407 (1.7)	1.95
2.	Wayanad	--	--	95557 (36.5)	114969 (35.8)	

3. Kannur	70905 (33.5)	90464 (33.6)	39704 (15.2)	18243 (5.7)	-1.83
4 Kasargod	--	--	--	29283 (9.1)	
	212762 (100)	269356 (100)	261475 (100)	320967 (100)	1.3

Source : 1. Census of 1961, Special Tables for SC/ST Kerala, Vol. VII, Census Commissioners Office, Thiruvananthapuram.

2. Census of India 1971, Special Tables for SC/ST, Kerala Series 9, Part VA. Census Commission Office, Thiruvananthapuram.

3. Census Of India 1981 and 1991., special Tables for SC/ST Census Commission Office, Thiruvananthapuram.

Note : 1. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to column total.

2. The compound growth rate indicate change in population from 1961 to 1991.

Table 3.1 indicates the district-wise tribal population of Kerala and its compound growth rate over a period of 30 years. During 1961, there were only nine districts in Kerala where the highest tribal population was accounted in Kannur District (33.5%) and the least in Alappuzha District (.002%). The Malappuram District was formed in 1969 and, of the 10 districts in 1971, the highest share tribal population was accounted to again to Kannur District (33.6%). The Idukki and Wayanad districts were formed in 1972 and 1982 respectively. The Wayanad district was formed by clubbing certain areas of Kannur and Kozhikode

districts of the State. Thus the highest share of tribal population of 1981 census was found to be in Wayanad District (36.5%). The Pathanamthitta and Kasaragode districts were formed in 1982 and 1984 respectively. According to 1991 census, of the total 14 districts of Kerala, still 35.8 per cent of the state's tribal population inhabits in Wayanad district. The compound growth rate of tribal population in the state for the period 1961 to 1991 is 1.3 per cent. But it showed a declining compound growth rate (0.2%) between 1971 and 1981. Among districts, negative growth rate was accounted in Kottayam, Trichur and Kannur districts.

Table 3.2 points out that more than 10 per cent of the district population of Wayanad, Palakkad and Idukki are tribes. Wayanad district is considered to be the most thickly tribal populated district in Kerala where 35.82 per cent of the population are tribes. Therefore in any blueprint for district development, adequate attention must be given to tribes. The sex ratio of tribes in Kerala is 996 as against the state level sex ratio of 1036. However, the sex ratio of tribes at the all India level remains to be 972 (1991 Census).

Table 3.2
District ST Population as Percentage of State
ST Population 1991 Census

Sl. No.	Name of District	Male (Nos)	Female (Nos)	Total	District ST Population as % of State ST Population
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	7860	8321	16181	5.03
2.	Kollam	1943	1941	3884	1.21
3.	Pathanamthitta	3459	3463	6922	2.16
4.	Kottayam	8902	9094	17996	5.62
5.	Alapuzha	1407	1394	2801	0.87
6.	Ernakulam	2551	2390	4941	1.54
7.	Idukki	25512	24757	50269	15.66
8.	Thrissur	1990	2061	4051	1.26
9.	Palakkad	17927	17538	35465	11.05
10.	Malappuram	5213	5342	10555	3.29
11.	Kozhikode	2654	2753	5407	1.69
12.	Wayanad	57386	57583	114969	35.82
13.	Kannur	9167	9076	18243	5.68
14.	Kasargod	14841	14442	29283	9.12
Total		160812	160155	320967	100.00

Source : Government of Kerala (1994), Tribal Sub-Plan, Annual Plan 1995-96, Directorate of ST Development, Thiruvananthapuram.

3.2 Tribal Communities of Kerala

Thirty five tribal communities of Kerala have been designated as Scheduled Tribe. It includes Paniyans, Adiyans, Arandan, Kadar, Kurichiyans, Irular, etc. The predominant among them are Paniyans and Irulas. They inhabit in the

districts of Wayanad, Kozhikode, Malappuram and Palakkad. In addition to the above classifications, tribes such as cholanaickens, Kurumbars, Kadars, Kattunaickens and Koragas were designated as primitive tribes. But it is observed that the tribal community cholanaickens so far not included either in the Scheduled Tribe or other eligible communities lists. Of the tribal communities, only 9 are considered as numerically⁴ important. They are Paniyar, Irular or Irulan, Maratti, Malayarayar, Kurichiyan, Kurumans, Kanikkar, Ulladan and Muthuvan. In between 1961 and 1971, 38 tribal communities were declared as scheduled tribes. But in the 1981 census three of the communities viz. Pulayan, Vishavan and Malayekandi were deleted from the existing list. This was on the plea that the enumerators could not locate any member in the Vishavan community, it had been deleted from the reserved ST list of 1976, which formed the basis for 1981 census. It might be one of the reasons for showing a lower ST population in 1981 as compared to 1971. But the report of the Socio-economic survey of tribals in Kerala brought to light that the Vishavan community still exists with 237 members. As per the report, the tribal population had declined by 25.7 per cent in 1976-78 as compared to 1971 census. (1976-78- tribal population was 2,00,042). This phenomenon raised some doubt

⁴ Number of tribal population in each community if exceeds 10,000 is considered as a numerically important tribal community.

in the researcher that whether any natural extinction has started in the tribal community.

3.3 Domination of Tribal Communities in the District of Kerala

Formation of the state and the division of the state into different districts horizontally left the tribal population scattered in all districts of Kerala, mostly in hilly areas. The population growth and the resultant migration of people from one place to another in search of better living also resulted in the scattering of tribes especially in hilly tracts. The horizontal division of the districts even did not grant them a district exclusive for their development and put the same tribe who speak the same dialect, having same socio-economic conditions in separate geographical locations. Wayanad is the only district in Kerala where all the tribes are living in rural areas. Table 3.3 highlights the domination of tribal communities in the districts of Kerala.

Table 3.3
Domination of Tribal Communities in the
Districts of Kerala

Sl. No.	Districts	Majority		IInd Majority	
		Tribal Community	% Dst. ST population	Tribal Community	% Dst. ST population
1.	Kannur*	Marati	55.9	Paniyan	22.4
2.	Wayanad	Paniyan	42.9	Kuruman	21.2
3.	Kozhikode	Paniyan	50.8	Kurichian	26.8
4.	Malappuram	Paniyan	62.0	Muduger/ Muthuvan	16.7
5.	Palakkad	Irular	64.0	"	7.6
6.	Thrissur	Malayen	27.0	Ulladen	20.0
7.	Ernakulam	Ulladan	69.3	Malyarayar	7.8
8.	Idukki	Malayarayar	32.4	Muthuvan	18.8
9.	Kottayam	Malayarayar	40.7	Ulladan	19.4
10.	Alappuzha	Ulladan	80.4	Malayarayar	6.1
11.	Kollam	Ulladan	21.5	Malayarayar	16.8
12.	Thiruvananthapuram	Kanikkar	88.8	Malivedan	2.4

Source : Compiled from census of India - 1981

* Since the formation of kasargod district, Kannur district is dominated with paniyan population. All Maratis happened to be in Kasargod district.

Table 3.3 shows that even though there are 35 tribal communities in the state, only eight tribal communities have dominated in the state (1981 census). While the northern part of Kerala is dominated by the Paniyans, the southern part is dominated by various tribal communities such as Kanikkar and Ulladan. It is also observed that there was no district in

Kerala which possessed any single tribal community as its tribal population. Since there is inter and intra difference between and among tribes and tribal communities, a common yardstick in planning for tribal development is not found to be praise worthy.

3.4 Age and Sex Composition of ST Population of Kerala

Table 3.4
Age and Sex Composition of ST Population of Kerala

Age-group	Male	Female	Total
Under 4	16386	16506	32892 (12.58)
5-9	18022	17540	35562 (13.60)
10-14	17121	15963	33084 (12.65)
15-19	13030	14028	27058 (10.35)
20-49	50933	52010	102943 (39.37)
50-59	7313	6725	14038 (5.37)
60 and above	8465	7433	15898 (6.08)
Total	131270	130205	261475 (100)

Source : Census 1981.

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage to column total

Table 3.4 depicts the age and sex composition of ST population of the state. The table points out that 49.18 per cent of the total tribal population falls in the category of below 19 age group and 39.37 per cent comes under 20-49 age

oup which can be treated as the work force in the tribal community.

5 Literacy of Tribes

In all the five year plans, priority was given to educational development of the Scheduled Tribes. The main reason for the very slow spread of education among the Scheduled Tribes is the peculiar nature of their habitations. Majority of the Scheduled Tribes are living in remote areas far away from educational institutions. The socio-economic conditions prevailing in the tribal settlements are not conducive for studies. Lack of sufficient educational institutions in tribal areas, their poverty etc., curtailed effective educational development among Scheduled Tribes. However, the literacy rate of the tribes in Kerala is far ahead of the tribal areas in India and even higher than the literacy rate of the total population of the country (52.19 per cent). Table 3.5 depicts the literacy rate and change of literacy rate of the tribes of Kerala from 1961 to 1991.

Table 3.5
Literacy of Scheduled Tribes of Kerala
from 1961 to 1991

(Figures in Percentage)

Sl. No.	District/State	1961	1971	1981	1991
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	23.32	42.17	58.06	74.00
2.	Kollam	24.22	32.59	50.30	62.42
3.	Alappuzha	47.08	60.23	53.71	74.48
4.	Kottayam	31.14	38.44	73.63	88.69
5.	Idukki			43.35	62.78
6.	Ernakulam	38.57	45.12	52.6	76.96
7.	Thrissur	22.97	25.06	29.9	51.40
8.	Palakkad	4.46	7.13	12.04	34.87
9.	Malappuram		13.67	16.33	43.93
10.	Kozhikode	13.36	23.24	21.45	52.36
11.	Wayanad			14.24	50.63
12.	Kannur	15.67	25.52	33.18	58.61
13.	Pathanamthitta				73.21
14.	Kasargod				66.38
	State	17.26	25.72	31.79	57.22
	State's General Literacy		60.42	70.42	89.81

Source : Census of India 1961, 1971, 1981 and 1991.

Table 3.5 indicates that the level of literacy has increased from 17.26 per cent in 1961 to 57.22 per cent in 1991. Among the different districts, the highest tribal literacy was noted in Kottayam district (88.69 per cent) which was declared as the cent per cent literate district in the state. Palakkad seems to be the district with lowest tribal literacy in the state.

The major chunk of the non-plan provision of Scheduled Tribes Development Department is being utilised for educational development activities including scholarships, boarding and lodging charges and incentives to parents. During 1993-94, 63170 pre-metric scholarships and 2596 post-metric scholarships have been distributed⁵. During 1994-95, Rs.563.21 lakhs has been budgeted for these purposes under non-plan expenditure. To facilitate the tribal educational programmes the state at present conducts 30 Balawadies, 14 Nursery Schools and 115 Tribal hostels⁶.

3.6 Occupational Status

According to 1991 census, 46 per cent of the Scheduled Tribe population are workers. Agriculture or provides employment to 88 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes. More than 55 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes are agricultural labourers, while the cultivators constitute 16.66 per cent. Livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantation provide employment to 15.47 per cent of the total work. The non-agricultural sector like household industry (.47), services (2.96), construction (.48), Trade and commerce (1.38) transport storage and communication (1.50) and other services

⁵ Government of Kerala (1994), Tribal Sub-Plan : Annual Plan 1995-96, Directorate of Scheduled Tribes Development, Thiruvananthapuram.

⁶ *ibid.*, pp.28-31.

(5.28) together provides 12 per cent of employment

A comparative analysis of the occupational status of

tribal population of the state from 1971 to 1991.

Table 3.6.

Table 3.6
Occupational Status of Tribal Population of Kerala
1971 to 1991.

Sl.No.	Occupation	Figures in Percentage		
		1971	1981	1991
1.	Main workers	41.55	40.53	40.28
2.	Marginal workers	--	4.72	5.76
3.	Non-workers	58.45	54.75	53.96
4.	Work participation Rate %			
	Total Tribes	41.55	45.25	46.04
	Male	50.71	53.84	55.14
	Female	28.99	36.60	36.90
5.	Percentage of workers			
	Cultivation	18.42	18.39	16.66
	Agricultural labour	63.31	51.47	55.47
6.	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting etc.	NAS	NAS	15.47
	Other Sectors	18.27	30.14	12.4

Source : Figures for 1971 and 1981 compiled from the census report 1971 and 1981 and for 1991, from the primary census Abstract for SC/ST published by the census Directorate, Kerala

Note : Other sectors include mining and quarrying manufacturing and processing, servicing and repairing in household industry and other industries, construction, Trade and commerce, transport, storage and communication. In all the above cases, the work participation state was marginal (less than 3 per cent).

AS : Not Available separately

Table 3.6 shows that the proportion of Scheduled Tribe cultivators has been decreasing over the years. It is mainly due to the alienation of land⁷ and other kinds of exploitation. Consequently the proportion of agricultural workers has been increasing. This calls for a sound agricultural policy and wage policy in the tribal predominant areas. The proportion of workers depending on non-agricultural sector for their livelihood is only 12 per cent, which calls for a thorough reform in the education system for tribes. Though we claim that 57 per cent of the tribes are literate, the formal education, is only to less than 10 per cent. It is also observed that 53.96 per cent of the tribes are unemployed. Unemployment situation is grave among females (63 per cent).

3.7 Size of Land Holdings

Land possession is an important indicator of the socio-economic status of the tribals of the state. Most of the tribals depend on land for their livelihood. According to 1981 census, 40 per cent of the Scheduled Tribe population are workers as against 26.7 for the total population of the state.

Table 3.7
Distribution of Tribal Households by size
of land holding (Percentage)

Sl. No.	District/State	Below 4 hecets. of land				Above 4 hecets. of land
		No Land	Below 2 acres	2-4 acres	4-10 acres	
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	0.46	0.09	0.46	19.39	79.60
2.	Kollam	3.39	3.03	4.81	45.05	45.72
3.	Alappuzha	23.80	18.20	48.10	9.70	0.20
4.	Kottayam	5.37	4.75	8.31	24.78	56.79
5.	Idukki	10.03	0.37	1.32	13.62	74.75
6.	Ernakulam	16.71	10.68	48.23	14.52	9.86
7.	Thrissur	12.77	5.88	29.08	36.13	16.14
8.	Palakkad	20.31	17.34	5.55	8.65	48.15
9.	Malappuram	25.01	13.89	30.32	15.98	14.80
10.	Kozhikode	40.25	10.89	8.01	17.40	23.45
11.	Kannur	52.34	1.29	7.43	17.52	21.42
	State	29.62	6.63	8.16	17.34	38.25

Source : Government of Kerala, (1991) Notes on Schedule Tribes Development in Kerala, Directorate of Scheduled Tribes Development, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.7 shows that 29.62 per cent of the tribal households are landless. The highest number (40.25) of landless tribes could be seen in the former Kozhikode district which includes Wayanad also where the highest number of tribal population of the state inhabits. It is observed that 70.38 per cent of the tribal households hold their own land. Of the total tribal population, 38.25 per cent holds land above 4 hectares. The highest holding could be seen in Thiruvananthapuram district where the percentage of landless households is only 0.46. According to the socio-economic survey (1976-78), 29172 tribal families possessed 66646 acres

land of which 73.3 per cent is cultivated. Idukki District counts 17 per cent of households possessing 33.4 per cent of land. The average area possessed by a tribal household in the State is 296 cents, ranging from 9 cents in Alappuzha district to 383 cents in Idukki district. An area of 24100 acres (1.3%) is under seasonal crops. Main perennial crops are Pepper (18.9%) Coffee (18.2%) Cardamom (13.4%) Rubber (10%) Cashewnut (9%) coconut (8.9%) etc. Important seasonal crops are paddy (33.4%) tapioca (41.1%), cholam (maize) (6.7%) and jowar (5.4%). The main reasons for keeping the land uncultivated are: lack of finance (69.13%), threat of animals (11.66%), lack of irrigation (11.64%), rocky and waste land (5.5%) and other reasons (6.07%). According to the survey, the value of commodities sold or exchanged to the non-tribals and intermediaries covers more than 90 per cent of the total value.

3 Tribal Development Programmes and Investment for Tribal Development

Tribals in India, geographically and culturally speaking, are at widely different stages of social as well as economic development and their problems differ from area to area and even within their own groups. From a historical point of view, the tribal communities were approached in a number of ways by the Government. Initially the Scheduled District Act of 1874 introduced by the British Administrators kept most of the tribal areas administratively separate. The same situation was allowed to continue under the

Government of India Acts of 1919 and 1935. However, after independence this policy was abandoned and a new policy of tribal development was initiated. The special multi-purpose tribal blocks and tribal development blocks were started during the second and third five year plan respectively. A number of new programmes were introduced during the fourth plan period, besides intensifying tribal development programmes which were already popular. For the first time, land colonisation schemes, co-operative farming societies and several tribal colonies were introduced in most of the tribal areas. To focus on tribal development Tribal Sub-Plan was initiated by the Union Government during the fifth five year plan period. During the sixth plan, pockets with a total population of 10,000 and more than 50 per cent of tribal concentration were delineated under a Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) as part of the Tribal Sub-Plan strategy. This has been further relaxed to smaller areas with total population of 5000 and with more than 50 per cent of Scheduled Tribes in the seventh plan under a cluster approach. The present tribal sub-plan covers 184 integrated Tribal Development Projects, 256 pockets of tribal concentration, 8 clusters, and 73 projects for primitive tribal groups covering about 5.01 lakh sq. km and catering to a tribal population of 12 lakhs in 19 states and Union Territories⁸. For the

Mahalingam S., "Role of Co-operatives in Tribal Economy", Yojana, Dec. 1-15, 1989.

seventh plan period, 40 lakh ST families below the poverty line were targeted to be provided with economic assistance. In the first year of the VII plan period (1985-86) as against the target of assisting 8.43.537 ST families 8.73,100 families were assisted

3.9 Tribal Development Programmes

The tribal development programmes are mainly channelised through two routes. One is through Tribal Sub Plan implemented by various Heads of Departments under different sectors and the other through Scheduled Tribes Development Department. The various major schemes undertaken under the Tribal sub plan can be broadly classified into 24 sectors such as crops husbandry, animal husbandry, co-operation, fisheries, village and small scale industries etc.

The various schemes being implemented by the Scheduled Tribes Development Department can be broadly classified under four categories.

- I Educational Programmes
- II Economic Development Programmes
- III housing Programme and
- IV Health Programme

3.10 Investment for Tribal Development

The total investment made in the tribal areas during the plan periods for economic betterment of tribal communities in the country is given in Table 3.8.

Table 3.8
Plan Outlay and Expenditure for Tribal Development
Programmes in India

Sl.No.	Plans Period	Rs in crores		
		Total Plan outlay (Rs)	Tribal Development programme (Rs)	%
1.	First Plan (x)	1960	19.93	1.0
2.	Second Plan (x)	4672	42.92	0.9
3.	Third Plan (x)	8577	50.53	0.6
4.	Annual Plans (x) (1966-69)	6756	32.32	0.5
5.	Fourth Plan (xx)	15902	75.0	0.5
6.	Fifth Plan (xx)	39322	1182	3.01
7.	Sixth Plan (xx)	97500	5535	5.67
8.	Seventh Plan (xx)	180000	12000	6.67

Note : Expenditure (x) Outlay (xx)

Source : Ministry of Home Affairs, Occasional papers on Tribal development, 1986, pp.19-24.

Table 3.8 reveals that till the end of the IVth plan, allocation for Tribal development was only marginal. A slight increase in the allocation for tribal development was noticed only after the introduction of Tribal sub Plan in

1978. Though the tribal population accounted 7.76 per cent of the total population of the country in 1981 and it increased to 8.01 per cent in 1991, allocation for tribal development is not in accordance with total population. It is estimated that the average outlay for a tribe during the sixth plan period was only Rs.1073/- i.e., Rs.215/- per year. (Total investment Rs.5535 crores/ total population 5.16 crores)

3.11 Allocation and Expenditures for Rural Development in Kerala through Plan periods

Kerala is a unique state where it would be very difficult to distinguish an area as rural and urban. However, as per 1991 census, it is reported that 73.6⁹ per cent of Kerala's population inhabits in rural areas. As regards to tribes, 97¹⁰ per cent of them reside in rural and hilly tracts of Kerala. Wayanad is the only district where the entire tribal population reside in rural areas. Though the Tribal Sub Plan was introduced in the beginning of the fifth five year plan, the real allocation and expenditure through decentralised planning was introduced in Kerala only in June 1983. Till that time, tribal development was part of rural development. Separate allocation for Tribal Sub Plan through

Government of Kerala. (1995), Census of India 1991 series 12, Paper 3 of 1991, Final Population Totals, Director of census Operations, Thiruvananthapuram.

Government of Kerala, G.O. M.S. 11/ Harijan Welfare Department, 16-6-1983, Thiruvananthapuram.

various sectors have been started from 1984-85 onwards. Table 3.12 depicts the allocation and expenditures, for Rural development in the state from the Ist plan to the VIIth plan.

Table 3.9

Rural Development in Kerala- Outlays and Expenditures

Five Year Plans	Rs in lakhs			
	Outlays (Rs) for R. Deve- lopment	Expend- iture for R. Dvt.(Rs)	Exp. as % to out lays	R. Dpt. Outlay as % to tota. plan outlay
First Plan	NA	NA	--	--
Second Plan (1956-61)	613	543	88.6	7.0
IIIrd Plan (1961-66	877	891	101.6	5.2
Annual Plans(1966-67 to 1968-69)	476	508	106.7	3.3
IVth Plan (1969-74)	1279	1319	103.1	4.9
Vth Plan (1974-78)	3777	2591	68.6	6.6
Annual Plans (1978-79 & 1979-80)	2068	1577	76.3	5.3
VIth Plan (1980-85)	10210	12887	126.2	6.9
VIIth Plan (1985-90)	11368	12233	107.6	5.1

Source : Government of Kerala (1992), Plan Outlays and Expenditure Kerala (1951-52 to 1989-90) Economic Division, State Planning Board, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.9 reveals that an average of 5.53 per cent of the total state plan out lay is earmarked for rural development. While considering the inhabitants of rural area, and the programme to be undertaken for rural development, this

allocation seems to be very low. It is also clear that in all the years except during the second, the fifth and the Annual plans for 1978-79 and 1979-80 the entire allocation for rural development has been utilised.

3.12 Tribal Sub-Plan of Kerala

The Tribal Sub-Plan programme is being implemented through resources drawn from a) State plan b) special central Assistance provided by the Ministry of welfare c) Central plan and centrally sponsored programme and d) institutional finance. The allocation to the Tribal Sub-Plan, which is part of the overall state plan, is determined by taking in to consideration the major factors like a) total tribal population of the state b) geographical area c) economic backwardness d) level of achievement obtained so far as a result of the past developmental endeavours and e) social conditions prevailing. The sectoral outlays are shown in the budget under separate major heads to show funds flowing to the Tribal Sub-Plan under the relevant demand of the concerned sectoral department. As per the procedure ordered by Government for implementation of Tribal Sub-Plan, it has become the joint responsibility of the project officers of the Integrated Tribal Development Project/ Tribal Development officers on the one hand and the officers of the sectoral departments and the District collectors concerned on the other to ensure proper utilisation of the amount provided.

The tribal Sub-Plan of Kerala has been prepared in consonance with the guiding principle of five year plan and according to the recommendation of the working group on Tribal development with the following objectives¹¹.

1. Alleviation of poverty among Scheduled Tribes by raising productivity in the field of agriculture, horticulture, Animal husbandry, forestry, village and small scale industries etc.
2. Provision of formal and non-formal education with emphasis on vocationalisation.
3. Elimination of exploitation in relation to land transfer, agricultural tenancy, money lending, forestry, trade and in socio-economic activities.
4. Provision of adequate socio-economic infrastructure.
5. Removal of socio-economic disabilities of special groups like primitive tribes, tribal women, tribals displaced by various development projects.
6. Improvement of environment and ecology of tribal areas.

To carry out the tribal development programmes, about 27 sectors have been identified by the Government. The investment for Tribal development in Kerala is given in Table 3.10.

11 Government of Kerala, (1988), Tribal Sub Plan 1985-90 and 1988-89 (Revised), Directorate of Scheduled Tribes Development, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.10

Investment for Tribal Development in Kerala- Outlay and
Expenditure from 1984-85 to 1993-94

Year	Outlay (TSP) state	SCA to TSP	Total outlay (Rs)	Expen- diture (Rs)	Rs in Lakhs		
					Total Tribal Popul- ation	perhead Invest- ment(Rs.)	Exp.% to Outlay
1984-85	645	N.A	645	644	283819	227	99.8
1985-86	657	111	768	778	289697	269	101.3
1986-87	668	118	786	797	295697	270	101.4
1987-88	711	102	813	736	301821	244	90.5
1988-89	775	99	874	763	308072	248	87.3
1989-90	953	128	1081	988	314453	314	91.4
1990-91	1148	101	1249	1098	320967	342	87.9
1991-92	1181	303	1484	1479	327614	451	99.7
1992-93	1871	200	2071	1673	334399	500	80.8
1993-94	2002	523	2525	1729	341325	507	68.5
State							90.9

Note :Total outlay includes the state allocation under Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) and the allocation from the centre under special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribal Sub-Plan for investment in designated schemes.

Source:Government of Kerala, Annual Review on SCP and TSP and Special Central Assistance for 1984-85 to 1993-94, planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.10 indicates that about 91 per cent of the outlay earmarked for tribal development has been used. The per head investment varies from Rs.227 in 1984-85 to Rs.507 in 1993-94. As per 1991 census, the amount available for per

usehold investment is Rs.1581, which would be too low to
ing a family above the poverty line.

13 District-wise Investment and Tribal population- A
Comparison (1985-86 to 1993-94)

Table 3.11
District wise Investment for Tribal Development and
Tribal Population of Districts- A comparison (1985-86
to 1993-94)

Name of Districts	Rs in lakhs		
	Aggregate Investment (Rs)	Total Population (1991 census)	Investment disproportionate to population
Thiruvananthapuram	482.81 (5.4)	16181 (5.0)	+108
Kollam	209.47 (2.4)	3884 (1.2)	+200
Pathanamthitta	219.02 (2.5)	6922 (2.2)	114
Alappuzha	85.02 (.01)	2801 (.01)	100
Kottayam	512.69 (5.8)	17996 (5.6)	104
Idukki	1413.85 (15.9)	50269 (15.7)	102
Ernakulam	127.49 (1.4)	4941 (1.5)	93
Thrissur	137.81 (1.6)	4051 (1.3)	123
Palakkad	1055.95 (11.9)	35465 (11.0)	108

0. Malappuram	424.00 (4.8)	10555 (3.2)	150
1. Kozhikode	290.23 (3.3)	5407 (1.7)	194
2. Kannur	462.81 (5.2)	18243 (5.7)	91
3. Wayanad	2807.43 (31.6)	114969 (35.8)	88
4. Kasargode	646.15 (7.2)	29283 (9.1)	79
Total	8875.56 (100)	320967 (100)	

Source: Compiled from the special Component Plan and Tribal Sub Plan - 1985-86 to 1993-94 Planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Note 1.: The total investment for Tribal development from 1985-86 to 1993-94 was Rs.10041 lakhs of which Rs.1161.44 lakh were invested by Scheduled Tribe Development Department directly. Since district-wise break-up for the above figure is not available, it is excluded from the calculation.

2. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to column total

Table 3.11 highlights that the northern districts of Kerala where more than 50 per cent of the tribal population are inhabited (50.6%) did not get their due share of investment. They got only 44 per cent of the total investment between 1985-86 to 1993-94. Kollam and Kozhikode districts, where comparatively less number of tribal population reside, get double the amount (200) what they deserve. The table points out that there is disproportionate investment for tribal development in the state. The data with respect to

sector-wise investment for tribal development is available only from 1987-88 to 1992-93 and an attempt is made to know the percentage of investment in each sector for tribal development.

3.14 Tribal Development- Sector-wise Investment in Kerala (1987-88to 1992-93)

Table 3.12 reveals that more than 50 per cent of the investment under Tribal Sub-Plan was in income generating areas like agriculture and industry. It is also observed that 23.65 per cent of the investment was for promoting social and community development of tribes. Only 6.1 per cent of the investment was spent for industrial development. The institutional investments were mostly for the educational development of tribes.

Sector-wise Investment on Tribal Development in Kerala

(1987-88 to 1992-93)

Sl. No.	Sectors	Rs in lakhs							Total
		1987-88	88-89	89-90	90-91	91-92	92-93		
1.	Agriculture & Allied Activities	344.9 (46.86)	419.0 (54.91)	518.5 (52.48)	484.17 (44.1)	661 (44.69)	858.3 (51.30)	3285.87 (48.77)	
2.	Industrial Development	23.85 (3.24)	39.85 (5.22)	75.5 (7.64)	99.4 (9.05)	80.2 (5.42)	92 (5.50)	410.8 (6.1)	
3.	Education	2.0 (.01)	--	--	--	13 (.10)	2.45 (0.15)	17.45 (0.26)	
4.	Social & Community Development	224.25 (30.74)	165 (21.63)	200 (20.24)	189 (17.21)	404 (27.31)	411.15 (24.58)	1593.4 (23.65)	
5.	Institutional Investment	141 (19.15)	139.15 (18.24)	194 (19.64)	325.43 (29.64)	320.8 (22.48)	309.1 (18.47)	1429.48 (21.22)	
	Total	736 (100)	763 (100)	988 (100)	1098 (100)	1479 (100)	1673 (100)	6737 (100)	

Note 1.: Institutional investment means investment made by the Scheduled Tribe Development Department, SC/ST Corporation, KIRTADS, Co-operative Department and Panchayat.

2. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to column total

Source: Compiled from Special Component plan and Tribal Sub-Plan 1987-88 to 1992-93, planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

3.15 District-wise Incidence of Poverty

It is interesting to note that even after fifty years of planning and creation of a lot of institutions and programmes for tribal development, the tribal life is still miserable and pathetic. The incidence of poverty in tribal areas are very severe. They lead an inhuman life.

The district-wise incidence of poverty is given in Table 3.13.

Table 3.13

No. of Tribal Families living below Poverty Line

Sl.No.	District	Total No. of Tribal families	No. of ST families below poverty line	Poverty rate %
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	4059	2161	53.23
2.	Kollam	925	95	10.27
3.	Pathanamthitta	1647	722	43.83
4.	Alappuzha	651	47	7.21
5.	Kottayam	3999	749	18.72
6.	Idukki	11516	6422	55.76
7.	Ernakulam	1212	118	9.73
8.	Thrissur	967	430	44.46
9.	Malappuram	2363	1247	52.77
10.	Palakkad	8610	4571	53.08
11.	Wayanad	23287	14063	60.38

12.	Kozhikode	1215	288	23.70
13.	Kannur	3635	196	5.39
14.	Kasargode	5355	2555	47.71
Total		69441	33664	48.47

Note 1. :The above figures (poverty) are based on the Tribal family survey conducted by the Rural Development Department, Thiruvananthapuram in October 1991.

Table 3.13 points out that 48.47 per cent of the tribal population are still below poverty line even after a period of 40 years of planning. The incidence of poverty is very high in Wayanad District (60.38) where more than 35 per cent of the tribal population of the state inhabits. Of the total investment for tribal development more than 30 per cent was invested in Wayanad district, but it is clear that the investment was disproportionate to the actual population. Therefore it is imperative to examine the tribal development planning and change the schemes and programmes accordingly.

3.16 Tribal Development- Physical Targets and Achievements

Physical target for tribal development has started to be fixed from 1985-86 onwards. Each sectors will be given separate target for lifting the tribes above the poverty line. During 1992-93, 8,000 tribal families were targeted to cross the poverty line and for 1993-94, it was 5,918. But the real achievement was 71 per cent in 1992-93 and 94 per cent of the

target in 1993-94¹². The sectors through which the families have crossed the poverty line is presented in Table 3.14.

Table 3.14
Sectors through which the Families Crossed the
Poverty line - 1992-93 & 93-94

Sl.No.	Sectors	No. of families crossed poverty line	
		1992-93	93-94
1.	Agriculture	244 (4.3)	253 (4.6)
2.	Land Board	50 (.01)	59 (.02)
3.	Animal husbandry	307 (5.4)	375 (6.8)
4.	Dairy Development	204 (3.6)	210 (3.8)
5.	Fisheries	374 (6.6)	248 (4.5)
6.	Rural Development	1853 (32.7)	1845 (33.5)
7.	Khadi & Village industries	366 (6.5)	645 (11.6)
8.	Industries & Commerce	933 (16.5)	839 (15.5)
9.	MD. KSDC for SC/ST	415 (7.3)	240 (4.4)
10.	ST. Development Department	913 (16.1)	847 (15.2)
		5659 (100)	5561 (100)

Source : Government of Kerala (1995), Annual Review on SCP and TSP and Special Central Assistance, 1992-93 and 1993-94, Planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Note : Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to column total

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Source : Government of Kerala (1995), Annual Review on SCP and TSP and Special Central Assistance for 1985-86 to 1993-94, Planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.14 points out that Agriculture and allied activities have directly helped only 1179 families to cross poverty line during 1992-93. It has again decreased to 1145 families in the subsequent year 1993-94. While comparing the investment in agriculture and allied activities, the level of achievement seems to be very poor. Though planners give much importance to the production aspect, they failed to give any importance on the marketing of the produce of tribes. It may force the tribe to market their produce through the unscrupulous traders and they may thus fall prey to innumerable tactics of exploitation of such traders.

3.17 Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP)

Considering the peculiar nature of the Scheduled Tribes Concentration and to ensure effective co-ordination of development programmes, Integrated Tribal Development Projects were started during the fifth five year plan. The first ITDP project in the state was started in Attappady in Palakkad district by converting the then Tribal Development Block Attappady. Subsequently four more ITD project viz. Punalur, Idukki, Nilambur and Mananthavady were formed. Out of the total Scheduled Tribe population 40.47 per cent was covered by these projects. All the ITD projects except Attappady were spread over more than two or more revenue district and this naturally created several administrative problems. More over majority of the Scheduled Tribes could not enjoy the benefits

under ITD projects as they were outside the project area and were treated as dispersed tribes.

During 1989-90, the ITD projects and field level offices were reconstituted. Since then seven ITD projects and seven Tribal Development officers have been functioning in the state. The ITD projects are (1) Nedumangadu (Thiruvananthapuram) (2) Idukki (3) Nilambur (4) Kanjirapally (5) Attappady (6) Kalpetta and (7) Kannur. Idukki and Wayanad districts were exclusively covered under ITD project area. Since the highest scheduled tribe concentration is in Wayanad district, three offices are functioning there viz, project office Kalpetta and tribal development offices at Sultan Battery and Mananthavady. In the re-organised arrangements 84.46 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes in the state is covered under ITD project, while under the erstwhile projects it was only 40.47 per cent. The total area covered under ITD project is 11961 sq. km (30.78%). The details of scheduled tribe population in ITD projects and total area covered are shown in Table 3.15.

Table 3.15
ITD Projects and the Area Covered

Sl. No.	Name of ITDP	ST. population (1991 census)	% of ST population to that of total STs in the district	Area Under ITDP (Sq.km)	% to the total area of the district (sq. km)
1.	Nedumangadu	13976	86.37	1098	50.09
2.	Kanjirappally	13874	77.09	625	28.36
3.	Idukki	50269	100	4998	100
4.	Attappady	24228	68.32	827	18.46
5.	Nilambur	9046	85.70	1429	40.28
6.	Wayanad	114969	100	2132	100
7.	Kannur	13449	73.72	852	28.43
Total		239811	84.46	11961	30.78

Source : Government of Kerala, (1994), Tribal Sub-Plan Annual Plan 1995-96, Directorate of Schedule Tribes Development, Thiruvananthapuram.

Out of the 48 Tribal Extension Offices, 34 are in the Project area. Except the Wayanad District all the other Tribal Development offices are functioning for the dispersed tribes. Tribal Development offices are functioning at Punalur, Ranni, Muvattupuzha, Sultan Battery, Mananthavady, Thamarassery and Kasargod. The Tribal development officer, Punalur is in charge of Kollam and Alappuzha districts and the Tribal Development officer, Muvattupuzha is in charge of Ernakulam and Trichur Districts. Tribal Development office at Sultan Battery and Mananthavady are in Wayanad district and are in the project areas.

3.18 Markets

The marketing facilities in ITDP area are not developed. The distance of market places from the tribal hamlets is depicted in Table-3.16.

Table 3.16
Marketing facilities in ITDP area

ITDP	Percentage of hamlets			Total
	Within 1. km	1 to 5km	Above 5 km	
Punalur	8	33	59	100
Idukki	3	17	80	100
Nilambur	-	9	91	100
Attappady	5	21	74	100
Mananthavady	6	20	74	100

Source : Government of Kerala (1988), Tribal Sub Plan 1985-90 and 1988-89 (Revised), Directorate of Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.16 clearly indicates that 75 per cent of the hamlets are away from the vicinity of marketing places. It creates problems for tribes to market their produces at remunerative prices. About 75 per cent of the total tribal population of the state are covered by ITD Projects but they don't have adequate facilities to market their produce in the state.

3.19 Institutions Engaged in Tribal Development and Tribal Produce Marketing

Apart from 25 departments which carry out the various tribal development programmes, a lot of state level institutions are also set up to carry out the tribal development programmes. They are.

1. The Department of Scheduled Tribes Development.
2. Committee of the Kerala Legislative Assembly.
3. Tribal Advisory Board.
4. The Kerala State Development Corporation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
5. Kerala Institute for Research Training and Development Studies of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
6. The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development co-operatives and
7. The National level organisation TRIFED.

Among these various institutional setup, the study revealed that the Department of Scheduled Tribes Development, Committee of Kerala Legislative Assembly, Tribal Advisory Board, The Kerala State Development Corporation for SCs and STs, The Kerala Institute for Research, Training and Development studies of SC and STs (KIRTADS), and The Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED) do not play any decisive role in the marketing of tribal produces in

our state. Though the scheme proposed by the SC/ST Corporation covers assistance for co-operative setup mainly in the form of participation in the share capital of TCS, the study revealed that the Corporation so far does not make any contribution to the NTFP collecting societies of the state. It also did not make any attempt to market the produce of tribes.

Though the corporation was started with high hopes of giving assistance to SC/ST in different fields, they were not fulfilled to the extent expected. Still more than 50 per cent of the tribes remains unemployed. Though the tribes can collect different NTFP's from forest, still it is marketed through non-formal channel without undertaking any processing activities. The processing activities can definitely enhance employment opportunities of tribes. The Corporation and other organisations for tribal development together can take a leading role in this regard.

TRIFED as a national level organisation has registered under the Multi-purpose Societies Act 1984 with the prime objective of improving the tribal community by helping them to market their produces. Full utilisation of natural products, its marketability in an organised effort, higher earnings and larger employment opportunities for tribal population, bringing all NTFPs under co-operative marketing channel etc. are listed as the major objectives of TRIFED.

But it is observed the role played by this national level institution in Kerala is almost nil. The SC/ST Federation does not have proper linkage with TRIFED. As a result the possibility of marketing the produces outside Kerala and the export potentials are beyond the reach of the Federation. Hence in most of the time, the SC/ST Federation is forced to market NTFPs at a throw away price to private traders and tribes are becoming the victims of the organised institutional arrangement.

While examining the research work of KIRTADS, one could very well come to know that little effort has been made to examine the marketing side of tribes. Most of the studies are related to anthropological, cultural and social milieu of tribes.

3.19.1 The Kerala State Federation of Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribes Development Co-operatives Ltd., Thiruvananthapuram. (SC/ST Federation)

The SC/ST Federation registered on 22-7-1981 as a co-operative society with limited liability started functioning at Thiruvananthapuram on 7-4-1982. It is an apex body for all the SC/ST societies affiliated to the federation in the state. As on 30-6-1992, 84 TCS and Sheduled Caste societies have been affiliated to SC/ST Federation. The object of this federation is to provide integrated credit and

services through its member societies in an effective and co-ordinated manner for improving the socio-economic conditions of SCs and STs. To achieve the above objectives, about 18¹³ functions have been earmarked by the federation. Till 1987 the Federation has advanced loans to SC/ST societies for setting up of consumer stores, Sahakarana Maveli Stores, Integrated Rural Development Schemes, Reed based handicrafts etc., but factors as non repayment of the amount collected by TCS in time and the resultant financial crunch in the organisation forced them to confine their main activity only to the collection and marketing of NTFP through its selected TCS in the state. NTFP advance and NTFP stock advance are the two types of financial assistance extended by the federation to these TCS to facilitate the collection and marketing of NTFP in the state. However the Federation is now facing a very heavy over due situation which is given in table .

3.19.1.1 Board of Management

Though the SC/ST federation was registered in 1981, till now it is managed by nominated members. The Board consists of the Minister for Co-operation as Chairman, the secretaries to Co-operation and SC/ST development, Registrar of co-operative societies, Chief conservator of forests,

13 Government of Kerala, (1986), Tribal Sub-Plan of Kerala 1985-90 and 1986-87, ST. Development Department Thiruvananthapuram, p.43.

Scheduled caste Development Director, Scheduled Tribe Development Director, and the Managing Director of SC/ST Federation as members. Even though the TCs are the members of the SC/ST federation, so far no representation has been given to them in the management of the federation. An organisation wholly owned by tribes is managed by non-owners or under the clutches of bureaucrats who lack proper vision about tribal life, their culture, and their need.

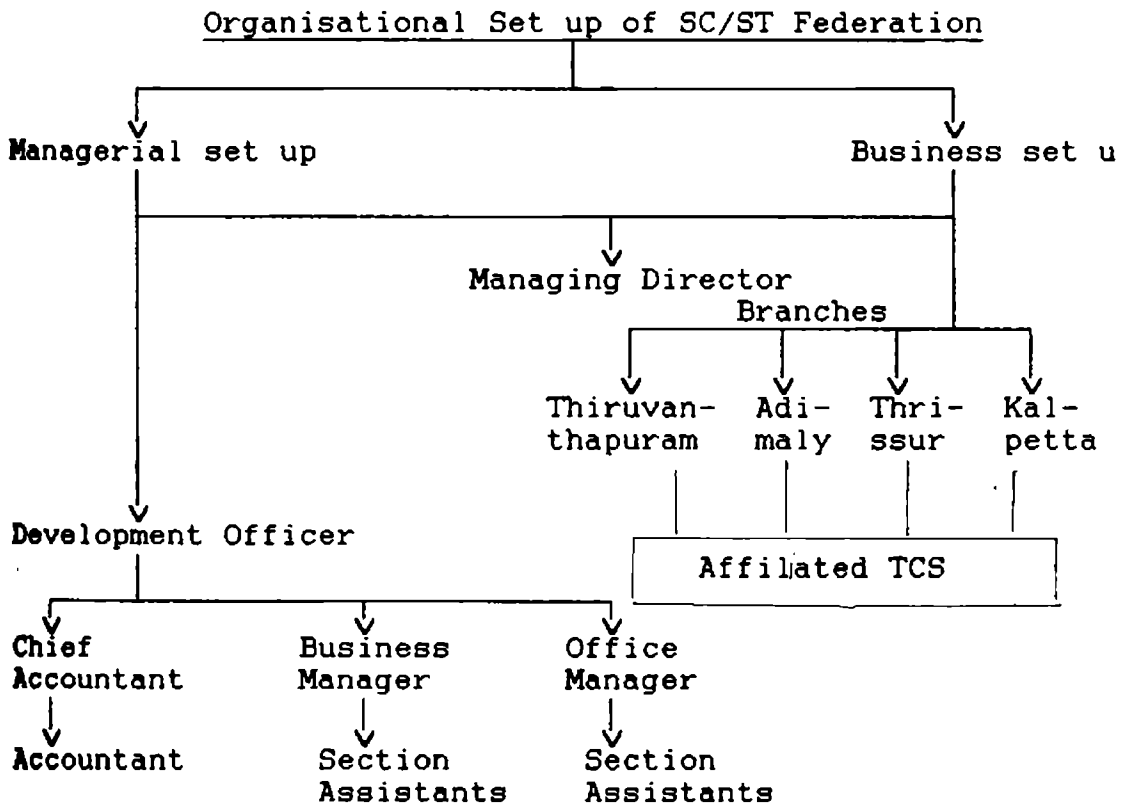
19.1.2 Source and Finance

The authorised share capital of the federation is Rs. 500 lakhs divided into shares of Rs. 100 each. The Federation receives share capital contribution and other grants from state Governments and other institutions towards its functioning. Share capital contribution, working capital grant, Managerial subsidy, furniture grant, margin money assistance from NCDC, loan and grants from NCDC towards construction of godowns, purchase of vehicles, processing of paddy, etc. are the major source of finance to SC/ST Federation. As on 30-6-1987 Rs. 114.693 have been received as share capital assistance and other scheme assistance from the Government and NCDC¹⁴.

The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST development Co-operatives, (1987), Annual Reports of SC/ST Federation 1987, Thiruvananthapuram.

3.19.1.3 Organisational Set up of SC/ST Federation

The organisational set up of SC/ST federation depicted in the following chart.



As per the organisational set up, the whole organisation is managed by Managing Director. It is found that the SC/ST federation is well equipped with competent staff. Almost all are deputed either from co-operative department or from forest department. The various staff of the federation ranging from Managing Director at the top level to clerks at the lower level are deputed from co-operative department, while the Development Officer is deputed from

forest department. It is imperative that they lack interest in SC/ST federation. Even though it is a marketing organisation, mainly dealing NTFP products, it does not have a marketing officer/Manager. All branch managers of SC/ST Federation lack professional competence in the marketing of NTFP in the state. Even though organisational set up is framed, each section is managed by incompetent person, resulting in failure of the organisation to reach the desired level of performance. The performance of the SC/ST federation does not show a rosy picture from 1981-82 onwards. The losses suffered by the federation have accumulated to Rs.11.18¹⁵ lakhs by the end of 1987-88.

¹⁵ The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST development Co-operatives, Annual reports of SC/ST federation 1982-83 to 1987-88, Thiruvananthapuram.

***COLLECTION AND MARKETING OF
NTFP - AN OVER VIEW***

CHAPTER IV

COLLECTION AND MARKETING OF NTFP - AN OVERVIEW

This Chapter examines the collection and marketing of NTFP at the global, national, and state level in particular. NTFP plays a very important role not only in the economy of forest dwellers but also the economy of the country as a whole. According to the National Commission on Agriculture, various items of NTFP have a potential to bring about an economic revolution for tribal and other rural people in the country. Even in a country like India where there has been massive deforestation over the last 150 years, approximately 50 million people depend on forest products for their existence¹. Excluding the value of the products used by the forest dwellers themselves, the government generates revenues approximately 135 million dollars a year from these products². On a global basis the value of NTFP is estimated to be approximately 50 dollars per hectare³. The survey of the Economic values of NTFP is shown in Table 4.1.

NCHSE (1987), Documentation on Forest and Rights, Vol.1, National Centre for Human Settlements and Environment, New Delhi, p.30.

- Pant .M.M (1977), "Forestry Sector - its contribution to gross national products", Indian Forester, 103: 739-769.

Godoy .R and Lubowski .R (1992), "How much is the Forest Worth? Guidelines for the valuation of Non-Timber Tropical Forest Products" In: Bawa .S Kamaljit and Hall Pamela "Non-Timber Tropical Forest Products: Ecological Sustainability," paper presented in the workshop on Methods for Social Science Research on NTFP, Bangkok, Thailand, May 18-20, 1992.

Table 4.1
Net Economic Values of NTFP

a. b.	Location and country	Net value (US \$/ha/year)	Comments
	Venezuela	0.75	Herbal studies
	Mudumalal Sanctuary, South India	3.0	Wild life studies
	Ituri Forest Zaire	3.18 to 0.50	Herbal studies
	Amazon, Brazil	4.8	Herbal studies
	Sarwak East Malaysia	8	Wild life studies
	Iquitos, Peru	16 to 22	Based partly on community diaries
	Hantana, Srilanka	50	Herbal studies
	Kalimantam, Indonesia	53	Herbal studies
	Brazilian Amazon	59	Herbal studies Unclear whether returns are net or gross.
10.	State of Para, Brazil	110	Herbal studies
11.	Veracruz, Mexico	116	Estimate leaves out lumber and coffee
12.	Amazon, Ecuador	120	Wild life study
13.	Jenaro Herrera, Peru	167	Wild life study not clear if estimate is gross or net.
14.	Iquitos, Peru	420	Herbal study

Source: Godoy Ricardo and Brokaw L.V. Nicholas (1992) "The effects of Economic development on the extraction of NTFP, Hypotheses, Methods and information requirements," paper collected from Ford Foundation, New Delhi.

Table 4.1 depicts the value of NTFP available in each area per hectare. But it is argued that the per hectare calculation of NTFP is unscientific since there is wide variation in the availability of NTFP from each area. Moreover, most of the studies have concentrated on the valuation of wild life.

4.1 NTFP In India

All other products, other than timber and wild life of India's incredibly diverse forests were classified as Minor Forest Products and these were extracted from the forest with comparatively little attention given to their management and regeneration within the natural forest. Although the forest department has recognised a number of rights and 'privileges' for local collection of dead wood, or cattle grazing and has organised the collection of 'MFP', these products have been regarded as merely incidental byproducts of management.

The actual commercial value and the present and potential benefits for employment and rural income generation from NTFP underline the critical importance of these forest resources for rural development. The commercial value of NTFP in the public sector within India has always been considerable, representing approximately 20 percent of the

total, forest revenue in the 1950's and '60s^{4,5}. This input has grown substantially as indicated by the increase in national revenue from NTFP from Rs. 30.3 million in 1947 to Rs. 1.3 billion in 1977. In the state of Karnataka alone the government now earns over Rs. 10 million from the sale of over 150 NTFP⁶. Government statistics show that NTFP now account for 38 percent of the Forest Departments total internal revenue and constitutes 67%^{7,8} of India's net export earnings from forest products. Further more NTFP harvesting organised by the Forest Department alone employed 55 percent of total seasonal forest labour accounting for 346.1 million man days in 1978. Pant⁹ (1978) indicated that the potential for employment for NTFP was as high as 556.62 million mandays because the bulk of NTFP remains unharvested. In the same

Campbell .Y Jeffrey (1988), "Putting people's products first. Multiple use management for NWFP in India. Indian Forest, FRI Press Dehradun.

Thapar .S (1975), India's Forest Resources, Birla Institute of Scientific Research. The MacMillan Company of India Ltd., Delhi, p.75.

Reddy .A (1985), "Non-Wood Natural Resources, Economic activity and regional development", in My Forest 21 (1), pp.1-7.

Campbell .J (1987), "Tropical Forestry and Biological Diversity in India and the role of USAID/NEWDELHI", Internal paper AG/RM, USAID New Delhi, p.70

Ramachandran .P (1987), "Interview on rain Forest Management", Evergreen, News letter of Kerala Forest Research Institute 18, Peechi, Thrissur.

Pant .M (1978), "Forestry for employment promotion," Indian Journal of Forestry 1(2) pp.87-96.

study self employment in the NTFP sector including fire wood removal, cattle grazing, lopping and grass cutting and NTFP collection was calculated at a staggering 3537.49 million man days.

At a more profound level these NTFP represent an integral component in the economy, diet, health, culture and religion of a large population of India's forest dwellers, rural farmers and urban epicurians since ancient times (Campbell, 1987)¹⁰

Bostrom¹¹ (1985) highlights that the NTFP sector can be linked to the development of small scale and local industries and the collection, processing and distribution of NTFP also promote co-operation in village and district level.

Op.Cit., 1987.

Bostrom .K (1985), "Land evaluation for forestry production with special reference to non-wood forest products," Paper presented at: Expert Consultation on Land Evaluation for Forestry Planning at District level, Bangkok, December 1-7, 1985 FAO document GCP/RAS/106/JPN.

Agarwal¹² (1985) estimates that 8-10 percent of India's population depend directly on forests and forest industries for their livelihood.

Given these impressive contributions there is every reason to develop NTFP as a rational utilisation of the production capacity of India's remaining natural forests.

4.2 Collection and Marketing of Non-Timber Forest Produce In Kerala

In Kerala 120 items have been notified as Non-Timber Forest produces. It includes both medicinal as well as non-medicinal items. The medicinal items have again been classified as Tuber Crops, Root items, Fruits, Barks, Bushes and Creepers, Liquids, Seeds, flowers and Miscellaneous and the non medicinal items include Oil seeds, Spices, Edible items, Dye and paint items, Soap and shampoo items and other miscellaneous items (Appendix I). The classification criterion is mainly based on the items having major use either in the medicinal or non-medicinal fields. Though Marottienna has include in liquids, so far no collection and marketing has been done on this item by tribes. Majority of these NTFP has been traditionally being collected by the tribal people with

¹² Agarwal .V (1985), Forests in India-Environmental and Production Frontiers, Oxford & IBH Publishing Company, New Delhi, p.341.

or without processing and used either as food items for their direct sustenance or traded in local markets. In fact, the tribal economy was subsisted on the NTFP since time immemorial. Even though a large tribal population are inhabitants of the forest areas and have been collecting NTFP for many years, the National Forest Policy of 1952 did not fully take in to account the relationship between tribals and forest and almost completely ignored the symbiosis in this relationship. Even the claims of the tribals in forests which they had enjoyed for years, were subordinated to the national interest and were reduced to mere rights and concessions¹³

The problem of tribals, who depended on the forests in many years, were thus accentuated first on account of this policy and later on account of the Forest (conservation) Act 1980. The intensity of the National Forest Policy 1952, has been removed to a large extent in the newly announced National Forest Policy, 1988¹⁴, which gives due recognition to the symbiotic relationship between the tribals and the forests. The new policy provides for protection of rights and concessions enjoyed by the tribals traditionally. Besides the above, the policy also lays emphasis on the active involvement

³ Mahalingam .S (1995) "Finance for Agriculture Marketing in Tribal India," In: Bhatia B.S and Verma H.L. et.al. (ed): Encyclopedia of Co-operative Management, Co-operative Marketing Vol.4, Deep and Deep Publications, New Delhi p.121.

⁴ Government of India (1994), India, Initiatives of Conservation of Forests, Ministry of Environment of Forests, New Delhi, pp.1-2.

of tribals on the development of forest which provides th
livelihood. NTFP items are, thus important source
sustenance and cash income of forest dwellers particularly t
tribal people living in and around forests.

4.3 Natural Habitats of NTFP Plants in Kerala

Most of the NTFP plants of the state are confined
the natural forests and very less to forest plantation
Natural forests of the state which form the major habitat
NTFP plants are of four major types. They are evergreen, se
evergreen, moist deciduous and dry deciduous forests, with
maximum area under the moist deciduous type. Table 4.2 giv
the extent of natural and man-made forests of Keral
constituting the natural habitat of NTFP plants.

Table 4.2
Area Under Different Forest Types and Forest Plantations
in Kerala

Sl. No.	Forest type/species	(Approximate Km ²)	
		Natural forests	Forest plantations
1	Evergreen	2400	
2	Semi-Evergreen	1080	
3	Moist deciduous	4100	
4	Dry deciduous	94	
5	Temperate forests and grass lands	188	
6	Plantations*	1653.4	
	a. Teak		733.55
	b. Eucalyptus		372.75
	c. Mixed plantations		328.6
	d. Miscellaneous		218.5

Source: Forest Statistics, 1992.

* Includes also plantations belonging to the Kerala Forest Development Corporation, Kerala.

A recent assessment by Basha¹⁵ (1990) had shown that more than 26 percent of the medicinal plants of the state are found in the evergreen forests, which contribute to a ma

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Basha .S Chand (1990), "Medicinal Plants in the forests of Kerala: Past, present and future," paper presented at the National Seminar on Medicinal and Arnonotic plants, April 6-7, 1990, State Forest Institute, Jabalpur.

share of NTFP resource of the state. Though many characteristic items of NTFP come from the evergreen and semi evergreen forest areas, it is the moist deciduous forest tracts which are more rich and diverse in species belonging to this plant group in general¹⁶.

Moist deciduous forests of Kerala cover an area of more than 4100 Km². Even though not very compact typologically, they are floristically much diverse, forming the habitat of maximum number of NTFP plants. Bash (1990) has reported that about 44 percent of the medicinal plant species grow in this type of forest. Together with about 17 percent of Ayurvedic dry plants in the dry deciduous forests of Kerala, altogether 61 percent of the medicinal plant component of NTFP plants are found in the deciduous forest areas of the state.

As per the estimation of SC/ST federation NTFP worth Rs.210 lakhs can be collected from Kerala forest in an year. The target fixed for the year 1982-83 was Rs.82 lakhs whereas the sales value of the product was only Rs.25.33 lakhs. The target was revised in the year 1985-86 for Rs.100 lakhs whereas the collection was only for Rs.46.23 lakhs. Again the

¹⁶ Basha .S Chand and Nair K.K.N (1993), "Non-Wood Forest Produce Plants of Kerala State, India: An Overview", Paper presented at the National Research on Forest Products, Coimbatore, Octo.15-16.

target was revised to Rs.200 lakhs in 1992-93 and the actual achievement was only for 133 lakhs. During 1993-94, the SC/S federation could market NTFP worth Rs.199.8 lakhs from Kerala Forest registering an achievement of 95 percent. However, on an average, from 1982-83 to 1993-94, the co-operative set up could collect and market only 50 percent of the target fixed by them.

4.4 Kerala State Forest Policy and NTFP Collection

The Kerala forest Act 1961 was a boon to the Kerala tribes till it was declared as unconstitutional by the Kerala High Court. As per section 76(a) of the Act, state Government framed Hillmen Rules 1964 for protecting and advancing the tribes of Kerala.

As per the state forest policy for tribal development, the right of the tribals for NTFP was recognised and the exclusive collection of NTFP is entrusted to them from the year 1977-78. In order to check the illicit collection and traffic of NTFP by non-tribes, identity cards and movement passes are issued to tribes and TCS respectively by Divisional Forest officer of the concerned forest area. Identity cards after the signature of secretary and president of the TCS, is handed over to tribals for NTFP collection. Since 1990 each collection passes must also hold his/her photos. It may also be intended to check effectively the transfer of collection passes.

from one tribe to another or non-tribe. Forest officials are supposed to give necessary protection to tribe in collecting the NTFP from forest and check illicit collection and trafficking by non-tribe. Since the collection of NTFP is the monopoly of tribals and marketing is the monopoly of TCS for the betterment of tribals, the forest officials have got every right to take action against those tribe or non-tribe who market the NTFP to non-co-operative channels. The overall management of the NTFP trade in the state is vested in the hands of the NTFP committee.

1.5 NTFP Committee

The NTFP committee is constituted by Government of Kerala by drawing officials from different Governmental organisations which are directly involving the collection and marketing of NTFP for tribal development. The Chief Conservator of forest is the Chairman of the committee. The other members in the committee are Health Secretary, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, The Director, Tribal Development Department and the Managing Director of the SC/ST Federation. Decisions regarding the procurement value of NTFP, Sale value of NTFP by SC/ST Federation and the important decisions relating to the collection of NTFP to the TCS are taken by NTFP committee and informed to TCS through SC/ST Federation. The executive committee of each TCS has the full liberty to fix the NTFP price but should not be less than the price

fixed by NTFP committee. It was noted that the NTFP committee did not have any representatives from secretaries of TCS or from tribals who are the real persons who know the actual situation in the collection and marketing of NTFP and having direct contact with the NTFP collectors in the state.

4.6 Fixation of Lease Rent

Lease rent is the rent that should be payable by the Tribal Co-operative Societies to the Government of Kerala for the use of forest ranges in the collection of NTFPs by its members in an year. The NTFP committee has the power to allot the forest ranges and fix the lease rent to each NTFP collecting tribal co-operative society in the state.

The NTFP committee initially decides the lease rent for each range usually at 50 percent of the average bid amount for the last three years plus 10 percent margin for general upward market trend in respect of the territorial forest ranges and at 100 percent plus 10 percent margin in respect of the special (vested) forest ranges. Thus there is concession in lease rent for territorial ranges only. The lease rent is reviewed and refixed at the request of individual societies on genuine ground of deforestation, forest plantation, exclusion of areas etc. The chief conservator of forests issues the annual allotment order specifying the lease rent for each range unit, items permitted for collection as well as

procurement and sale prices of the NTFP by the SC/ST Federation. The lease rent remittance by TCS in the state from 1982-83 to 1991-92 is given in Table 4.3.

By considering Dr. Ambedkar centenary celebration, the collection of lease rent from TCS have been suspended for 5 years from 1992-93 on wards . Table 4.3 points out that the average remittance by a TCS towards lease rent was Rs.12844 in an year from 1982-83 to 1991-92. Average remittance for a range is amounted to Rs.5563. Region wise remittance of lease rent is shown in Table 4.4. The table points out that 57 percent of the total lease rent is drawn from Thrissur Region whereas only 37 percent of the forest ranges are coming under Thrissur region. Though the Adimaly region has 23 percent of the total forest ranges, its contribution to total lease rent was only 17 percent (Table 4.5). Only in two years (1989-90 and 90-91) the SC/ST Federation took direct initiative to collect NTFP from the wild life sanctuaries of the forest with the help of Forest Department.

Table 4.3

Lease Rent Remittance 1982-83 to 1991-92

Year	No. of TCS	No. of ranges	Amount remitted (Rs)	Average remittance of a TCS (Rs)	Average lease rent from a range (Rs)
1982-83	33	68	396090	12003	5825
1983-84	33	68	396090	12003	5825
1984-85	33	67	391289	11857	5840
1985-86	32	68	393789	12306	5791
1986-87	32	68	393789	12306	5791
1987-88	29	67	376346	12977	5617
1988-89	29	69	378356	13046	5483
1989-90	26	76	396861	15264	5222
1990-91	30	81	406700	13557	5021
1991-92	31	78	406702	13119	5214
Average				12844	5563

Source :Compiled from the various records of SC/ST Federation, Thiruvananthapuram from 1982-83 to 1991-92.

Table 4.4

Region wise Remittance of Lease Rent 1982-83 to 1991-92

Figures in Rs.

Year	Regions					Total
	TVM	TCR	KAL	ADI	FEDN	
1982-83	69179 (17.5)	223767 (56.5)	55818 (14.1)	47326 (11.9)	--	396090 (100)
1983-84	69179 (17.5)	223767 (56.5)	55818 (14.1)	47326 (11.9)	--	396090 (100)
1984-85	69179 (17.7)	223767 (57.2)	51017 (13.0)	47326 (12.1)	--	391289 (100)
1985-86	69179 (17.6)	223422 (56.7)	51017 (12.9)	50171 (12.8)	--	393789 (100)
1986-87	69179 (17.6)	223422 (56.7)	51017 (12.9)	50171 (12.8)	--	393789 (100)
1987-88	65803 (17.5)	223422 (59.4)	37350 (9.9)	49771 (13.2)	--	376346 (100)
1988-89	69178 (18.2)	221591 (58.6)	40818 (10.8)	46769 (12.4)	--	378356 (100)
1989-90	69179 (17.4)	232393 (58.5)	41118 (10.4)	46251 (11.7)	7920 (2.0)	396861 (100)
1990-91	69180 (17.0)	235497 (57.9)	43975 (10.8)	45681 (11.2)	12367 (3.1)	406700 (100)
1991-92	69177 (17.0)	234350 (57.6)	54860 (13.5)	48315 (11.9)	--	406702 (100)

Source :Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1991-92.

Note :1. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total
2. TVM - Thiruvananthapuram, TCR - Thrissur, KAL - Kalpetta, ADI - Adimaly, FDN - SC/ST Federation

Table 4.5

Number of Ranges Alloted to each Region 1982-83 to 1991-92

Year	Regions (Number)					Total
	TVM	TCR	KAL	ADI	FEDN	
1982-83	14 (20.6)	27 (39.7)	11 (16.2)	16 (23.5)	--	68 (100)
1983-84	14 (20.6)	27 (39.7)	11 (16.2)	16 (23.5)	--	68 (100)
1984-85	14 (20.9)	27 (40.3)	10 (14.9)	16 (23.9)	--	67 (100)
1985-86	14 (20.6)	26 (38.2)	10 (14.7)	18 (26.5)	--	68 (100)
1986-87	14 (20.6)	26 (38.2)	10 (14.7)	18 (26.5)	--	68 (100)
1987-88	11 (16.4)	26 (38.8)	13 (19.4)	17 (25.4)	--	67 (100)
1988-89	16 (23.2)	25 (36.2)	14 (20.3)	14 (20.3)	--	69 (100)
1989-90	16 (21.0)	26 (34.2)	15 (19.7)	15 (19.7)	4 (5.4)	76 (100)
1990-91	16 (19.7)	27 (33.3)	18 (22.2)	14 (17.3)	6 (7.5)	81 (100)
1991-92	16 (20.5)	26 (33.3)	20 (25.7)	16 (20.5)	-	78 (100)

Source :Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1991-92.

Note :Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total

On an examination of the system it was noticed that there was no rationale in fixing the lease rent. Actually it should be linked with the potentiality of NTFP in each range. It was observed that for some TCS the lease amount fixed was very low as compared to other TCS and potentiality of the

area. The secretaries of TCS alleged that they have been paying almost the same amount of lease rent from inception onwards. They point out that cases of deforestation, forest plantation and fire in the area were intimated to the officials for getting possible reduction in lease rent, but so far no action has been taken in this regard.

4.7 Tribal Co-operative Societies and Members engaged in NTFP collection

The co-operative approach to tribal development gave birth to 86 TCS in Kerala by 1991-92. Out of these 86 TCS we exclusively selected for collection and marketing of NTFP in the state by the NTFP committee in consultation with the SC/ST federation, which is the Apex level institution of all the SC/ST societies in the state. The TCS are also supposed to carry out the agricultural surplus and products from other occupations of the tribe too. It was visualised that these TCS should carry out all the credit and marketing operations for the tribes in their area. Table 4.6 depicts the total membership in these 86 TCS and the number of TCS selected for NTFP collection and marketing etc. Though basic information related with membership, NTFP collection etc. were sought from all the NTFP collecting societies, only 20 to 28 TCS responded with full details. As per the system, the tribes are supposed to collect all the notified items of NTFP from the designated forest area and market the same through their own

Table 4.6

No. of TCS, Membership, and the NTFP Collectors from 1982-83 to 1991-92 Kerala

TCS (Nos)	Members (Nos)	Average members ina TCS (Nos)	NTFP coll- colecting TCS	No. of NTFP Col- lecting TCS res- ponded	Membership in res- TCS	Average Member- ship in resp. TCS (Nos)	Average NTFP Collectors in resp. TCS (Nos)	Average NTFP Collectors in a TCS	% 10 to 8
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
69	27655	401	32	20	7852	393	3221	161	41
72	33873	470	31	20	8925	446	3470	174	39
72	29454	409	29	20	10075	504	3049	152	30.2
72	35203	489	32	20	10762	538	4158	208	38.7
74	37323	504	32	21	11665	556	4062	193	34.7
76	41062	540	31	21	12421	592	4821	230	38.9
77	42559	553	31	21	12741	607	5040	240	39.5
77	46110	599	30	27	15830	586	5518	204	34.8
84	49083	584	30	28	16926	605	5820	208	34.4
86	49556	576	30	26	16999	654	6008	231	35.3

1. Column 2&4: Government of Kerala, Handbook on co-operative Movement in Kerala, Dept. of Co-operation, Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1991-92.

2. Column 5 compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation Thiruvananthapuram 1982-83 to 1991-92.

co-operatives at the price fixed by the co-operatives as collection charge.

4.8 Price Fixation Mechanism for NTFP

Generally the NTFP committee will fix three prices every year viz., collection charge, procurement value and sales value. Collection charge denotes the rate at which the tribal co-operative society procure NTFP's from tribes whereas the procurement value implies the rate at which the SC/ST federation will procure the same items of NTFP from the society. In other words, procurement value denotes the sale value of NTFP of Tribal co-operative societies. The sales value of NTFP committee denotes the expected sale value of NTFP by the SC/ST federation in the market. All these prices will be fixed in advance and will be sent to tribal co-operative societies even before the collection of NTFP starts. Pricing of NTFP is one of the ticklish problems facing by all people who are connected with the collection and marketing of NTFP. Since NTFP's are a free gift of nature, its availability and production cannot be predicted so easily. The researchers differed in their views on the collection of cost of production of NTFP and its pricing. Das¹⁷ (1992) stressed the Net Present Value method for valuation of NTFP.

17

Das J.K., (1992), "Valuation of Timber and Non-Timber Forest Produce", paper presented in a workshop on Methods for Social Sciences Research on NTFP, Bangkok, May 18-20. 1992.

According to him net present value of NTFP is

$$VII = \sum_{i=1}^n (q_i * P_i - C_i)$$

Where

VII = Net present value of NTFP for year 1.

n = total number of NTFP's

q = quantity of NTFP collected in year 1.

p = price of the NTFP (average)

c = Marginal cost of collection.

Since the production of NTFPs are not predicted and the supplies are not of in regular nature due to a lot of exogenous factors like fire, difference in extraction methods and sustainability, this method is not found suitable to value the NTFP.

Godoy Ricardo and Lubowski Ruben¹⁸ (1992) highlight that the most accurate method of valuing NTFP is through count, weigh and measure them in each days. But the criteria by which the cost is assigned to the NTFPs had not been mentioned in the study.

¹⁸ Godoy Ricardo and Lubowski Ruben (1992). "How much is the Forest Worth? - Guidelines for the valuation of NTFP". In: Bawa S. Kamaljit and Hall Pamela in "NTFP: Ecological Sustainability", paper presented in the workshop on methods for Social Science Research on NTFP, Bangkok, Thailand, May 18-20.

Muraleedharan¹⁹ (1991) brings out a model for pricing of NTFPs in Kerala . The model is

$$P_m = O_1 + M_1 + C+P.$$

Where P_m is the price of NTFP, O_1 is the opportunity cost of land, M_1 is the maintenance cost of land, C is the collection charge and P is the profit.

While analysing the above models it was found that none of these models made any attempt to fix any criterion for determining the collection charge of NTFP for tribes. It is a very crucial factor that should be solved very carefully. Otherwise the system itself will end in failure. It was also observed that the NTFP committee did not conduct any survey on either supply or demand of NTFP to fix the price. It seems that their price fixation is mainly based on some random method. To fix the price of any product, firstly the cost of production has to be ascertained. Since the product is a free supply of nature, the opportunity cost method can be best employed to determine the collection charge of NTFPs. Since the researcher advocates for a regulated market, the co-operative should also be there with a Minimum Support Price (MSP). The MSP for a day should be fixed rationally by considering the opportunity cost of the tribe.

19 Muraleedharan (1991), "Valuation of NTFP in Kerala", Evergreen, News Letter of KFRI, Peechi, Thrissur.

$$\text{MSP/CC} = W + WQ + \lambda$$

Where

MSP/CC = Minimum Support Price/Collection Charge.

W = Wages in the agricultural sector for a man day.

WQ = Risk element in the collection of NTFP, which is normally assumed to be a fixed proportion to wages.

λ = transport charge or any other cost connected with bringing the produce from the production centre to the society and the wear and tear of NTFP kit.

To make the market competitive, the private traders and end users may be asked to register their names in the Market Committee to participate in the closed tender system. A license fee should be collected from them which can be adjusted against the lease rent fixed for the ranges.

Two serious drawbacks were noticed in the present fixation of NTFP price by the NTFP committee. The NTFP committee did not conduct any systematic survey to ascertain the prices of NTFP items or their demand and supply in different districts in Kerala or outside before fixing the prices of NTFPs. The records show that only once (in 1987) the committee gathered the market price of NTFP items from Kozhikode market through an anthropologist of KIRTADS. Prices of about 65 items had been collected by him and the same was

conveyed to the committee. But there is no evidence to show that the committee has refixed the prices accordingly. Another defect noticed in the price fixation was that the committee generally fixed NTFP prices for dried items only. But the tribals supply fresh NTFP items to TCS. Therefore to make payment, the TCS had to work out the prices for fresh items of NTFP equivalent to the price fixed by the NTFP committee. This situation creates a lot of room for confusion among secretaries and collection agents of different societies. This also add a room for further exploitation of tribes by the collection agents of societies. To fix the price, the TCS has to consider the possible reduction of fresh NTFP during the process of drying. Unless the NTFP committee fixes a uniform price for fresh NTFP, there is every chance for variation in the payment of price by different TCS to tribes. It may create disunity among TCS and confusion in the minds of tribes about the authenticity of formal institutional arrangement in the collection of marketing of their product in the state.

The price fixation policies of SC/ST Federation from 1982-83 is examined here.

4.8.1 Fixation of Collection charge 1982-83 to 1990-91

As per the direction of SC/ST Federation and the price fixed by the NTFP committee, 75 percent of the

procurement value of NTFP was given to tribes as collection charge. The TCS were given only the guaranteed procurement value by SC/ST federation. As per the system, even if the SC/ST federation sold the produce at a high price, the fruits of high sale rate was not passed on either to TCS or to tribes till 1990-91. As regards to this policy a general tendency may exist to fix the rate always at the minimum level to safeguard the interest of the institutional arrangement especially SC/ST federation.

4.8.2 Collection Charge from 1991-92 onwards

From 1991-92 onwards, even though the NTFP committee fixes procurement price and sales price of NTFP, it adopted the policy of giving 75 percent to 80 percent of the actual sales price of NTFP as collection charge to tribes. It was a welcome change and for the first two years of the policy, (1991-92 and 92-93) the SC/ST Federation had taken 10 percent of the sales value as commission for its service. The break up of the sales value was as follows.

75 percent of sales value as collection charge
to tribes
15 percent of sales value to TCS
10 percent of sales value to SC/ST Federation.

The 10 percent commission to SC/ST Federation has invited severe criticism from different corners especially from TCS. As a result the commission has reduced from 10

percent to 5 percent from 1993-94 onwards. The present level of sharing of sales value of NTFP is as follows.

80 percent of the sales value as collection charge to tribes

15 percent of sales value to TCS and

5 percent of sales value to SC/ST Federation.

A major lacuna could be noticed in the fixation of commission to SC/ST Federation under this system. Suppose, if SC/ST Federation was able to sell a particular item of NTFP only at a cost price, by naming it as sales price, 5 percent commission is to be given to SC/ST Federation. It means, the TCS are forced to give commission to SC/ST Federation out of its owned fund, which is against the spirit of co-operation. Therefore it is unfair to fix the commission to SC/ST Federation on sales value but it can be on the basis of the surplus (Sales value - Cost) generated through NTFPs sale.

4.9 Collection of NTFP from 1982-83 to 1993-94

Table 4.7 observed the collection of NTFP in the state through TCS. All items are given in dry quantities. The Compound Growth Rate of (CGR) NTFP from 1982-83 to 1993-94 and the Average Annual Growth Rate (AAG) for the first nine years and the subsequent 3 years to know the result of pricing policies in the collection of NTFP are given in Table 4.7.1.

Table 4.7
Collection of WFP by TCS from 1982-83 to 1993-94

Figures in Kgs

FP items	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
icinal Items												
Tuber Crops	55078	40304	41237	46578	32689	31767	35422	14549	26243	81877	21488	4609
Root items	17581	59530	64310	157859	166517	80206	86002	92962	33406	56207	198180	21863
Fruits	28283	85503	64572	52973	59910	38130	62933	9554	10850	10952	8375	2077
Barks	55219	5311	20273	6530	8371	2435	33256	27544	21832	10166	5122	2853
Bushes and Creepers	22851	72704	73291	92754	135671	48796	59879	42231	22548	37003	46748	8477
Liquids (honey)	71733	39024	32950	30063	29460	47751	34784	32401	29345	41265	80142	4253
Seeds	28780	48082	23942	34870	47289	26941	30349	22124	19613	37573	23423	3182
Flowers	3771	4475	6366	8355	7800	2104	5009	3463	2005	1773	835	64
Miscellaneous	4458	31082	48648	51604	18827	14241	34111	1379	2141	6416	7855	334
n-Medicinal Items												
. Oil seeds	35527	16918	23019	32529	10200	28852	33674	49654	18696	23040	18857	3641
. Spices	6559	8932	12154	15534	22646	41509	6369	1810	8732	7245	3123	336
. Edible	115954	57469	54362	60258	21699	48540	36662	18111	16040	1198	32616	618
. Dye and paint items	43235	119199	48598	115983	45584	66396	107356	62221	64492	74141	112129	22410
. Soap and shampoo	237125	274398	280180	474849	381190	606493	396005	394984	391455	318437	311886	47627
. Miscellaneous	26240	3239	72614	10290	29007	100493	93343	1263	3939	5316	1781	1535

: Compiled from the Records of TCS from 1982-83 to 1993-94.

Table 4.7.1

Compound Growth Rate (CGR) and the Average Annual Growth Rate (AAR) of the Collection of (Kg) NTFP in Kerala -
1982-83 to 1993-94

NTFP items	CGR		AAG	
	1982-83 to 1993-94	1982-83 to 1990-91	1982-83 to 1991-92 to 1993-94	1991-92 to 1993-94
I Medicinal items				
1. Tuber crops	-2.72	-7.91	-1.74	
2. Roof items	10.15	7.39	57.26	
3. Fruits	-35.28	10.09	23.79	
4. Barks	-.0078	-9.79	41.82	
5. Bushes & Creepers	-1.64	-14.82	31.82	
6. Liquids	0.67	-9.45	1.02	
7. Seeds	-2.54	-4.17	-5.38	
8. Flowers	-16.63	-6.77	-91.73	
9. Miscellaneous	-16.8	-7.82	-19.55	
II Non-Medicinal				
10. Oil seeds	1.21	-6.88	16.47	
11. Spices	-10.71	3.23	-22.54	
12. Edible items	-25.35	-19.73	72.81	
13. Dye & Paint items	6.78	4.54	44.58	
14. Soap and Shampoo items	3.42	5.78	14.36	
15. Miscellaneous	-13.68	-18.99	42.42	

Table 4.7.1 reveals a steady compound growth rate only in classified NTFP items like root, dye and paint items and soap and shampoo items. Among classified items highest compound growth rate was accounted in root items. However, over the period, the collection of NTFP in the state indicates a negative growth rate. But the average annual growth rate since '91-'92 indicates a positive growth in almost all items. It may be mainly due to the shift in pricing policy of NTFP committee from '91-92 onwards. This phenomenon shows the fact that if NTFPs are properly priced, it would be regularly collected and marketed through co-operatives.

4.10 Region-wise Collection and Marketing of NTFP in the State

Region-wise Collection and Marketing of NTFP is given in Table 4.8.

Table 4.8

Collection and Marketing of NTFP in Kerala Region wise 1982-83 to 1993-94

Figures in Rs.

Year	TVN			TCR			KAL			ADI			GRAND TOTAL		
	Collec- tion charge	Sale value	%	Collec- tion charge	Sale value	%	Collec- tion charge	Sale value	%	Collec- tion charge	Sale value	%	Collec- tion charge	Sale value	%
1982-83	178530	240540	74	1104384	1611628	69	232013	319565	73	278242	360984	77	1793169	2532717	71
1983-84	283194	380041	75	1786270	2663082	57	244849	349758	70	79700	105416	76	2394013	3498297	68
1984-85	418894	518768	81	1826364	3200660	57	400339	559226	72	24491	32516	75	2670088	4311170	62
1985-86	224296	237960	94	2573766	3725767	69	465560	637535	73	25972	22635	115	3289594	4623897	71
1986-87	324561	419162	77	1629083	2251780	72	590704	722788	82	3878	6704	58	2548226	3400434	75
1987-88	254003	337902	75	2259399	3474653	65	1009173	1285126	79	120892	129746	93	3643467	5227427	70
1988-89	381434	458448	83	1944296	3203835	61	810528	1036851	78	17981	27486	65	3154239	4726620	67
1989-90	480771	619999	77	1626428	2657508	61	1069524	1379425	78	51341	59597	86	3228064	4716529	68
1990-91	771599	955024	81	2645784	3852610	69	1355095	1790195	76	27784	70349	39	4800262	6668178	72
1991-92	989349	1934546	51	2587223	4037281	64	1573493	2844222	55	449313	590300	76	5599378	9406349	60
1992-93	1829742	2055491	89	4232794	7086699	60	1850237	2539275	73	1223598	1683001	73	9136371	13364466	68
1993-94	1253000	2238000	56	5646000	9739000	58	3031000	5352000	57	2110000	2651000	80	12040000	19980000	60
Average	615781	866323	71	2488483	3958709	63	1052710	1567997	67	367766	478311	77	4524739	6871340	66

Source: Compiled from the record of SC/ST Federation, Thiruvananthapuram and NTFP collecting TCS in the state 1982-83 to 1993-94

Note: Sale value includes the stock of NTFP at market value

Table 4.8 shows the region wise collection and marketing of NTFP in the state. The table also explains the extent of payment of collection charge over sales value to tribes. The table indicates that there exists difference between regions in the payment of collection charges to tribes. The average collection charge paid by all regions together has come to Rs.45.24 lakhs and the sales price realised has amounted to Rs.68.71 lakh. It is observed that 66 percent of the sales value of NTFP alone has paid to tribes as collection charge. Wide difference and fluctuations in the payment of collection charge to tribes among regions were also noted. The collection charges of Thiruvananthapuram region varied from 51 percent to 94 percent during the period under study. As regards to Thrissur region it varies from 57 percent to 72 percent, Kalpetta 55 percent to 82 percent and for Adimaly region 39 percent to 115 percent. Though there is an increase in the collection and marketing of NTFP since 1991-92 in absolute terms the share of tribes as collection charge from 1991-92 as compared to earlier years has decreased. Among regions, Thrissur is the highest collector and marketer of NTFP in the state, but its share of payment to tribes is comparatively low. The payment of 115 percent of the sales value as collection charge by the Adimaly region during 1985-86 also indicates the inefficiency of the system to market the collected produce at a remunerative price to the traders. It is also observed that the tribal co-operatives have failed to distribute 80 percent of the sales price as

collection charge to tribes. The stock of NTFP in the godowns of SC/ST federation also indicates the marketing problems of SC/ST federation for NTFP.

4.11 Stock of NTFP

Tables 4.9 to 4.14 depicts the stock of various items of NTFP in the godowns of the SC/ST Federation from 1982-83 to 1988-89. The accumulation of stock indicate the marketing problem of NTFP facing by SC/ST federation. Separate sales quantities of each items are not available from 1989-90 onwards. Therefore the stock of NTFP as percentage to collection (Qty) plus previous years stock for the above said period are considered.

Table 4.9

Stock of Medicinal Items - 1982-83 to 1988-89

Year	Collection (Kg)	Sale (Kg)	Stock (Kg)	Collect- tion+ Pre- vious Year's stock (Kg)	Stock as % to co- llection + stock
1982-83	287754	239560	48194	287754	16.75
1983-84	386015	266742	167467	434209	38.57
1984-85	375589	334639	208417	543056	38.38
1985-86	481586	380479	309524	690003	44.86
1986-87	506534	430956	384922	815878	47.18
1987-88	292371	248586	428707	677293	63.30
1988-89	381745	334284	476168	810452	58.75

Source : Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives.

Table 4.9 indicates that there is accumulation of medicinal herbs in the godowns of the SC/ST Federation. The stock has increased from 16.75 percent in 1982-83 to 63.3 percent in 1987-88. Even though 887 Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units are there in Kerala, their yearly requirement are so high to absorb the entire collection of medicinal herbs from TCS, the tendency of the accumulation of stock indicates that there is lack of co-ordination or linkage between the potential suppliers and demanders of NTFP in the state.

Table 4.10

Stock of Oil Seeds - 1982-83 to 1988-89

Year	Collection (Kg)	Sale (Kg)	Stock (Kg)	Collect- tion+ Pre- vious Year's stock (Kg)	Stock as % to co- llection + stock
1982-83	35527	29111	6416	35527	18.06
1983-84	16918	15398	7936	23334	34.01
1984-85	23019	5937	25018	30955	80.82
1985-86	32529	29374	28173	57547	48.96
1986-87	10200	5972	32401	38373	84.44
1987-88	28852	25307	35946	61253	58.68
1988-89	33674	20726	48894	69620	70.23

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1988-89.

Table 4.10 indicates heavy accumulation of oil seeds in the co-operative organisation. Though the organisation collects items like Odakkuru, Kattupunnakkai, Poovanathari, etc. it find it difficult to market these items.

Table 4.11

Stock of Spices - 1982-83 to 1988-89

Year	Collection (Kg)	Sale (Kg)	Stock (Kg)	Collect- tion+ Pre- vious Year's stock (Kg)	Stock as % to coll- ection + stock
1982-83	6559	4156	2403	6559	36.64
1983-84	8932	980	10355	11335	91.35
1984-85	12154	456	22053	22509	97.97
1985-86	15534	6086	31501	37587	83.81
1986-87	22646	5307	48840	54147	90.20
1987-88	41509	5280	85069	90349	94.16
1988-89	6369	2379	89059	91438	97.40

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1988-89.

Table 4.11 points out that there is accumulation of spices in SC/ST Federation. More than 98 percent of the collection of spices is cardamom. The stock position in the SC/ST federation ranged between 36.64 percent in 1982-83 to 97.40 percent in 1988-89.

Table 4.12

Stock of Edible Items - 1982-83 to 1988-89

Year	Collection (Kg)	Sale (Kg)	Stock (Kg)	Collect- tion+ Pre- vious Year's stock (Kg)	Stock as % to co- llection + stock
1982-83	115954	68879	47075	115954	40.60
1983-84	57465	60607	43933	104540	42.03
1984-85	54362	41808	56487	98295	57.47
1985-86	60258	46109	70636	116745	60.50
1986-87	21699	15487	76848	92335	83.23
1987-88	48540	39023	86365	125388	68.88
1988-89	36662	38410	84617	123027	68.78

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1988-89.

Table 4.12 reveals that there is stock in the case of edible items too. Major edible items collected by the SC/ST Federation are Narumpuli, Kudampuli and Eemthapanakkai. The stock has increased from 40.60 percent to 83.23 percent in the period under observation.

Table 4.13

Stock of Dye and Paint items - 1982-83 to 1988-89

Year	Collection (Kg)	Sale (Kg)	Stock (Kg)	Collect- tion+ Pre- vious Year's stock (Kg)	Stock as % to co- llection + stock
1982-83	43235	30550	12685	43235	23.34
1983-84	119199	57677	74207	131884	56.27
1984-85	48598	51704	71101	122805	57.90
1985-86	115983	55695	131389	187084	70.23
1986-87	45584	40219	136754	176973	77.27
1987-88	66396	65977	137173	203150	67.52
1988-89	107356	71597	172932	244529	70.72

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1988-89.

Table 4.13 depicts the picture of marketing problem for the most needed items of the varnish and paint industry i.e., Kundirikkam and Pathiripoove. The stock position has increased from 23.34 percent in 1982-83 to 70.72 percent in 1988-89.

Table 4.14

Stock of other Non-medicinal items - 1982-83 to 1988-89

Year	Collection (Kg)	Sale (Kg)	Stock (Kg)	Collection+ Previous Year's stock (Kg)	Stock as % to collection + stock
1982-83	26240	20023	6217	26240	23.69
1983-84	3239	7046	2410	9456	25.49
1984-85	72614	61206	13818	75024	18.42
1985-86	10290	15392	8716	24108	36.15
1986-87	29007	23405	14318	37723	37.95
1987-88	100493	62494	52317	114811	45.57
1988-89	93343	103480	42180	145660	28.96

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1988-89.

Table 4.14 explains the stock of other non-medicinal items in SC/ST Federation, showing comparatively less marketing problem. The major other non-medicinal items collected by the Federation are Kolinja and Panjikkai. Usually it would be collected only according to the advance information of the interested parties for the product. It may be reason for showing less stock of these items in the godowns

An enquiry in to the stock position of SC/ST Federation for NTFP showed that the SC/ST federation i.e., co-operative set up find it very difficult to market their collected produces whether it is medicinal or non-medicinal in

the market in time. If the collected produces are not marketed immediately or within a time, definitely it may affect the quantity as well as the quality of the product. Therefore it is worth while to examine the marketing channels of the co-operatives for NTFP in the state.

4.12 Marketing Channel of the Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives for NTFP from 1990-91 to 1993-94

The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operative being the apex institution of the SC/ST Co-operatives in the state, has vested with the responsibility of marketing the NTFP at a remunerative price in the market. It effects collection and sale of NTFP through its four viz., Thiruvananthapuram, Adimaly, Thrissur and Kalpetta branches covering all the NTFP collecting societies in the state. The TCS which are coming under each branch (region) will inform the collection of NTFP to respective branches for sale. The branch managers will publish the items, quantity, venue, and date of sale of NTFP and will also inform the matter to traders in this field through post.

Table 4.15

Marketing of NTFP by the Kerala State Federation of SC/ST
Development Co-operatives 1990-91 to 1993-94

Year	Total sale of NTFP (Rs)	Rupees in lakhs Classified items	
		Medicinal (Rs)	Non-Medicinal (Rs)
1990-91	66.68 (100)	20.99 (31.5)	45.69 (68.5)
1991-92	94.06 (100)	30.98 (32.9)	63.08 (67.1)
1992-93	133.64 (100)	51.12 (38.3)	82.52 (61.7)
1993-94	199.80 (100)	70.28 (35.2)	129.52 (64.8)
Total	494.18 (100)	173.37 (35.08)	320.81 (64.92)

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1988-89.

Note :Figures in Parentheses indicate percentage to row total

Table 4.15 indicates the marketing of NTFP by the SC/ST Federation for a period of four years. During this period of the total sales, about 65 percent of the sales value was accounted for non-medicinal items and 35 percent was for medicinal items collected and marketed by tribes.

4.12.1 Marketing Channel of Medicinal Herbs

The marketing channel of the SC/ST federation for medicinal herbs include the pharmaceutical corporation of Kerala Ltd., (A Government of Kerala undertaking known as Oushedhi), the other Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units in Kerala and private traders in and outside Kerala. Table 4.16 examines the marketing channel of SC/ST federation for medical herbs in the state.

Table 4.16
Marketing Channel of Medicinal Items by The Kerala
State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives
1990-91 to 1993-94

Year	Total sale of Medici- nal items	Marketing Channel			
		Ousha- dhi	Other Ayur- vedic Medi- cinal Manu- facturing units	Private Traders in Kerala	Pvt. Trade- rs outside Kerala
1990-91	20.99 (100)	3.81 (18.2)	5.17 (24.6)	6.78 (32.2)	5.23 (25.0)
1991-92	30.98 (100)	3.61 (11.6)	5.27 (17.1)	12.55 (40.5)	9.55 (30.8)
1992-93	51.12 (100)	2.20 (4.3)	12.41 (24.3)	15.11 (29.5)	21.40 (41.9)
1993-94	70.28 (100)	7.29 (10.4)	15.40 (21.9)	21.71 (30.9)	25.88 (36.8)
Total	173.37 (100)	16.91 (9.7)	38.25 (22.1)	56.15 (32.4)	62.06 (35.8)

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1988-89.

Note :Figures in Parentheses indicate percentage to row total

Table 4.16 clearly indicates that the medicinal herbs marketing in Kerala is managed and controlled by private traders in and outside Kerala (68.2 percent). Of the total marketing more than thirty five percent of the products have been marketed outside Kerala. The SC/ST Federation could market only 31.8 percent of the produce directly to Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing units in Kerala. Though there are 887 Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units in Kerala, and their requirements are so high, the Federation has failed to establish good rapport with these end-users of the product. The marketing channel of medicinal herbs can be depicted in diagram 1.

Diagram 1 clearly indicates that the federation plays only a very limited role in the marketing of medicinal herbs. It just pushes or removes the medicinal items from the premises. Really speaking the private traders take advantage out of it.

Marketing Channels of Medicinal Items of the SC/ST Federation

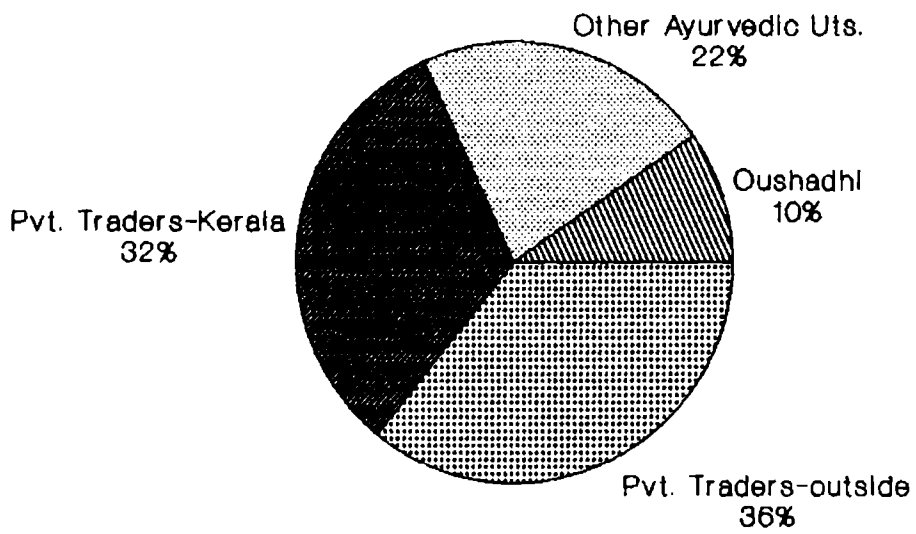


Figure 1

4.12.2 Marketing channel of Non-Medicinal Items by SC/ST Federation

The study observed that the entire collection of non-medicinal herbs of the co-operatives are marketed through private traders. The institutional arrangement so far did not create any liaison with the end-users of this product or it did not make any research on the use of these products. As a result they are forced to market the entire non-medicinal herbs through private traders. These private traders either act as agents of the end-users of the product or act as the direct sellers of the these product to them.

Table 4.17 depicts the marketing channel of non-medicinal items in Kerala.

Table 4.17

Marketing of Non-Medicinal items by The Kerala State
Federation of SC/ST Development co-operatives
1990-91 to 1993-94

Year	Total sale of Non-Medi- cinal items (Rs)	Rs in lakhs	
		Marketing channel	
		Pvt. Tra- ders in Kerala (Rs)	Pvt. Traders outside Kerala (Rs)
1990-91	45.69 (100)	9.16 (20)	36.53 (80)
1991-92	63.08 (100)	15.07 (23.9)	48.01 (76.1)
1992-93	82.52 (100)	25.17 (30.5)	57.35 (69.5)
1993-94	129.52 (100)	28.57 (22.1)	100.95 (77.9)
Total	320.81 (100)	77.97 (24.3)	242.84 (75.7)

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Thiruvananthapuram, 1982-83 to 1988-89.

Note :Figures in Parentheses indicate percentage to row total

Table 4.17 indicates that the private traders of Kerala collect only 24 percent of the items from SC/ST Federation. More than seventy five percent of the products directly marketed to companies or agents of companies outside Kerala. Most of the companies collect items through agents appointed in Kerala. The NTFP's are marketed to other states in raw form. If Co-operatives can enter the field of

Marketing Channels of Non-Medicinal Items of the SC/ST Federation

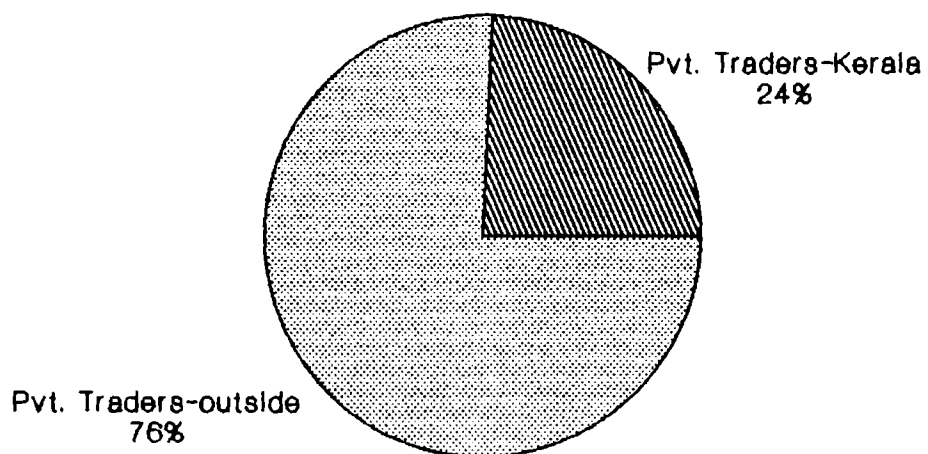


Figure 2

processing more industries may come up and the unemployment situation especially in tribal areas can be solved to a certain extent. The study makes it clear that the value of NTFP in Kerala is determined by outsiders i.e., people from other states. The collectors i.e., tribes or the marketers i.e., institutional arrangement - co-operatives virtually have no role either in the fixation of collection charge or determination of sales value of NTFP. The institutional set up is still under the strong lobby of private traders. The marketing channel of Non-medicinal herbs is depicted in diagram 2.

4.13 Branch-wise Marketing Channel of NTFP

The branch-wise marketing channel of NTFP of SC/ST Federation is given in Tables 4.18 to 4.21.

Table 4.18
Marketing Channel of Thiruvananthapuram Branch
for NTFP from 1990-91 to 1993-94

(Rs. in lakh)

Year	Total sale of NTFP (Rs.)	Medicinal (Rs.)	Marketing channel of medicinal items		Non-Medicinal Items (Rs.)	Marketing channel of Non-medicinal items	
			Private traders in Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders outside Kerala (Rs.)		Private traders in Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders outside Kerala (Rs.)
1990-91	9.55 [100]	3.15 (100) [33]	0.8 (25.4)	2.35 (74.6)	6.4 (100) [67]	2.13 (33.3)	4.27 (66.7)
1991-92	19.34 [100]	7.16 (100) [37]	1.75 (24.5)	5.41 (75.5)	12.18 (100) [63]	4.2 (34.5)	7.98 (65.5)
1992-93	20.55 [100]	6.6 (100) [32]	2.1 (31.9)	4.5 (68.1)	13.95 (100)	5.15 (36.9)	8.8 (63.1)
1993-94	22.38 [100]	7.39 (100) [33]	3.21 (43.4)	4.18 (56.6)	14.99 (100) [67]	6.21 (40)	8.98 (60)
Total	71.82 [100]	24.3 (100) [33.8]	7.85 (32.3)	16.44 (67.7)	47.52 (100) [66.2]	17.49 36.8	30.03 (63.2)

Source: Compiled from the records of the Thiruvananthapuram branch of SC/ST Federation 1990-1991 to 1993-94.

- Note: 1. Figures in () brackets indicate percentage to row total of medicinal and non-medicinal items.
2. Figures in [] brackets indicate percentage to row total of total sale of NTFP items.

Table 4.19

Marketing Channel of Adimaly Branch for NTFP from 1990-91 to 1993-94

(Rs.in lakh)

Year	Total sale of NTFP (Rs.)	non-Medicinal (Rs.)	Marketing Channel of Medicinal items				Marketing channel of Non-medicinal items		
			Medicinal (Rs.)	Oushadhi (Rs.)	Other Ayurvedic medicinal (Rs.)	Private traders in Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders outside Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders in Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders outside Kerala (Rs.)
1990-91	0.7 [100]	0.29 (100) [42]	0.41 (100) [58]	0.08 (20.2)	0.1 (25)	0.05 (10.7)	0.08 (44.1)	0.1 (34.6)	0.1 (65.4)
1991-92	5.9 [100]	4.7 (100) [80]	1.2 (100) [20]	0.35 (29.2)	-	0.73 (60.9)	0.12 (9.9)	1.4 (29.8)	3.3 (70.2)
1992-93	16.83 [100]	7.04 (100) [42]	9.79 (100) [58]	0.39 (4)	1.6 (16.4)	2.77 (28.3)	5.02 (51.3)	6.01 (85.3)	1.03 (14.7)
1993-94	26.51 [100]	12.7 (100) [48]	13.81 (100) [50.5]	3.1 (22.7)	2.12 (15.4)	4.1 (29.7)	4.45 (32.2)	3.14 (24.7)	9.56 (75.3)
Total	49.94 [100]	24.73 (100) [49.5]	25.21 (100) [50.5]	3.96 (15.7)	3.83 (15.2)	7.65 (30.3)	9.77 (38.8)	10.65 (43.1)	14.08 (56.9)

Source: Compiled from the records of the Adimali branch of SC/ST Federation from 1990-91 to 1993-94

Note: 1. Figures in () brackets indicate percentage to row total of medicinal and non-medicinal items.

2. Figures in [] brackets indicate percentage to row total of total sale value of NTFP items

Table 4.20

Marketing Channel of Thrissur Branch for NTFP from 1990-91 to 1993-94

(Rs.in lakh)

Year	Total sale of NTFP (Rs.)	Marketing Channel of Medicinal items						Marketing channel of Non-medicinal items	
		non- Medicinal (Rs.)	Medicinal (Rs.)	Oushadhi (Rs.)	Other Ayurvedic medicinal (Rs.)	Private traders in Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders outside Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders in Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders outside Kerala (Rs.)
1990-91	38.52 [100]	23.11 (100) [60]	15.41 (100) [40]	2.6 (16.9)	5.07 (32.9)	5.63 (36.5)	2.11 (13.7)	4.8 (20.8)	18.31 (79.2)
1991-92	40.37 [100]	23.41 (100) [58]	16.96 (100) [42]	3.25 (19.2)	5.76 (34.0)	6.94 (40.9)	1.01 (5.9)	5.25 (22.4)	18.16 (77.6)
1992-93	70.87 [100]	46.06 (100) [65]	24.81 (100) [35]	1.81 (7.3)	10.21 (41.1)	6.48 (26.1)	6.31 (25.5)	10.81 (23.5)	35.25 (76.5)
1993-94	97.39 [100]	61.35 (100) [63]	36.04 (100) [37]	4.16 (11.5)	13.16 (36.5)	10.11 (28.1)	8.61 (23.9)	11.21 (18.3)	50.14 (81.7)
Total	247.15 [100]	153.93 (62) (100)	93.22 (38) (100)	11.82 (12.7)	34.2 (36.7)	29.16 (31.2)	18.04 (19.4)	32.07 (20.8)	121.86 (79.2)

Source: Compiled from the records of the Thrissur branch of SC/ST Federation 1990-1991 to 1993-94.

Note: 1. Figures in () brackets indicate percentage to row total of medicinal and non-medicinal items.

2. Figures in [] brackets indicate percentage to row total of total sale of NTFP items.

Table 4.21

Marketing Channel of Kalpetta Branch for NTFP from 1990-91 to 1993-94

Year	Total sale of NTFP (Rs.)	Marketing Channel of Medicinal items					Marketing channel of Non-medicinal items		
		Medicinal (Rs.)	Oushadhi (Rs.)	Other Ayurvedic medicinal Units (Rs.)	Private traders in Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders outside Kerala (Rs.)	non- Medicinal (Rs.)	Private traders in Kerala (Rs.)	Private traders outside Kerala (Rs.)
1990-91	17.9 [100]	2.02 (100) [11]	1.12 (55.5)	-	0.3 (15)	0.6 (29.5)	15.88 (100) [89]	2.12 (13.4)	13.76 (86.6)
1991-92	28.44 [100]	5.67 (100) [20]	-	0.51 (9.0)	1.13 (20)	4.03 (71)	22.77 (100) [80]	4.21 (18.5)	18.56 (81.5)
1992-93	25.39 [100]	9.93 (100) [39]	-	0.6 (6)	3.76 (37.8)	5.57 (56.2)	15.46 (100) [61]	3.21 (20.8)	12.25 (79.2)
1993-94	53.52 [100]	13.06 (100) [24]	-	0.13 (1)	4.29 (32.8)	8.64 (66.2)	40.46 (100) [76]	8.22 (20.3)	32.24 (79.7)
Total	125.25 [100]	30.68 [24] (100)	1.12 (3.6)	1.24 (4.1)	9.48 (30.9)	18.84 (61.4)	94.57 [76] (100)	17.76 (18.8)	76.81 (81.2)

Source: Compiled from the records of the Kalpetta branch of SC/ST Federation 1990-1991 to 1993-94.

Note: 1. Figures in () brackets indicate percentage to row total of medicinal and non-medicinal items.

2. Figures in [] brackets indicate percentage to row total of total sale of NTFP items.

Table 4.18 indicates that 66.6 percent of the total marketing value of NTFP of Thiruvananthapuram branch during the period is due to the sale of medicinal herbs. The entire collection of medicinal items were marketed through private traders, of which more than sixty seven percent of the medicinal items were sold through private traders outside Kerala. The study proved that the Thiruvananthapuram branch virtually has no connection with the potential demanders of medicinal herbs in the state. The study also reveals that the entire collection of Kundirikkam is sold to companies in Tamil Nadu through agents. The branch Manager also points out the instances of auctioneers lobby which tried to depress the sale rate in several occasions. He observed that in certain occasions, the branch was forced to fall in line with these lobbies due to scarcity of finance.

Table 4.19 indicates that 49.5 percent of the total sale of NTFP of Adimaly branch was accounted by non-medicinal items and 50.5 percent accounted by medicinal items. It is clear that about 69.1 percent of the medicinal herbs were marketed through private traders, and the share of private traders outside Kerala amounted to 38.8. As regards the Non-medicinal items the private traders outside Kerala were virtually controlling the NTFP trade in the Adimaly region.

Table 4.20 explains the marketing channel followed by Thrissur branch. It brings to light that 62 percent of the

total sale of the branch was accounted by non-medicinal items and 38 percent by medicinal items. The marketing channel of the medicinal herbs points out that 49.4 percent of the total sale of medicinal herbs were directly sold to the Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units in Kerala. In total 80.6 percent of the total sale of medicinal items were marketed within Kerala. As regards to non-medicinal items 79 percent of the total sale were made to private traders outside Kerala.

Kottackal Aryavydyasala, Kottackal; The Pharmaceutical corporation of Kerala Ltd, Thrissur; The Nagarjuna Herbal Concentrates Ltd, Thodupuzha; The CKKM, S.D Pharmacy, Thiruvananthapuram; and the Seetharam Ayurvedic Pharmacy, Thrissur, were the major collectors of medicinal herbs from the Thrissur branch. More than 80 percent of the non-medicinal items, particularly Kundirikkam, were sold in Tamil Nadu. So also the entire collection of Pathiripoove was sold to a private trader in Kerala who was found to be an agent of a wholesale trader in Tamil Nadu. The entire collection of cheevakkai from this branch have gone to Tamil Nadu. The companies mostly collect the items through agents appointed in Kerala.

About 60 percent of honey was sold to Kottackal Aryavydyasala, Kottackal, Seetharam Ayurvedic Limited, Thrissur and the Nagarjuna Herbal Concentrates Ltd,

Thodupuzha. About twenty percent was sold to Shivaram Apiaries Kannambra, Palakkad (Dist.) and the balance 20 percent is sold on retail basis. It was also observed that the Shivaram Apiaries of Kannambra is the major supplier of honey to Pharmaceutical Corporation of Kerala Ltd at a price lower than the price by which honey has been collected by the institution. Hence the possibility of adulterating the produce cannot be ruled out.

Table 4.21 indicates that 76 percent of the total sale of NTFP of Kalpetta branch is contributed by non-medicinal items and only the rest by medicinal items. It is also noticed that 61.4 percent of the total sale of medicinal herbs and 81.2 percent of the non-medicinal herbs are marketed through private traders from outside Kerala. In short the Kalpetta branch mainly depends on private traders from outside Kerala to market their NTFP items.

The major items collected in the branch are Cheevakkai, Honey, Uruvanjica, Nellicca, Kundirikkam and Kakkumkai. It also collects Tubers and roots. The branch sells items not only in Tamil Nadu but also in karnataka. The Prabhat Trading Company, Sree Vijaya & Co, Madras Chillies, Shiva Jyothi, O.M.S. Tamarind and B. Muhammad Hariff, all of them from Tamil Nadu are the major collectors of NTFP from the branch. Subramaniaswara, Bangalore is the sole company participating in auction from Karnataka. The Crescent

industries, Iritty, Kerala collects the entire collection of Kundirikkam from the branch. It is also noticed that the Shivaram Apiaries, Kannambra, Palakkad District collects more than 75 percent of the honey from the branch. Most of the collection of the above companies are made through agents appointed in Kerala.

An analysis of the marketing channels of the branches of SC/ST Federation clearly brings to our concern that the co-operative marketing set up is under the clutches of private traders especially traders from outside Kerala. Though the basic objective of selling co-operative is to eliminate the middlemen from the marketing arena of tribal products, it is clearly proved that not only the tribes but also the co-operatives are now under the strong hold of private traders, in and from outside Kerala.

4.14 Collection and Sale Rate of NTFP and the Share of Tribes from 1982-83 to 1993-94

Collection charge is one of the major determinant which motivate the tribes to engage in the collection and marketing of NTFP, which also depends on how effectively the co-operative marketing societies can market the collected produce from tribes. As per the policy, till 1990-91, the TCS are directed to give 75 percent of the procurement value of NTFP as collection charge to tribes. Since 1991-92, it was

directed that 80 percent of the sales value of NTFP must be given to tribes as collection charge. Table 4.22 to 4.24 examine the collection charge and sale values of NTFP and the share of collection charge to sales value of NTFP. Since there is change in the policy of fixation of collection charge, 1982-83 to 1990-91 and 1991-92 to 1993-94, to know the effect of the policy, a comparison of pricing under these policy periods are attempted here. Since there is significant variation between the prices of Adapathiankizhangu and the prices of other items in tuber crops, the price of Adapathiankizhangu has been eliminated from calculation throughout the study. The price of each fresh item of NTFP has been converted to equivalent dry value of NTFP according to the norms developed (Appendix III) in consultation with the experts in the field.

Table 4.22

Average Collection & Sale Rate — 1982-83 to 1990-91

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Average Collect. charge per Kg (Rs)	Procur-ement value per Kg (Rs)	Average sales price per Kg (Rs)	Collec-tion cha-arge as % sales value	Collec-tion charge as % to pro-curement value
I Medicinal Items						
	A.Tuber crops	4.28	5.32	7.09	60	80
	B.Root items	1.59	1.42	2.93	54	112
	C.Fruits	0.87	1.29	1.32	66	67
	D.Barks	1.52	0.98	2.14	71	155
	E.Bushes & Creepers	1.88	1.57	3.12	60	120
	F.Liquids (honey)	12.77	11.25	17.39	73	114
	G.Seeds	3.13	2.49	5.25	60	126
	H.Flowers	10.97	2.95	15.93	69	372
	I.Miscellaneous	16.35	14.91	25.15	65	110
II Non-Medicinal Items						
	A.Oil seeds	1.08	1.14	2.58	42	95
	B.Spices	20.91	21.9	90.08	23	95
	C.Edible items	5.99	2.95	7.69	78	203
	D.Dye and paint items	5.55	2.21	8.99	62	251
	E.Soap and Shampoo items	2.27	2.14	5.29	43	106
	F.Miscellaneous	2.21	3.83	3.36	66	58

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives and TCS of the State from 1982-83 to 1990-91.

Table 4.22 shows that the share of collection charge to sales price of medicinal items varied from 54 percent to 73 percent and for non-medicinal items from 23 percent to 77

percent during the period under reference. In the case of spices, soap and shampoo items, dye and paint items, oil seeds, the share given to tribes seems to be very low. At the same time these items have very high demand in the industrial sector too. It seems that the rate of exploitation in the case of highly demanded and high valued items are very high. However, the share of collection charge to procurement value indicate that the TCS have strictly adhered to the directions of the SC/ST federation and in almost all NTFPs except fruits, the TCS paid more than 75 percent of procurement value as collection charge. Since the procurement value is the guaranteed sales price or the only price that were available to TCS from SC/ST Federation till 1990-91, it is very clear that till that time the Federation was exploiting not only the TCS but also the tribes for whose benefit the institution was established.

4.15 Collection and sales rate and the Share to Tribes for NTFP Collection- 1991-92 to 1993-94

Even though a welcome change was introduced in the fixation of collection charge of NTFP to tribes (based on sales value), it was noted that except for flowers, bushes and creepers and miscellaneous non-medicinal items, the collection charge even did not touch 75 percent of the sales value. This is evident from Table 4.23.

Table 4.23
Average Collection & Sale Rate — 1991-92 to 1993-94

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Average Collection charge per kg (RS)	Average sales price per kg (Rs)	Collection charge as % sales value
I	Medicinal Items			
	A. Tuber crops	11.97	24.55	49
	B. Root items	3.56	6.33	56
	C. Fruits	1.95	3.30	59
	D. Barks	3.87	5.66	68
	E. Bushes & Creepers	5.34	7.07	75
	F. Liquids	26.34	38.61	68
	G. Seeds	6.19	9.00	69
	H. Flowers	28.37	35.56	80
	I. Miscellaneous	32.68	54.86	60
II	Non-Medicinal Items			
	A. Oil seeds	2.70	4.02	67
	B. Spices	55.47	128.16	43
	C. Edible items	13.37	21.20	63
	D. Dye and paint items	15.63	31.24	50
	E. Soap & Shampoo items	5.11	9.86	52
	F. Miscellaneous	7.66	8.10	95

Source : Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives and TCS of the State from 1991-92 to 1993-94.

While comparing Table 4.23 with Table 4.22, it is quite evident that for items like Tuber crops, Fruits, barks Liquids (honey), Miscellaneous items of medicinal herbs, Edible items, Dye and paint items, and soap and shampoo items, the share of collection charge over sales value for the later period, (1991-92 to 1993-94) given to tribes was comparatively

very low. Though there was absolute enhancement in sale rates and collection charge during the period, the corresponding change in the determination of collection charge is not coincided with change in the sales value of NTFP. Table 4.24 depicts the average collection charge and sale rate for the entire period under study (1982-83 to 1993-94).

Table 4.24
Average Collection Rate and Sale Rate - 1982-83
to 1993-94

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Average Coll.charge per kg (Rs)	Average sale rate per kg (Rs)	Collection Charge as % sale rate
I	Medicinal Items			
	A. Tuber crops	6.20	11.45	54
	B. Root items	2.08	3.78	55
	C. Fruits	1.14	1.82	63
	D. Barks	2.16	3.10	70
	E. Bushes & Creepers	2.75	4.11	67
	F. Liquids	16.19	22.70	71
	G. Seeds	3.89	6.19	63
	H. Flowers	15.32	20.84	73
	I. Miscellaneous	20.44	32.58	63
II	Non-Medicinal Items			
	A. Oil seeds	1.49	2.94	51
	B. Spices	29.55	99.60	30
	C. Edible items	7.84	11.07	71
	D. Dye and paint items	8.07	14.55	55
	E. Soap & Shampoo items	2.98	6.43	46
	F. Miscellaneous	3.70	4.54	81

Source :Compiled from the records of The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives and TCS of the State from 1982-83 to 1993-94.

Table 4.24 points out that over the years 1982-83 to 1993-94, the collection charge to sales value of NTFP varies from 54 percent to 73 percent for medicinal items and 30 percent to 71 percent for non-medicinal items except miscellaneous items where it is 81 percent. In any of the years the co-operative set up could not pay even 75 percent of sales value as collection charge to tribes.

4.16 NTFP Advance and NTFP Stock Advance

Collection of NTFP by a Tribal co-operative Societies is mainly depended upon a lot of factors such as availability of credit, in collection seasons rates offered to tribes the topography of region, lease rent to be remitted by co-operatives etc. Of this the availability of credit plays a very important role to exercise the full controllability of collection on NTFP. If the TCS is not in a position to meet the collection charge, immediately after the collection of produces from tribes, the tribes may resort to private traders to market their products. It may ultimately lead to develop a relation between the tribes and private traders and the co-operatives may fail to capture business, and ultimately resulting to inefficiencies.

Since most of the TCS have a very poor financial base, they have to be helped either by the Government or by

contribution may always limit to the share capital contribution TCS. But the TCS require specific fund as working capital to enter in to the field of NTFP in season and effectively carried out the collection operation. To this the TCS always look to SC/ST federation which is the sole institution to control the NTFP trade in the co-operative area. The advances of the federation are generally of two types viz., NTFP advance and NTFP stock advance. The former carries an interests of 12.5 percent per annum and the latter is made available to co-operatives on the basis of stock of NTFP kept by TCS. Both these loans should be repaid within an year. Table 4.25 reveals the NTFP advance NTFP stock advance given to TCS of the state from 1982-83 to 1991-92.

Table 4.25
NTFP Advance and NTFP Stock Advance given to TCS
from 1982-83 to 1991-92

Year	NTFP Advance (Rs)	NTFP Stock Advance (Rs)	Total (Rs)	Average Advance per TCS (Rs)
1982-83	135000 (100)	--	135000 (100)	4219
1983-84	112000 (100)	--	112000 (100)	3613
1984-85	90000 (100)		90000 (100)	3103
1985-86	280000 (68)	132000 (32)	412000 (100)	12875
1986-87	117500 (92)	10000 (8)	127500 (100)	3984
1987-88	390000 (73)	142500 (27)	532500 (100)	17177
1988-89	505000 (79)	135000 (21)	640000 (100)	20645
1989-90	287000 (43)	387000 (57)	674000 (100)	22467
1990-91	75000 (21)	277700 (79)	352700 (100)	11757
1991-92	--	82000 (100)	82000 (100)	2733
Average (Rs)				10257

Source :Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation, Thiruvananthapuram 1982-83 to 1991-92.

Note :Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage to row total.

Table 4.25 points out that the SC/ST Federation initially used to give only NTFP advance for NTFP collection to TCS. During 1985-86 onwards it started to give NTFP stock advance and the average advance per society also increased. The average loan obtained by a TCS over the period was Rs.10257/- which is considered to be very low to carry out the

that till 1988-89 the Federation has given maximum loan as NTFP advance but later it is shifted to NTFP stock advance. It may be due to the financial stringency of the Federation due to the overdue situation of the Federation by the affiliated societies.

4.17 NTFP Advance and NTFP Stock Advance-Branch-wise

Table 4.26 depicts the branch-wise disbursement of advances to TCS from 1982-83 to 1991-92. Wide difference in the disbursement could be noticed.

Table 4.26
NTFP Advance and NTFP Stock Advance — Branch wise

Year	TVM	TCR	KAL	ADI	Total
1982-83	30000	35000	30000	40000	135000
	(22.2)	(25.9)	(22.2)	(29.7)	(100)
1983-84	17000	35000	30000	30000	112000
	(15.2)	(31.2)	(26.8)	(26.8)	(100)
1984-85	--	--	30000	60000	90000
			(33.3)	(66.7)	(100)
1985-86	120000	97000	85000	110000	412000
	(29.1)	(23.5)	(20.6)	(26.8)	(100)
1986-87	20000	25000	22500	60000	127500
	(15.7)	(19.6)	(17.6)	(47.1)	(100)
1987-88	52500	295000	85000	100000	5323500
	(9.8)	(55.4)	(16)	(18.8)	(100)
1988-89	165000	265000	145000	65000	640000
	(25.8)	(41.4)	(22.6)	(10.1)	(100)
1989-90	456000	10000	161000	47000	674000
	(67.7)	(1.5)	(23.9)	(6.9)	(100)
1990-91	302700	10000	10000	30000	352700
	(85.8)	(2.8)	(2.8)	(8.6)	(100)
1991-92	52000	--	--	30000	82000
	(63.4)			(36.6)	(100)
Average	121520	77200	59850	57200	10257
per branch(38)		(25)	(19)	(18)	(100)

Source :Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation, Thiruvananthapuram 1982-83 to 1991-92.

Note :Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage to row total.

The Region wise/Branch wise analysis of the advances from 1982-83 to 1991-92 points out that the highest share of the loan (38 percent) has gone to Thiruvananthapuram branch and the lowest to Adimaly branch. As regards to the NTFP collection from forest ranges, the highest share was accounted from Thrissur and Kalpetta region/Branch, whereas the disbursement of loans were comparatively low.

4.18 Branch wise Analysis of Overdues on NTFP Advance, Stock Advance and Lease Rent Remittance by SC/ST Federation as on 30-6-92

Table 4.27
Region-wise Analysis of Overdue on NTFP Advance and
Stock Advance 30-6-1992

Sl. No.	Region	Figures in Rs			
		NTFP Advance	NTFP Stock advance	Lease Rent	Total
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	206178	247065	72215	525458 (45.7)
2.	Thrissur	163601	19009	9741	192351 (16.7)
3.	Kalpetta	363357	13000	33222	82579 (7.2)
4.	Adimaly	330986	10000	7446	348432 (30.4)
Total					1148820 (100)

Source: Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation
Thiruvananthapuram, 1994.

Table 4.27 indicates that the highest overdue has fallen on Thiruvananthapuram Branch (45.7 percent) and the lowest by Kalpetta branch (16.7) followed by the Thrissur Branch (16.7 percent).

PROFILE OF THE STUDY AREA

CHAPTER V

PROFILE OF THE STUDY AREA

In this chapter it is proposed to discuss the profile of the study area. The discussion is divided into two parts. Part I deals with the socio-economic conditions of the 254 tribal households selected for the study from the four regions of Kerala. Socio-economic variables such as family size, age and sex composition, age group of NTFP collectors, level of literacy, occupational structure, nature of dwelling houses, drinking water facilities, land holdings and cultivating area, family expenditure, etc. were collected and analysed. Part II gives an account of performance of the 10 tribal co-operative societies collected for the study from the four regions of Kerala.

Part I

5.1 Socio-economic Profile of Tribes in the Study Area

It is needless to say that the socio-economic characteristics have an important bearing on the behaviour of tribes in the collection and marketing of NTFP and other products in their day-to-day life. The behaviour in this context consists of the acts of individuals directly involved in obtaining and selling economic goods and services, including the decision processes that precede and determine

these acts. When a consumer takes a particular course of action it is the result of many influences - cultural, social and economic. It is appropriately said that all social group influences on consumer behaviour start with the culture in which the consumer lives¹.

The study covered 10 TCS in the four regions\branches of the Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives. A total, of 254 tribal house holds covering 11 tribal communities have been covered in the study. Muduvan and Mannan from Adimaly region, Kanikkar and Malai Pandaram, from Thiruvananthapuram region, Irulur, Paniyan and Malayan from Thrissur region, Kattunaicken, Paniyan, Kurumar, Adiyan and Kurichiyan from Kalpetta region have become part of the study.

5.1.1 Family Size of the Selected NTFP Collectors

The size of the family, however, points out the socio-politico-economic prospects of any society. The region wise, community wise, family size of tribals under study are given in Table 5.1

¹ Water A. Henry. (1976), "Culture Values Do Correlate with Consumer Behaviour," Journal of Marketing Research, Chicago, May, pp.121-127.

Table 5.1
Family Size

Sl. No.	Region/Tribal Community	Total Tribal Family	Size of the Family			Average Size		
			2-4	4-6	6 and above	Total	Male	Female
I THIRUVANANTHAPURAM RM.								
1	Malai Pandaram	15	3	8	4	5	3	2
2	Kanikkar	40	11	22	7	4	2	2
	Total TVM. RM.	55 [100]	14 [25]	30 [55]	11 [20]	4	2	2
II THRISSUR RM.								
3	Irular	33	12	17	4	4	2	2
4	Paniyan	17	4	10	3	5	2	3
5	Malayan	25	8	11	6	4	2	2
	Total TCR. RM.	75 [100]	24 [32]	38 [51]	13 [17]	4	2	2
III KALPETTA RM.								
6	Kattunaicken	28	11	12	5	4	2	2
7	Paniyan	8	2	2	4	5	2	3
8	Kurumer	17	3	9	5	5	2	3
9	Adiyan	16	6	7	3	4	2	2
10	Kurichiyan	15	2	6	7	6	3	3
	Total KAL. RM.	84 [100]	24 [28]	36 [44]	24 [28]	5	2	3
IV ADIMALY RM.								
11	Muduvan	25	5	16	4	4	2	2
12	Nannan	15	4	8	3	4	2	2
	Total ADI. RM.	40 [100]	9 [22]	24 [60]	7 [18]	4	2	2
	Grand Total (I+II+III+IV)	254 [100]	71 [28]	128 [50]	55 [22]	4	2	2

Table 5.1 points out that the average size of a family is 4. It is observed that there is not much disparity between tribal communities and regions in case of the size of the families. Fifty per cent of tribal families surveyed had members ranging from 4 to 6. Among tribal communities, Paniyans, Kurumans and Kurichiyans are having a slightly bigger families as compared with other tribal communities

5.1.2 Age and Sex Composition

Age, as an index of a person's capability, is a significant measure of a nation's vitality. It also reveals quality of population, which is useful for education, life insurance and other welfare programmes. It affects people both as producers and consumers of wealth and is affected by fertility, mortality and migration. The socio-economic activities affect the age structure². The tribal age class has been divided in to three classes³.

Juvenile (< 15 years age group)

Mature (15 to 44 years age group)

Older mature and senile 45 +

² Hanuman Prasad (1990), "The Socio-Economic status of the SC and ST. A Case Study of Azamgarh Dt.", In: Chaurasia (ed): Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in India, Chugh Publications, Allahabad, p.107.

³ Ibid..... pp.107 & 108.

Table 5.2

Total Family Members (including respondents)- Age and Sex Composition

Sl. No.	Region/ Tribal Community	Age class and the total tribes in each class								Grand Total
		<15		15-45		45 and above		Total		
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
I THIRUVANANTHAPURAM RM.										
1	Malai Pandaram	10	11	24	16	6	4	40	31	71
2	Kanikkar	25	24	38	45	22	14	85	83	168
	Total TVM. RM. (a)	35	35	62	61	28	18	125	114	239
		(30)		(51)		(19)				(100)
II THRISSUR RM.										
3	Irular	21	12	35	38	13	10	69	60	129
4	Paniyan	13	11	15	23	10	5	38	39	77
5	Malayan	9	14	29	35	13	11	51	60	111
	Total TCH. RM. (b)	43	37	79	96	36	26	158	159	317
		(25)		(55)		(20)				(100)
III KALPETTA RM.										
6	Kattunaicken	22	24	30	27	6	5	58	56	114
7	Paniyan	6	10	13	11	1	1	20	22	42
8	Kurumar	9	13	20	26	11	3	40	42	82
9	Adiyan	6	10	20	20	7	5	33	35	68
10	Kurichiyen	19	20	18	18	7	4	44	42	86
	Total KAL. RM. (c)	62	77	101	102	32	18	195	197	392
		(35)		(52)		(13)				(100)
IV ADIWALY RM.										
11	Muduvan	15	20	31	31	8	6	54	57	111
12	Mannan	14	20	17	16	-	-	31	36	67
	Total ADI. RM. (d)	29	40	48	47	8	6	85	93	178
		(39)		(53)		(8)				(100)

The juvenile comprising of infants and adolescents is largely biologically as well as economically non-productive. Mature is biologically the most reproductive, economically productive and demographically the most mobile and supports the bulk of the other two groups. Table 5.2 depicts the age and sex composition of tribes under study.

Table 5.2 represents that 53 per cent of the tribes from the survey has fallen in the most productive class of 15-45 age group, the juvenile class accounted to 32 per cent and the old class accounted to 15 per cent. Though there is not much disparity in the composition, Thrissur region accounted the highest productive class with 55 per cent mature class.

5.1.3 Age Group of NTFP Collectors

The age group and the sex composition of NTFP collectors are given in Table 5.3

Table 5.3 reveals that 69 per cent of the NTFP collectors are in the age group of 15-45 and 22 per cent, 45 and above. It is a pity to note that 9 per cent of the total NTFP collectors are children. Among others more belong to Kallipetta region followed by Adimaly.

Table 5.3

Age Group of WTPP Collectors

Sl. No.	Region/ Tribal Community	WTPP collectors and their age group								Grand Total
		5 - 15		15-45		45 and above		Total		
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
I THIRUVANANTHAPURAM RN.										
1	Malai Pandaram	2	3	23	12	6	3	31	18	49
2	Kanikkar	5	2	33	22	22	4	60	28	88
	Total TVM. RN. (a)	7	5	56	34	28	7	91	46	137
		(9)		(66)		(25)				(100)
II THRISSUR RN.										
3	Irular	1	-	30	28	12	5	43	33	76
4	Paniyan	6	-	13	15	9	3	28	18	46
5	Malayan	-	1	19	18	12	7	31	26	57
	Total TCR. RN. (b)	7	1	62	61	33	15	102	77	179
		(4)		(69)		(27)				(100)
III KALPETTA RN.										
6	Kattunaicken	13	2	32	21	6	4	51	27	78
7	Paniyan	3	-	11	3	3	2	17	5	22
8	Kurumer	3	2	14	7	9	-	26	9	35
9	Adiyan	-	-	17	10	3	1	20	11	31
10	Kurichiyen	-	-	12	7	4	1	16	8	24
	Total KAL. RN. (c)	19	4	86	48	25	8	130	60	190
		(12)		(71)		(17)				(100)
IV ADIMALY RN.										
11	Muduvan	6	2	28	15	9	6	43	23	66
12	Mannan	2	-	16	7	-	-	18	7	25
	Total ADI. RN. (d)	8	2	44	22	9	6	61	30	91
		(11)		(73)		(16)				(100)
	Grand Total (a+b+c+d)	41	12	248	165	95	36	384	213	597
		(9)		(69)		(22)				(100)

5.1.4 Level of Literacy

Literacy is essential for economic development and social advancement of scheduled tribes. The level of literacy of scheduled tribes under the surveyed families is depicted in Table 5.4.

Table 5.4 indicates that only 47 per cent of the tribes are literate of which 56 per cent do not have any school level education. They know only how to write their names in Malayalam. They even did not know how to put their signature. They affix their thumb impression in vouchers or receipts of the TCS to get their NTFP advances and the selling price of NTFP. It is also observed that most of the tribes haven't completed their primary education. The researcher found that the distance of the school from the dwelling place, remoteness, employing children to collect NTFP, the illiteracy of parents, and poverty are the major reasons that prevent children from going to school. Though the effective literacy rate of tribes as per 1991 was found to be 57.22 percentage, the literacy rate of NTFP collectors was found to be only 20.45 per cent $(482-271) \div 1032 \times 100$. The level of literacy of tribes is higher in Thiruvananthapuram region (60 percent) and the lowest in the regions of Thrissur and Kalpetta. It is also observed that the neo-literate programmes of the Government of Kerala have not made any significant impact in the tribal area. They should be taught

Table 5.4
Level of Literacy

Sl. No.	Region/ Tribal Community	Total tribes above 5 years group	Total Literate	Literate without education level	Level of Literacy		
					Primary	Secondary	College
I THIRUVANANTHAPURAM RN.							
1	Malai Pandaram	69	38	20	10	4	4
2	Kanikkar	160	99	65	15	18	1
	Total TVM. RN. (a)	229	137	85	25	22	5
		[100]	[60]	(62)	(18)	(16)	(4)
II THRISSUR RN.							
3	Irular	111	13	10	2	1	-
4	Paniyan	71	38	25	12	1	-
5	Malayan	108	73	37	29	6	1
	Total TCR. RN. (b)	290	124	72	43	8	1
		[100]	[43]	(58)	(35)	(6)	(1)
III KALPETTA RN.							
6	Kattunaicken	107	20	10	8	2	-
7	Paniyan	37	14	9	5	-	-
8	Kurumar	75	47	20	16	11	-
9	Adiyan	64	25	15	6	4	-
10	Kurichiyen	77	47	10	30	6	1
	Total KAL. RN. (c)	360	153	64	65	23	1
		[100]	[43]	(42)	(42)	(15)	(1)
IV ADIMALY RN.							
11	Muduven	103	47	34	11	2	-
12	Mannan	50	21	16	5	-	-
	Total ADI. RN. (d)	153	68	50	16	2	-
		[100]	[44]	(73)	(23)	(4)	
	Grand Total (a+b+c+d)	1032	482	271	149	55	7
		[100]	[47]	(56)	(31)	(11)	(2)

Note: 1. Figures in [] brackets indicate total literates in percentages.

2. Figures in () brackets indicate the percentages of the level

lessons pertaining to collection and marketing of NTFP, extraction methods of NTFP, marketing channels, health details, bad effects of liquors, excessive chewing of tobacco, beedi etc.

5.1.5 Occupational Structure

Occupational structure exerts vital influence on the socio-cultural character of a region and provides some background for formulating plans for their socio-economic development. The size of labour force, and sex-wise participation in different economic activities reveal the natural resource base, socio-cultural organisation, stage of civilization and development of a region. Table 5.5 depicts the main occupational structure of all the tribes covered in the study.

Table 5.5 reveals that of the total work force 768 (1126- children in the age group of < 15- Table 5.2), 622 are engaged in occupations (81 per cent) such as collection and marketing of NTFP, cultivation, agricultural labour, forestry, collection and marketing of firewood, weaving, etc. The Table points out that 52.4 per cent of the workers treat NTFP collection as their main occupation, and 40.4 per cent as labourers (Agricultural labour + forest labour). It is to be noted that 4 per cent of the tribes alone cultivate their own land.

Table 5.5
Occupational Structure - Main

Sl. No.	Region/ Tribal Community	Occupations - Respondents and family Members												Grand Total
		WTFP		Cultivators		Labourers		Service		Other occupation		Total		
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
I THIRUVANANTHAPURAM														
1	Malai Pandaram	26	18	-	-	3	3	1	-	-	-	30	21	51
2	Kanikkar	42	21	2	1	16	4	-	-	3	3	63	29	92
	Total YV. RM.(a)	68	39	2	1	19	7	1	-	3	3	93	50	143
		(75)		(2)		(18)		(1)		(4)				(100)
II THRISSUR RM.														
3	Iralar	25	14	8	5	20	8	-	-	3	2	56	29	85
4	Paniyan	4	4	-	-	16	18	-	-	1	-	21	22	43
5	Malayan	15	11	-	-	18	20	-	-	-	2	33	33	66
	Total TCR. RM.(b)	44	29	8	5	54	46	-	-	4	4	110	84	194
		(38)		(7)		(51)				(4)				(100)
III KALPETTA RM.														
6	Kattunaicken	36	25	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	37	28	65
7	Paniyan	1	1	-	-	11	6	-	-	2	3	14	10	24
8	Kurumar	11	2	-	-	16	18	-	-	1	1	28	21	49
9	Mdiyan	1	-	-	-	10	12	-	-	-	-	11	12	23
10	Kurichiyen	5	2	2	2	17	7	-	-	-	-	24	11	35
	Total KAL. RM.(c)	54	30	2	2	55	46	-	-	3	4	114	82	196
		(43)		(2)		(52)				(3)				(100)
IV ADICALY RM.														
11	Muduvan	28	16	1	1	7	9	-	-	-	-	36	26	62
12	Mannan	12	6	1	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	18	9	27
	Total ADI. RM.(d)	40	22	2	1	12	12	-	-	-	-	54	35	89
		(78)		(3)		(27)								(100)
	Grand Total (a+b+c+d)	206	120	14	9	140	111	1	-	10	11	371	251	622
		(52.4)		(4)		(40.4)		(0.06)		(3.14)				(100)

Note: 1. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total

A wide range of disparity could be noticed among regions and tribes in the occupational structure. While the tribes of Thiruvananthapuram and Adimaly regions made their both ends meet through NTFP collection, the tribes of Thrissur and Kalpetta region mainly concentrate on agricultural and forestry work for their livelihood. Among tribes the Kattunaikkan of Kalpetta region, Muduvans of Adimaly region, Malaipandaram and Kanikkars of Thiruvananthapuram region and Irulars of Thrissur region mainly concentrate on NTFP collection for meeting their day to day requirements.

5.1.6 Subsidiary Occupational Structure

Table 5.6 depicts the subsidiary occupation of tribes in the study region.

Table 5.6 points out that of the 599 tribes who were engaged in different subsidiary occupations, 45 per cent treat NTFP collection and marketing as their subsidiary occupation. Among regions, 58 per cent of the tribes of Thrissur and 67 per cent of the tribes of Kalpetta consider NTFP collection and marketing as their subsidiary occupation and most of the tribes of Adimaly and Thiruvananthapuram regions treat labour income as their main subsidiary income.

Table 5.6
Occupational Structure - Subsidiary

Sl. No.	Region/ Tribal Community	Occupations - Respondent and family Members												Grand Total
		NTFP		Cultivators		Labourers		Service		Other occupation		Total		
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
I THIRUVANANTHAPURAM RN.														
1	Malai Pandaram	9	7	2	2	21	10	-	-	3	2	35	21	56
2	Kanikkar	18	7	2	1	32	29	-	-	1	-	53	37	90
Total TVN. RN.		27	14	4	3	53	39	-	-	4	2	88	58	146
		(23)		(5)		(63)				(4)				(100)
II THRISSUR RN.(a)														
3	Irujar	19	20	2	2	18	11			2	3	41	36	77
4	Paniyan	17	14	-	-	2	3	-	-	1	6	20	23	43
5	Malayan	16	15	1	1	12	8	-	-	1	-	30	24	54
Total TCH. RN.(b)		52	49	3	3	32	22	-	-	4	9	91	83	174
		(58)		(3)		(31)				(8)				(100)
III KALPETTA RN.														
6	Kattunackon	10	5	-	-	10	5	-	-	1	1	21	11	32
7	Paniyan	12	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	5	17
8	Kurmar	15	5	1	-	8	3	-	-	1	1	25	9	34
9	Adiyaa	24	16	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	25	16	41
10	Kurichiyon	12	7	10	3	3	3	4	-	-	-	29	13	42
Total KAL. RN.(c)		73	38	11	3	22	11	4	-	2	2	112	54	166
		(67)		(9)		(20)		(2)		(2)				(100)
IV ADIRALY RN.														
11	Moduvan	9	2	-	-	27	14	-	-	10	21	46	37	83
12	Mannan	6	1	2	1	11	8	-	-	-	1	19	11	30
Total ADI. RN.(d)		15	3	2	1	38	22	-	-	10	22	65	48	113
		(16)		(3)		(53)				(28)				(100)
Grand Total (a+b+c+d)		167	104	20	10	145	94	4	-	20	35	356	243	599
		(45)		(5)		(40)		(1)		(9)				(100)

Note : Figures in Parentheses indicate percentage to row grand total.

5.1.7 Children as NTFP Collectors

While comparing Table 5.2 with 5.3, it is clear that children in the age group of 5-15 are also engaged in NTFP collection and marketing. The total number of children < 15 years was 358 and the survey showed that the number of infants as 103. Hence it is understood that of the 255 children in the age group of 5-15, 53 are engaged in NTFP collection (21 per cent). Employing children in the field of collection and marketing of NTFP may ultimately deny education to children at the very younger age. It may be one of the major reasons for showing a very poor literacy rate among NTFP collectors of the state.

5.1.8 Type of Dwelling House

Table 5.7 depicts the type of dwelling houses of the tribes.

Table 5.7 indicates that 53.9 per cent of the households are having thatched houses. They are generally built by bamboos and leaves of certain trees. Every year the thatched houses have to be repaired or replaced with new leaves and poles. Among regions, more than 50 per cent of tribes of Thrissur and Kalpetta regions are having tiled houses for living. It is also observed that the plight of these tiled houses have become deplorable. Among tribal communities, considerable difference in the type of dwelling houses were also noticed.

Table 5.7

Type of Dwelling House

Sl. No.	Region/ Tribal Community	Total households	Type of dwelling house			
			Concrete	Tiled	Thatched	Asbetose
I	THIRUVANANTHAPURAM					
1	Malai Pandaram	15		7	8	-
2	Kanikkar	40	-	6	34	
	Total TVM. RN.(a)	55 (100)	-	13 (23.6)	42 (76.4)	
II	THRISSUR RN.					
3	Irular	33		12	21	
4	Paniyan	17	1	13	3	
5	Malayan	25		22	3	
	Total TCR. RN.(b)	75 (100)	1 (1.3)	47 (62.7)	27 (36)	
III	KALPETTA RN.					
6	Kattunaicken	28		24	4	
7	Paniyan	8		4	4	
8	Kurumar	17		8	9	
9	Adiyan	16		2	14	
10	Kurichiyen	15		8	7	
	Total KAL. RN.(c)	84 (100)	-	46 (54.8)	38 (45.2)	
IV	ADIMALY RN.					
11	Muduvan	25		5	16	
12	Mannan	15		1	14	
	Total ADI. RN.(d)	40 (100)	-	6 (15)	30 (75)	4 (10)
	Grand Total (a+b+c+d)	254 (100)	1 (0.6)	112 (44)	137 (53.9)	4 (1.5)

Note : Figures in Parentheses indicate percentage to row total

5.1.9 Drinking Water Facilities

Table 5.8 depicts the drinking water facilities available to tribes in the study region.

Table 5.8 points out that 41 per cent of the tribal households collect drinking water from small ponds, 30 per cent from well, 16 per cent from nearby river and 13 per cent from pipe. Considerable difference in the collection of drinking water among regions are evident. Though the Government dug wells in some area, they were not properly maintained. They were filled with leaves, poles, dusts etc. and so the tribes had to travel miles to collect drinking water. Water shortage is found to be very acute in Sholayoor areas where the tribes had to spent at least half a day to collect drinking water from distant places.

Table 5.8
Drinking water Facilities

Sl. No.	Region/ Tribal Community	Total tribal households	Type of drinking water			
			River	Well	Pipe	Pond
I	THIRUVANANTHAPURAM					
1	Malai Pandaram	15	6	4	-	5
2	Kanikkar	40	-	13	-	27
	Total TVM. RN.(a)	55 (100)	6 (11)	17 (31)	-	32 (58)
II	THRISSUR RN.					
3	Irular	33	1	6	5	21
4	Paniyan	17	-	1	15	1
5	Malayan	25	2	23	-	-
	Total TCR. RN.(b)	75 (100)	3 (4)	30 (40)	20 (26)	22 (30)
III	KALPETTA RN.					
6	Kattunaicken	28	14	8	5	1
7	Paniyan	8	1	7	-	-
8	Kurumar	17	9	5	-	3
9	Adiyan	16	-	2	6	8
10	Kurichiyen	15	9	2	1	3
	Total KAL. RN.(c)	84 (100)	33 (39)	24 (29)	12 (14)	15 (18)
IV	ADIMALY RN.					
11	Muduvan	25	-	5	-	20
12	Mannan	15	-	-	-	15
	Total ADI. RN.(d)	40 (100)	-	5 (12)	-	35 (88)
	Grand Total (a+b+c+d)	254 (100)	42 (16)	76 (30)	32 (13)	104 (41)

Note : Figures in Parentheses indicate percentage to row total

5.1.10 Land Holding and Cultivating Area

The study points out that all tribal households are having land of their own. Considerable difference in holdings are revealed in Table 5.9.

Table 5.9 points out that 45 per cent of the tribal households are having land less than one acre and 12 per cent of the households keep above 3 acres. However, the average holdings of a tribal household is 1.26 acres. Significant difference among regions in the holdings were also noticed. The tribes of Thiruvananthapuram and Adimaly regions hold 1.79 and 1.71 acres respectively whereas it is 1.22 and 0.75 acres at Thrissur and Kalpetta regions respectively. Significant difference in cultivating areas of the regions and tribal communities within and among regions were also noticed. Of the total holdings 53 per cent of the area alone were brought under cultivation. As per record⁴, 55.59 percentage of the tribal households of Kerala have holdings above 4 acres.

⁴ Government of Kerala (1992), Notes on Scheduled Tribes Development in Kerala, Directorate of Scheduled Tribes Development, Thiruvananthapuram, p.24.

Table 5.9

Land Holdings and Cultivating Area

Sl. Region/ Tribal No. Community	Total Tribal Households (Nos.)	Size of the area				Average holdings (acres)	Average Cultivat: area (acres)
		< 1 acre	1 to 2 acres	2 to 3 acres	3 and above		
I THIRUVANANTHAPURAM							
1 Malai Pandaram	15	6	-	9	-	1.5	0.5
2 Kanikkar	40	4	16	13	7	1.9	1.0
Total TVM. RN. (a)	55 (100)	10 (18)	16 (29)	22 (40)	7 (13)	1.79	0.86 [48]
II THRISSUR RN.							
3 Irular	33	11	5	6	11	2.19	1.5
4 Paniyan	17	3	14	-	-	0.83	0.35
5 Malayan	25	23	2			0.20	0.20
Total TCR. RN. (b)	75 (100)	37 (49)	21 (28)	6 (8)	11 (15)	1.22	0.81 [66]
III KALPETTA RN.							
6 Kattunaicken	28	28	-	-	-	0.10	0.00
7 Paniyan	8	7	1	-	-	0.23	0.10
8 Kurumar	17	9	6	1	1	1.03	0.75
9 Adiyan	16	15	1	-	-	0.4	0.40
10 Kurichiyen	15	1	5	3	6	2.3	2.0
Total KAL. RN. (c)	84 (100)	60 (71)	13 (15)	4 (5)	7 (9)	0.75	0.27 [36]
IV ADIMALY RN.							
11 Muduvan	25	8	6	6	5	1.53	1.25
12 Mannan	15	-	7	7	1	2.00	1.63
Total ADI. RN. (d)	40 (100)	8 (20)	13 (33)	13 (33)	6 (14)	1.71	1.39 [81]
Grand Total (a+b+c+d)	254 (100)	115 (45)	63 (25)	45 (18)	31 (12)	1.26	0.67 [53]

Note: 1. Figures in () brackets indicate percentage to total tribal households.

2. Figures in [] brackets indicate percentage to Average holdings.

Kunhaman (1989)⁵, Mohan Das (1992)⁶, and Kumaran (1993)⁷ all projected the case of land alienation in the tribal economy of Kerala. Mohan Das reveals that 46.44 per cent of the area possessed by tribes in Wayanad (Kalpetta region) prior to the migration of the settlers were alienated. On account of this phenomenon the land under the custody of tribes is very less for cultivation.

5.1.11 Family Expenditure

The expenditure pattern of tribal households was analysed and the same was presented in Appendix IV.

The analysis shows that 55 percent of the tribal household expenditure is on food items. Even though not much difference is seen on expenditure on food among tribal households and communities of Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur and Kalpetta regions, wide difference was noticed in this respect among the tribal families of Adimaly region. They spent 60

5 Kunhaman, M. (1989), Development of Tribal Economy, Classical Publishing Co., New Delhi.

6 Mohan Das (1992), Impact of New Settlers in Western Ghat Region on the Socio-economic Conditions of the Tribal Population- The Case of Wayanad District, Kerala Agricultural University, College of Co-operation and Banking, Kerala.

7 Kumaran. (1993), Kerala Tribal Land Act: Problems and Perspectives- An Empirical Study with Reference to Wayanad, Project Report submitted to Dept. of Law, Cochin University of Science and Technology.

per cent of their income on food items. It was also noticed that about 4 to 10 per cent of the expenditure on food was on account of the 'eating out' habit of the tribes. Next to food comes liquor and that accounts about 12 per cent of the household expenditure. Liquor and tobacco chewing together account 21 per cent of the total expenditure and recreation and festivals celebrations together, 7 per cent. Only one per cent of their income was spent on medical purpose. The use of Medicinal herbs by the tribals and free availability of treatment in Ayurvedic and Allopathy hospitals may be the reason for spending very negligible amount on medicinal purposes. The survey showed that the nearest institution functioning within a radius of one kilometre in the tribal area is liquor shop. Figure 3 gives the break-up of the total expenditure of the tribal households.

Family Expenditure Break-up

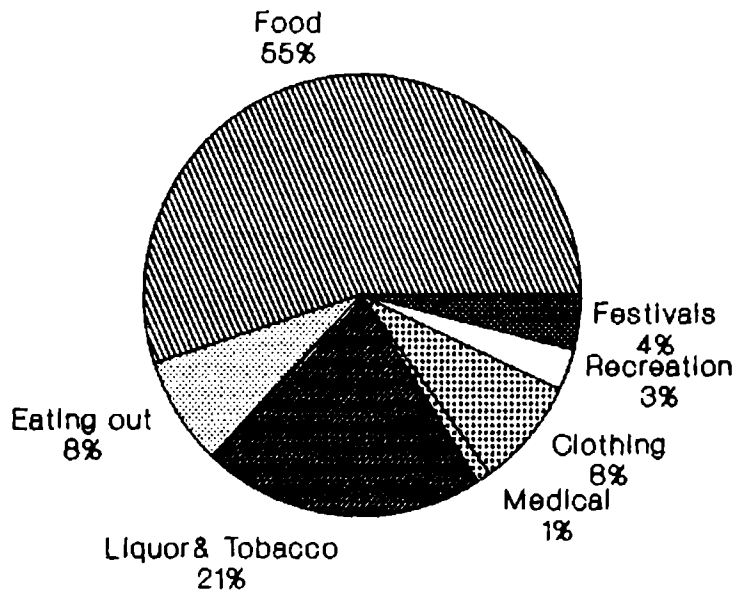


Figure 3

5.2 Basic Facilities Index (BFI) of Tribal Households

Kerala displays a set of unusually high development indicators in the field of literacy, life expectancy, infant mortality and birth rate. The Physical Quality of Life Index (PQLI) of Kerala is very high to any of the states in the country⁸ and any low income countries⁹ of the world. As regards to the provision for basic services since the 1970s showed that the state stands first in all-weather roads, post offices, bus stops, primary schools, secondary schools, ration shops, health dispensaries and health centres within two kilometers of every household¹⁰. It is also observed that within five kilometers we have higher education facilities, hospitals, fertilizer depots, agriculture pump repair shops, veterinary dispensaries, credit co-operative banks and other banks¹¹. While we claim these as advantageous so far no attempt has been made to assess the availability of these basic facilities in the tribal areas of Kerala. Table 5.10 indicates the average distance of basic facilities from the tribal households of Kerala.

12 Richard W. Franke and Barbae H. Chasin. (1992), Kerala, Development through Radical Reform, Promilla and Company, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Institute for Food and Development Policy, San francisco, p.10.

9 Ibid p.11.

10 Ibidp.13.

11

Table 5.10

Average distance of Basic Facilities from the Tribal Households

Sl. No.	Basic facilities	Distance (in kilometer)
1.	Ration shop	3.10
2.	Provision shop	2.44
3.	Health centre	6.71
4.	Primary school	4.24
5.	Secondary school	8.71
6.	Post office	3.54
7.	Liquor shop	2.17
8.	Tribal co-operative societies	7.71
9.	Drinking water facilities	3.34
10.	Electricity	3.10
11.	Co-operative banks	9.36
12.	Other banks	10.32

Source: Compiled from the records of Tribal Co-operative Societies, Government Records and from the Primary data of 254 tribal households.

Table 5.10 points out that none of the basic institutions under reference is within two kilometers of tribals households or hamlets. The nearest institution, as already been pointed out is the liquor shop. It was revealed that most of these liquor shops are the illicit sale centres

of arrack contractors. The second nearest institution to the tribal area is private provision shops. They also exploit the tribes by supplying inferior quality products at exorbitant prices. They also collect NTFPs from tribes. Primary schools, secondary schools, tribal co-operative societies are known in the vicinity of tribal households. If transport facilities are made available that will reduce the effect of distance. It will facilitate mobility for the tribal people. That will also help them to market their NTFP. Therefore it is proposed to develop a basic facilities index with the following factors to compare the basic facilities available in the tribal households of the four regions of the SC/ST Federation.

- 1) The average distance (Km) of each institution from the tribal hamlets.
- 2) The availability of transport facilities and
- 3) Assigned score to these basic facilities according to the importance assigned by tribal households under study.

The effect of distance on basic facilities is brought through reciprocals, transport facilities through β and the tribals importance to each basic facility is scored (based on the survey result of 254 tribal households). The model developed to assess the Basic Facilities Index is

$$\text{BFI} = \frac{1}{\alpha + (1 - \beta)d} \times W$$

where

BFI = Basic Facilities Index

α = The ideal distance where all facilities are available. For items 1-7, α is treated as 2 and for items 8-13 α is 5 (see table 5.11).

β = Measure the availability of transport facilities in tribal hamlets. The value of β is either 1 or 0

d = The average distance (Km) of each basic facility from the tribal households and

W = The assigned score value of each basic facility.

The scores assigned to each basic facility is given in Table 5.11.

Table 5.11

Basic Facilities and Scores Assigned

Sl. No.	Basic facilities	Scores
1.	Ration shop	10
2.	Provision shop	8
3.	Health centre	8
4.	Primary school	7
5.	Secondary school	6
6.	Post office	2
7.	Liquor shop (within 2 Km)	-5
8.	Tribal Co-operative Societies	8
9.	Drinking water facilities	7
10.	Electricity	6
11.	Co-operative banks	5
12.	Other banks	3
13.	Liquor shops (within 5 Km)	-3

The data collected from the 254 tribal households with respect to the basic facilities from the four regions of the SC/ST federation which cover the entire state have been fitted in the model and the result of the study is given in Table 5.12.

Table 5.12

Basic Facilities Index (BFI) of Tribal Households

Sl. No.	Region/Tribal household	BFI
A	Thiruvananthapuram Region	
	TME	23
	TEF	12
	TLE	26
	Region Total (A)	21
B	Thrissur Region	
	TME	37
	TEF	21
	TLE	37
	Region Total (B)	32
C	Kalpetta Region	
	TME	37
	TEF	31
	TLE	19
	Region Total (C)	30
D	Adimaly Region	
	TME	21
	Grand Total (A+B+C+D)	27
	Grouping	
	TME	29
	TEF	23
	TLE	28

Table 5.12 indicates that the BFI of the tribal households in the state is 27 and the BFI of Thiruvananthapuram and Adimaly regions are seem to be the lowest. It is also observed that there is inter and intra differences in BFI between and among regions.

Part II

5.3 Profile of Tribal Co-operative Societies

Methodologically ten Tribal Co-operative Societies have been selected for the study. Achencovil TCS, Pottamavu TCS and Njaraneeli TCS were selected from Thiruvananthapuram region as more effective, effective and less effective societies respectively. Malampuzha TCS, Sholayoor TCS and Palappilly TCS were selected as more effective, effective and less effective TCS from the Thrissur region. Sultan Batters TCS, Tirunelli TCS and Kannavem TCS represented Kalpetta region as More Effective (ME) effective (EF) and less effective (LF) societies from Kalpetta region. Though there are seven TCS which engage in the collection and marketing of NTFP in the Adimaly region by 1993-94, the Adimaly TCS alone has a ten year continuous trade record in collection and marketing of NTFP in that region and in performance (collection and marketing) it secured 4th rank, in the state. Therefore the Adimaly TCS alone was selected from that region and designated as more effective TCS.

5.3.1 Area of Operation and Coverage on Tribes

The area of operation of TCS and the total number of tribes in that area and the coverage of TCS etc. are depicted in Table 5.13.

Area of Operation of the Selected TCS 1993-94

Sl. No.	Regions	No. of Panchayats (No.)	Area of Panchayat (Sq.Km.)	Number of			% (7 to 6)	NTFP Collec-tors(Nos)	% (9 to 7)	NTFP collector in tribal household
				Forest Ranges covered	Tribes the area in TCS (Nos)	Members (Nos)				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
I Trivandrum RN.										
	NE	2	326.7	2	699	168	24	84	50	100
	EF	1	217.9*	2	2492*	120	5	40	30	130
	LE	1	217.9*	4	2492*	720	29	75	10	253
	Total TVN Rn.(a)	4	544.6	8	3191	1008	32	179	18	483
II Thrissur RN										
	NE	4	358.8	3	7077	961	14	380	40	265
	EF	2	564.2	1	14721	1457	10	350	24	240
	LE	2	205.9	4	839	667	79	225	34	250
	Total TCR Rn.(b)	8	1128.9	8	17243	3085	18	955	31	755
III Kalpetta RN										
	NE	2	353.2	2	13107	1323	10	1250	94	350
	EF	1	201.1	2	9153	687	8	125	18	291
	LE	2	61.7	1	2186	635	29	56	9	200
	Total KAL Rn.(c)	5	616	5	24446	2645	11	1431	54	841
IV Adimaly RN										
	NE	3	382.1	3	4922	1412	29	200	14	395
	Total AD Rn.(d)	3	382.1	3	4922	1412	29	200	14	395
	Grand Total (a+b+c+d)	20	2671.6	24	49802	8150	16	2765	34	2474
Society Groupings										
	NE	11	1420.8	10	20411	3864	19	1914	50	1110
	EF	4	983.2	5	26366	2264	9	515	23	661
	LE	5	485.5	9	5517	2022	37	356	18	703

Source: Items 3,4 and 6 are compiled from the census report 1991, series 12 paper-3 of 1991, Director of Census Operation, Kerala.

- Items 5,7,9 and 11 are compiled from the record of respective tribal co-operative Societies under study for the year 1993-94.

Note 1. * Same panchayat and tribal population

for polomavu (Ef) and Njaraneeli (LF) TCS for NTFP collection.

2.NE-stands for more efficient tribal Society. EF-Efficient TCS. LE-Less efficient TCS.

For collection and marketing of NTFP, the Achencovil TCS covers two panchayats viz., Aryankavu and Piravathoor of Kollam district, the Potamavu and Njaraneeli TCS cover the Peringanmala panchayat of Thiruvananthapuram district. The researcher found that since there was overlapping of area in the functioning of these two TCS, the TCS could not exercise proper control in the collection and marketing of NTFP from this panchayat.

The Malampuzha TCS covers four panchayats viz., Akathethara, Malampuzha, Pudupariyaram and Pudussery of Palakkad district. The Sholayoor TCS covers Sholayoor and Pudur panchayats of Palakkad district. The Palappilly TCS covers the Varandarappally and Mattathoor panchayats of Thrissur district.

For the collection of NTFP the Sultan Battery TCS of Kalpetta region covers two panchayats viz., Noolpuzha and Sultan Battery. The Thirunelly TCS covers only one panchayat of Wayanad district viz., Thirunelly. However, the Kannavam TCS of Kalpetta region covers two panchayats of Kannur district viz., Pattiam and Chittariparamba for the collection of NTFP.

The Adimaly TCS of Adimaly region covers three panchayats of Idukki district for the collection of NTFP viz., Mannamkandam, Pallivasal, Vellathooval and part of Kuttampuzha panchayat also.

Table 5.13 also points out that, of the total members of TCS only 34 per cent of tribes alone go for NTFP collection in the area designated to them. The coverage of TCS on the area of operation seem to be very poor i.e., 16 per cent of the tribes alone have become members in TCS.

While examining the region wise details it is very evident that the coverage on tribal population by TCS is comparatively better in Thiruvananthapuram region and very poor in Kalpetta region. But the per cent of NTFP collectors to total members in TCS showed a reverse result. The Kalpetta region stands first by 54 per cent and Thiruvananthapuram stands the lowest by 18 per cent.

While examining the area covered by TCS, the Thrissur region stands by 1128.9 Sq. Km. and the Kalpetta region by 616 Sq. Km and 544.6 Sq. Km. by Thiruvananthapuram region.

The efficiency-wise analysis showed a very interesting picture. Though the coverage of more efficient TCS on tribes in the area is only 19 per cent, 50 per cent of the members are engaged in collection and marketing of NTFP from that area. In case of efficient TCS, only 9 per cent of the tribes in the area were covered by TCS, even though 23 per cent of the members are engaged in NTFP collection and marketing. But in the case of the least efficient TCS though

the coverage on tribes as compared to the other two classes are more (37 per cent), the percentage of members who engaged in NTFP collection is only 18 per cent.

Though the highest number of tribes are seen in Kalpetta region (24446), the coverage of TCS on tribes in this region is only 11 per cent.

5.3.2 Objectives of Tribal Co-operative Societies

In addition to the main objectives of collection and marketing of Non-Timber forest produces, the Tribal Co-operative Societies were established with the following objectives.

1. To carry out tribal welfare schemes and to develop saving habits, self reliance and co-operation among the members.
2. To receive money from individuals, institutions and government to carry out the vested aims of the society.
3. To supply necessary agricultural inputs such as seed, chemical fertilizers, pesticides, agricultural implements etc. to members for the development of agriculture.
4. To give short, medium and long term loans to members for cultivation of land.
5. To promote bee-keeping, poultries, animal husbandry etc. and

6. To supply necessary consumer items to members by establishing consumer stores.

5.3.3 Functions

The TCS have undertaken a number of functions to carry out their objectives. But since 1977-78 the only function that has been carried out by the TCS collection and marketing of NTFP from their area.

The Achencovil TCS was registered in 1980. Till 1989-90 it met some of the credit requirements of members too. But due to over dues the same facilities could not be extended. It supplies consumer items through collection agents of NTFP. The Potomavu TCS was registered in 1976 with the main objective of undertaking forest job for the benefit of tribes. It also undertake agricultural operations in the tribal land by employing the tribes at specified wages. One-third of the agricultural produce was distributed among tribes. The surplus if any, of agricultural produce were distributed among the tribes as bonus according to their wages drawn from TCS. The main agricultural crop cultivated was tapioca. But the system was stopped by 1986-87 due to non-co-operation of tribes. The only function which the TCS now perform the collection and marketing of NTFP from its area. To collect these items, advances were given to tribes through Board of Directors. But due to non-payment of

advances by Board members to tribes, the system of advancing cash to tribes is now vested with the of secretary of the TCS. The Njaraneeli TCS was registered in 1979 with the objective of collection and marketing of NTFP from its area of operation. Till 1989-90, it gave credit to members and later the system stopped due to heavy over dues.

The Malampuzha TCS which was registered in 1976 had undertaken agricultural operations at Chavadippara in 15 acres of land with the help of agricultural department for the benefit of tribes. It cultivated ground nut, paddy, vegetables and ginger. In Anakkallu also the TCS supervised the 15 acre rubber plantation of the tribes. In Achankovil also the society with the participation of tribes cultivated 20 acre land with ground nut, and paddy. But due to theft from its own members, the society was forced to stop cultivation there. The secretary of the TCS revealed the researcher that every year each cultivating tribal family was given Rs.1000/- as bonus for celebrating the festival. However, the operation of the TCS is now confined only to the collection and marketing of NTFP from the ranges allotted to it. All the agricultural operations had been suspended due to non-cooperation of tribes. The Sholayoor TCS was registered in 1961. It was started as a Multi-purpose co-operative society allowing even the non-tribes to become members in the society. During 1977 it was converted to a TCS. Till 1991-92 the TCS distributed consumer goods and extended credit

facilities to members. But due to non-cooperation of members in remitting their dues, the facilities had been suspended. The TCS now confines only to collection and marketing of NTFP of the members.

The Sultan Battery TCS of Kalpetta region was registered in 1959 as a TCS mainly to undertake forest job by employing tribes. Now its main function is confined to collection and marketing of NTFP of members. Till 1990-91 the TCS used to give loans to tribes. But due to overdues, the system had been stopped. The TCS has a very good consumer store situated near the office of the society. It supplies products of all varieties required by the tribes. Credits are also allowed and the value of the provisions is adjusted against the price of NTFP.

The Thirunelli TCS was registered in 1975 as a credit society for tribes. Since 1977-78 its operations are mainly confined to collection and marketing of NTFP from the designated area.

The Kannavam TCS was registered in 1974 as a joint farming society. But since 1977-78 its main function is confined to collection and marketing of NTFP from the area for its members.

The Adimaly TCS of the Adimaly region was registered in 1956 primarily as a credit society. But since 1977-78 its function is confined to collection and marketing of NTFP from its area of operation.

While analysing the objectives and functions of TCS in the study area it was found that the only function undertaken by the TCS is collection and marketing of NTFP from their area of operation. Even though a lot of other objectives were also framed to enhance the production in the field of agriculture, dairy, and other areas, none of these objectives is carried out by TCS mainly due to heavy overdues in TCS.

5.3.4 Share Capital of tribal Co-operatives

Tribes are considered as A class members and the institutional agencies are treated as B class members of the societies. The value of an A class share is Rs.10/- whereas it is Rs.100/- for B class members. In addition to the direct contribution towards the share capital of the TCS, the government also indirectly contribute 90 per cent of the cost of share capital of the tribal members. Tribes need contribute only Rs.1/- to get memberships from TCS.

5.3.5 Sources of Funds

The funds of the society comprises of the following.

1. Share capital contribution from members.
2. Working capital grant from Tribal Welfare Department and Co-operative Department.
3. NTFP advance and NTFP stock Advance from SC/ST federation.
4. Borrowings and Deposits.
5. Donations
6. Reserve fund and
7. Agriculture Development grant from Agriculture Department.

It is observed that the working capital position of almost all less effective and effective TCS is very poor. Most of the TCS depend on NTFP advance and NTFP stock advance to collect and market NTFP in the state.

5.3.6 Management and Administration

The management of TCS is vested in the hands of Board of Directors elected from among the members of the society. The minimum number of the Board of Directors is seven and the maximum, eleven. In addition to elected Board members, two ex-officio members are selected at the discretion of the TCS. The ex-officio members may be persons who have

some interest in the activities of the TCS. Generally the Tribal Extension Officer or Unit Co-operative Inspector or Range officer or any officer from Agricultural Department would be selected as ex-officio members of the society. The term of office of the Board of Directors is 3 years from the date on which they assume office. The day-to-day administration of the society is carried out by the secretary and other employees of the societies in consultation with the Board of Directors.

While examining the management of TCS in the study area it was found that all Boards are democratically constituted. But most of them are based on politics. The Board of Directors do not have any knowledge about either co-operation or politics. They act either to the tune of secretaries of TCS or to the tune of politicians. In fact they are not the members of TCS. The influence of secretaries and their politics were also observed in the constitution of Board at least in four TCS under the study.

5.3.7 Staff Position

The staff position of TCS under the study is depicted in Table 5.14.

Table 5.14
Staff Position in Selected TCS 1993-94

Sl. No.	Regions/ TCS	Permanent Staff	Collection Agents	Total	Tribal staff		Non-Tribal Staff
					Permanent	Collection Agents	
I Trivandrum RN.							
	ME	2	2	4	-	-	4
	EF	2	4	6	-	-	6
	LE	2	4	6	1	2	3
	Total TVM Rn.(a)	6	10	16	1	2	13
II Thrissur RN							
	ME	4	15	19	1	-	18
	EF	1	6	7	-	-	7
	LE	2	4	6	-	1	5
	Total TCR Rn.(b)	7	25	32	1	1	30
III Kalpetta RN							
	ME	2	4	6	-	-	6
	EF	1	10	11	-	6	5
	LE	2	3	5	2	3	-
	Total KAL Rn.(c)	5	17	22	2	9	11
IV Adimely RN							
	ME	3	16	19	-	12	7
	Total ADI Rn.(d)	3	16	19	-	12	7
	Grand Total (a+b+c+d)	21	68	89	4	24	61
	Society Groupings			(100)	(5)	(27)	(68)
	ME	11	37	48	1	12	35
	EF	4	20	24	-	6	18
	LE	6	11	17	3	6	8

Source: Compiled from the records of TCS in the study region 1993-94.

Note : Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total.

ME - More effective TCS EF - Effective TCS LE - Less effective TCS

Table 5.14 points out that the average number of permanent staff in a TCS is two. Of the total staff who are engaged in the collection and marketing of NTFP, 68 per cent are non-tribes. All TCS except Kannavam TCS have non-tribes as secretaries. It is found that the TCS even did not like to appoint tribes as collection agents. To a query all secretaries pointed out that they tried with the tribes as collection agents, but they were found inefficient and irresponsible. The Adimaly TCS as a matter of policy appoint their own Board of Directors as collection agents in the respective collection centres of the society.

The table also highlights that the staff position in more effective TCS are far ahead than effective and less effective TCS. The number of collection agents in more effective TCS have come to 48 whereas it was only 41 in effective and less effective.

5.3.8 Own Building and Godown

It is observed that all Tribal Co-operative societies except the Achancovil of Thiruvananthapuram region and Tirunelly of Kalpetta region own their own office buildings and godowns. But the godowns which they possessed are inadequate to accommodate all their collections of NTFP. One of the major problems they all highlighted was the insufficient godown facilities which they had. So most of the

societies even did not encourage the tribes to collect the root items especially in rainy season. If they collect, the society may be forced to keep the items outside, and they may be subjected to rain and hot and that will affect the quantity and quality of the product. This will force the traders or Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units, to keep away from participating in the auctions of NTFP conducted by TCS. This invariably force the TCS to sell the product at a throw-away price. The researcher observed accumulation of decayed items of NTFP mainly root items, piled in the premises of Sholayoor, Kannavam Njareneeli and Potomavu TCS.

5.3.9 Tribal Colonies, Collection Depots and Transport Facilities

It was observed that all tribes live in colonies. The number of houses in a colony may vary from 3 to 28. Almost all colonies are headed by Moopans who is supposed to have a say in matters relating to marriage, rituals, death or birth etc. in colonies. But as regards to the economic aspects of families viz., collection and marketing of NTFPs, agricultural labour or any financial schemes undertaken by households, the Moopans generally will not interfere. However, he will keep an over all control in the colony. Since most of the colonies and the tribal land holdings are near to forest, alienated from the main land. They do not have proper irrigation, transport, communication or marketing

facilities. Since the colonies are always subject to attack from wild animals, most of the tribal families do not like to cultivate their land. Since the colonies are far away from the office of the tribal co-operative societies, the TCS need to set up NTFP collection centres either near to their tribal colonies or in a place commonly agreed upon by tribes. Appendix gives an overall picture about the number of colonies covered by TCS, collection depots, the distance and transport facilities within the area of operation of TCS and colonies.

Table 5.15
Average Distance of Tribal Colonies from
the Head Office of the TCS

Average distance (Kms)	No. of Tribal Colonies				Total
	Thiru-anantha-puram	Thrissur	Kalpetta	Adimaly	
< 10	9 (56)	10 (6)	10 (5)	—	29 (7)
10-20	3 (19)	24 (14)	93 (50)	—	120 (31)
20-30	4 (25)	—	83 (45)	20 (100)	107 (27)
30 and above	—	134 (80)	—	—	134 (35)
Total Colonies	16 (100)	168 (100)	186 (100)	20 (100)	390 (100)

Source: Survey Data.

Note : Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to column total.

Table 5.15 indicates that the tribal colonies are far away from the premises of tribal co-operatives under study. Of the 390 tribal colonies which come under the area of operation of 10 TCS, only 7 per cent are situated in less than ten kilometer distance of the tribal co-operative societies. Since the TCS are far away from the colonies and tribes it naturally affects the participation of tribes. Region-wise differences are also noticed.

In Thiruvananthapuram region 56 per cent of the colonies are near to the office of the TCS, whereas in Thrissur region 80 per cent of the colonies are far away from the office of TCS. Even in Kalpetta region 50 per cent of the colonies are 10 to 20 kilometers away from tribal co-operative societies.

In Adimaly region all the 20 colonies are 20 to 30 kilometers away from TCS. This shows that the TCS are far away from tribal activities. It may be one of the reasons for the low participation of tribes in TCS.

Table 5.16

Number of Collection Depots

Tribal co-opera- tive societies	Regions				Total
	Thiru- anantha- puram	Thrissur	Kalpetta	Adimaly	
ME	3(3)	14(3)	5(2)	18(4)	40(12) [49]
EF	6(1)	7(1)	15(1)	—	28(3) [35]
LE	3(1)	4(2)	6(1)		13(4) [16]
Total Colle- ction depots	12(5)	25(6)	26(4)	18(4)	81(19) [100]

Note :1. Figures in () indicate number of collection depots are of in permanent nature. All other collection depots are temporary/seasonal in nature.

2. Figures in [] indicate percentage to column total

Table 5.16 highlights that altogether 81 NTFP collection centres/depots are operating in the four regions under the study. Of which 49 per cent are owned by more effective tribal co-operative societies. The less effective tribal co-operative societies are operating with 13 collection centres. It was also observed that the more effective tribal co-operative societies are having 12 permanent collection centres, averaging 4 to collect NTFP through out the year, whereas it is only three in more effective and four in less effective TCS. The number of collection centres and the nature of collection centre are also playing a very important role in the collection of NTFP in the tribal areas.

Table 5.17

Distance of Collection Depots from TCS

Distance (Kms)	Distance in Km.				Total
	Region/No. of collection depots				
	Thiru- anantha- puram	Thrissur	Kalpetta	Adimaly	
< 10	3 (25)				3 (4)
10-20	9 (75)	4 (16)	26 (100)		39 (48)
20-30					0
30 and above		21 (84)		18 (100)	39 (48)
Total colle- ction depots	12 (100)	25 (100)	26 (100)	18 (100)	81 (100)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage to column total.

Table 5.17 points out that only 4 per cent of the collection depots are at a distance of less than 10 Kms. an 48 per cent of the collection depots are at a distance of 1 to 20 kms. However, 48 per cent of the collection depots are at a distance of 30 Kms. and above from the head office of TCS.

5.3.10 Collection depots and Transport facilities from Tribal Households

Table 5.18 points out that of the 81 collection depots, 40 are connected by bus route within 3 kms. of the tribal colonies. It is observed that the transport facilities available to effective and less effective TCS are higher when compared with more effective collection depots. It may be one of the reasons for leaking out NTFP to private traders.

5.3.11. Distance of Principal Private NTFP Marketing Shop from the Collection Centres of Tribal Co-operative Societies

It is also observed that the principal market centres of NTFP for more effective TCS of Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur regions are about 40 to 70 kms. away from their collection centres. But as regards to more effective TCS of Kalpetta and Adimaly regions, the principal NTFP private marketing shops are within one kilometer of the collection centre. The remoteness and nearness of private marketing shops- both are disadvantages to tribes who wish to market their products illicitly through private traders. Hence the tribes of more effective TCS force to market their produce through co-operative channel. But in the case of effective and less effective tribal co-operatives their depots are somewhat connected by bus routes and the principal private marketing centres are not as far as the selling centres of

Table 5.18

No. of Collection Depots Having Transport facilities (bus) Within 3 km. from tribal colonies

	Thiruvananthapuram		Thrissur		Kalpetta		Adimaly		Grand total	
	Total Collection Depots	Having Transport Facilities	Total Collection Depots	Having Transport Facilities	Total Collection Depots	Having Transport Facilities	Total Collection Depots	Having Transport Facilities	Total Collection Depots	Having Transport Facilities
ME	3		14	5	5	3	18	3	40	11 (28)
EF	6	5	7	2	15	10			28	17 (42)
LE	3	3	4	3	6	6			13	12 (30)
Grand Total	12	8	25	10	26	19	18	3	81	40 (100)

Note: Figures in Parentheses indicate percentage to grand total collection depots.

more effective TCS, there is every chance to leak the NTFP to the hands of private traders.

5.3.12 NTFP Collection by the Tribal Co-operatives under Study

The study brings to light that there is significant differences among regions and tribal co-operatives in the collection and marketing of NTFP items. The region wise difference indicates that there is difference in the availability of different herbs in regions. The items generally collected by tribal co-operative societies are given in Appendix V. Even though about 120 items have been listed as NTFP for collection, the TCS collect only less than 50 per cent of the listed items. The survey among tribes point out that the TCS are not engaged in collecting all the items collected by the tribes. Most of the societies point out that collection of certain items always amount to loss to them. This attitude of TCS force the tribes to sell these items to the private traders. This may ultimately lead to leak all the NTFP collected by tribes to private traders. On an average a TCS collects only 14 to 21 items notified in the NTFP list by the NTFP committee.

5.3.13 Collection and Marketing of NTFP by TCS Selected for the Study 1982-83 to 1993-94

Table 5.19 depicts the collection and marketing of NTFP by the TCS selected for the study. They collect produces directly from tribes and market the same through the designated channels.

Table 5.19
Collection and Sale details of NTFP by TCS Selected for the Study 1982-83 to 1993-94

Year	Collection charge (Rs)	Sales value (Rs)	Collection charge as percentage to sales value
1982-83	527901	714638	74
1983-84	574157	906647	63
1984-85	1006330	1811227	56
1985-86	1381516	2220111	62
1986-87	1524150	2085391	73
1987-88	1767920	2558939	69
1988-89	1460926	2201785	66
1989-90	1167207	1741164	67
1990-91	1725342	2546977	68
1991-92	2046884	3385152	60
1992-93	4316035	6281144	69
1993-94	4925000	7078000	69

Source: Compiled from the Records of TCS from 1982-83 to 1993-94.

Table 5.19 points out that the tribals were able to get only 60 to 74 per cent of the sales price of NTFP as collection charge from 1982-83 to 1993-94. The tribals share from sales price all over the years showed a fluctuating trend. As per the system, the tribal collectors of NTFP are eligible to get 80 per cent of the sales value of NTFP as collection charge, but it was found that in none of the years the tribal co-operative societies was able to give at least 75 per cent of the sales value as collection charge.

5.3.14 The Region-wise Average Collection and Marketing of NTFP by a TCS from 1982-83 to 1993-94

The average collection and marketing value of NTFP by a TCS from the study region during the period 1982-83 to 1993-94 is given in table 5.20.

Table 5.20

Average Collection Charge paid and Sales
Value received by TCS for NTFP
1982-83 to 1993-94

Sl. No.	Regions/ TCS	Collection charge (Rs)	Sales value (Rs)	Collection chare as % to sales value
I	Trivandrum RN.			
	ME	185521	251946	74
	EF	103015	137844	75
	LE	47086	59210	79
	Region total(A)	335622	449000	75
II	Thrissur RN			
	ME	581491	923915	63
	EF	108742	220088	49
	LE	116823	192066	61
	Region total(B)	807056	1336069	60
III	Kalpetta RN			
	ME	385914	501820	77
	EF	184833	289386	64
	LE	34809	76353	46
	Region total(C)	605559	867559	70
IV	Adimaly RN			
	ME	142618	190168	75
	Region total(D)	142618	190168	75
	Society groupings			
	ME	323886	466962	69.3
	EF	132197	215773	61.3
	LE	66239	109210	60.6
	Grand total (A+B+C+D)	1890855	2842796	66.5

Source: Compiled from the records of TCS from 1982-83 to 1993-94.

Table 5.20 points out that the average collection charge paid by a TCS for NTFP collection is 66.5 per cent. Region-wise analysis indicates that the more effective TCS of the Thiruvananthapuram, Kalpetta and Adimaly region paid more than 75 per cent of their sales value as collection charge to tribes. The Njaraneeli TCS of Thiruvananthapuram region is an exception among less effective TCS, which paid 79 per cent of their sales value as collection charge. However, it is observed that almost all less effective TCS paid only less than 66 per cent of their sales value as collection charge to tribes.

COLLECTION AND MARKETING OF NTFP BY TRIBES

CHAPTER VI
COLLECTION AND MARKETING OF NTFP BY TRIBES

6.1 Introduction

The right of the tribals for NTFP collection from the Kerala forest was recognised from the year 1977-78. Though the tribes enjoy the monopoly right to collect NTFP from the forest, they are obliged to market the produce only through their own organisations i.e., Tribal Co-operative Societies. The monopoly procurement of NTFP through TCS was introduced with a view to liberate the tribes from the exploitative practices of private traders and to ensure a reasonable return for their produce. In this chapter it is proposed to examine the marketing channel of NTFP of tribes, the effectiveness of co-operative channel and the price spread under co-operative and non co-operative channels and the impact of income from NTFP collection on the total life of the tribes in the state.

Methodologically tribal co-operative societies have been classified as more effective, effective and less effective. Hence the tribes of more effective, effective and less effective TCS have been abbreviated as TME, TEF and TLE respectively.

The TCS of the Thiruvananthapuram region have two types of tribal communities as members viz. Malaipandaram, and Kanikars. The entire tribes of the more effective TCS of the region is Malaipandaram and the whole tribes of effective and less effective TCS are Kanikars. Likewise the study area of Thrissur region has three types of tribal communities viz. Irular, Paniyan and Malayan. Irulas and Paniyans are the members of more effective TCS of the region. Irulas and Malayans respectively are the members of effective TCS of the region. The study of the Kalpetta region has encompassed five tribal communities namely viz, Kattunaicken, Paniyan Kuruman Kuruchiyan and Adiyen. Kattunaicken, Paniyans and Kurumars have become members of the more effective TCS, Adiyen and Kurumars in effective TCS and Paniyans and Kurichiyans in less effective TCS. Altogether eleven tribal communities have been covered by the study.

6.2 NTFP collection Season and the Potential days of Employment

Most of the NTFPs are seasonal in nature. But medicinal herbs particularly root and tuber items can be collected throughout the year. But it is observed that most of the tribes engage in the collection of those items which would fetch a high return to them. It was also observed that some of the TCS would encourage the tribes to collect only certain specified items which had a high value in the market

and high return to TCS. Table 6.1 depicts the NTFP collection during the collection season of major NTFPs commonly collected by the tribes of Kerala.

Table 6.1
NTFP Collection Season - Item Wise

Sl. No.	NTFP's	Collection season
1.	Pathripoove	January + April & May
2.	Kanjirakuru	January & February
3.	Honey (Vanthean)	Feb., march, April & May
4.	Cheevaccai	February, march & April
5.	Marotti	March, April & may
6.	Vayanapoove	March, April & May
7.	Pattinja	March, April & May
8.	Pachotti	March, April & May
9.	Chittaratha	March, April & May
10.	Urunjiccai	March & April
11.	Kattukurumulake	April-May
12.	Honey (cheruthean)	June, July & August
13.	Kudampuli	August - September
14.	Kasturimanjal	August, Sept., Octo. + Feb.
15.	Nellicca	November - December
16.	Kattupadavalam	December - January
17.	All root items like Kurumthottiveru, Orila, Moovila etc., tubers like Adapathiyan, Amalpori, etc. Dye and paint items like Kudirikkam, and Koppuvella are available in the forest in almost all seasons.	

Table 6.1 shows that NTFP can be collected throughout the year. Almost all root and tuber items can be collected round the year. But it was observed that due to inter regional differences in availability of NTFPs, all root and tuber items are not generally available in all regions. The number of days these products can be collected in an year is depicted in table 6.2.

Table 6.2 points out that the total potential days of employment that can be generated in the Thiruvananthapuram region is 242, Thrissur region, 267 and 248 in Kalpetta region. The average mandays that can be generated through NTFP collection for tribes have come to 253 in an year. Of these collection days, it is estimated that the tribes can engage 152 days for the collection of medicinal herbs. Region wise difference in potential days of employment indicate that the Thrissur region was more gifted with medicinal items.

Table 6.2

NTFP Collection Season and the Potential days of Employment
- Region wise/State

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Collection season	Potential days of employment (mandays)			State level (Average)
			TVM Region	TCR Region	KAL Region	
I MEDICINAL ITEMS						
1	Tuber Crops	All season	14	16	10	13
2	Root items	All season	27	81	74	61
3	Fruits	Octo. Nov. Dec.	29	17	15	20
4	Barks	April-May	9	5	5	6
5	Bushes and Creepers	All season	18	10	7	12
6	Liquids (Honey)	February to May	22	28	45	32
7	Seeds	November-Dec.	3	6	2	4
8	Flowers	March, April, May	5	3	5	4
	Total (I)		127 (52)	166 (62)	163 (66)	152 (60)
II NON-MEDICINAL						
9	Oil seeds	March, April, May	3	10	5	6
10	Spices	April, May	13	13	10	12
11	Edible items	Aug.-Sept.	20	8	10	13
12	Dye and paint items	All seasons	48	17	25	30
13	Soap and Shampoo items	Feb., March, April	31	53	35	40
	Total (II)		115 (48)	101 (38)	85 (34)	101 (40)
	Grand total (I+II)		242 (100)	267 (100)	248 (100)	253 (100)

Source: Survey data

A comparison between the potential days of employment and actual days of employment is given in Table 6.3

Table 6.3

NTFP Collection - Potential and the actual Collection days -
Region - Wise

Sl. No.	Region/State	Potential days of employment	Actual days of employment	% of actual to potential days
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	242	115	48
2.	Thrissur	267	135	51
3.	Kalpetta	248	126	51
	State	253	132	52

Source: Survey data.

Table 6.3 reveals that even though 253 days of employment per person can be created through collection and marketing of NTFPs the actual days of employment generated was only 132 i.e., only 52 percent of the potential days employment. Wide fluctuations among the regions could also be noticed. Even though the Thrissur region can offer employment to 267 days for NTFP collection the tribes of this region has actually engaged only 51 percent of the potential days of employment. However amongst regions Thrissur region accounted for the the maximum number of days of employment to tribes through NTFP collection.

6.3 Collection of Non-listed NTFP Items by Tribes

The tribes in the study region collect a lot of non-listed NTFP items from Kerala forest. Legally, collection of these items are not allowed and the TCS cannot undertake their marketing. Table 6.4 depicts the collection of non-notified items OF NTFP by tribes and marketing the same through non-co-operative channels in the region.

Table 6.4

Non-Notified NTFP Collected by Tribes

Sl. No.	NTFP items
1.	Eri-la veru
2.	Malayarayan
3.	Akkaram Kolli
4.	Naagaandhi
5.	Kuruppa veru
6.	Dharba
7.	Kattuvellari
8.	Thannikka
9.	Ungin kuru
10.	Karuvapatta
11.	Karinjalipatta
12.	Edanapatta
13.	Cherutheam
	B. NON-MEDICINAL
14.	Kaniram
15.	Kattulli
16.	Teak seed
17.	Nilambomb (Available only at Sholayoor)
18.	Elithadi (Available only at Palappilly)

Source: Survey data.

Since the tribal co-operative societies are not undertaking procurement and marketing of these produces, the tribes depend on private traders to market such products. This

brings them in close contact with private traders. Such contacts prompt the tribes to market even the listed NTFPs through the hands of private traders. Therefore urgent steps have to be undertaken to list the non-listed items also in the NTFP list.

6.4 Extraction Methods, Training Programmes and Sustainability

It is also observed that the tribes adopt different methods for the extraction of the same items from the forest. For eg. while in Thiruvananthapuram region the tribes use long bamboo in Adimaly region they use a pointed wooden knife to climb the tree and collect honey from the branches of trees. The Range Officers of the region hold the view that the use of pointed wooden knife will damage tree, and ultimately affect the sustainability of the forest. In Kalpetta and Thrissur regions the tribes use either rope or barks of trees to climb the tree and extract honey. It was also found that they all use 'smoking technique' to avoid bees and collect honeys from the trees. It often destroys the bees and finally affect the availability of honey in future.

It is also pointed out that when they collect Cheevaccai, soap nuts and gooseberry tribes knowingly or unknowingly damage the trees. To collect Cheevaccai, they cut the creepers and for soap nuts and gooseberry they cut the branches of the trees. The range officers of the area pointed

out that these action of the tribe also affect the sustainability of the forest.

In collecting Kundirkkam, the tribes damage the trees by making holes in the barks of the tree. In certain areas of Thiruvananthapuram region the tribes smoke the tree. They claim that it will help them to get the sap immediately. The range officers of the areas have indicated that these actions of the tribes ultimately leads to drying up of the trees.

Though the root and tuber items are available round the year, the tribes collect them only at times of distress ie. when the collection of other items are not remunerative and not available. It is observed by the forest officer that since most of these items are not collected at the right season, it affects the regeneration of the plant and ultimately the sustainability of the species.

The study reveals that so far no training has been given to tribes about the collection methods or about identification of species with their features. They collect items according to their age old experience.

6.5 Nomenclature Difference of NTFP Items

The study also reveals that there is some difference in nomenclature with reference to the same item of NTFP in different areas.

Table 6.5

Difference in Nomenclature of NTFP items in
Regions Under study

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Regions			
		Thiruvanan- thapuram	Thrissur	Kalpetta	Adimaly
1	Kasturimanjal	Channaccai			Kandankoova
2	Kattinji		Malayinji	Malayinji	
3	Naruneendi	Nannari		Nannari	Nannari
4	Pachochitholi	Pachotti	Pachotti	Lodha	
5	Kakkumkai	Makkumkai	Parandakkai	Kakkumkai	Parandakkai
6	Marottikuru			Vettikuru	Vettikuru
7	Peenari		Bhoodavrusham	Bhoodavrusham	
8	Nanginkuru	Nangari		Nangari	
9	Kundirikkam	Thelly	Kundirikkam/ Pachavettu	Pantham	Kumgilliam
10	Pathiripoove	Ponnampoove	Pasupasi	Pathiripoove	Ponnampoove
11	Dhobikkai		Thembramcai		Thembramcai
12	Cheevaccai	Cheenikkai			Pulinjiccai
13	Soap nuts	Uruvanjiccai	Uruvanjiccai	Savaccai/ soap nuts	

Source: Survey data

Table 6.5 reveals the nomenclature difference of the same NTFP in different places and regions.

6.6 NTFP Collection Kit

Tribes need collection Kit to extract various types of NTFP from forest. They require tin for the collection of honey, sack for the collection of items like Nellicca, Cheevaccai, etc., iron bar - big and small to collect roots and tubers and axe and knife to facilitate the collection of NTFPs. Table 6.6 indicates the number of respondents who owned the collection Kit.

Table 6.6 indicates that all the respondents did not possess all the tools required for collection of NTFP. They possess different tools in different degrees. Fifty-six percent of them have tins, 84 per cent, sack, 71 per cent Knives, 30 percent axe and 25 and 31 percent iron bar big and small respectively. It highlights the fact that the NTFP collectors are ill-equipped with tools. It will definitely have an impact in the quality as well as the quantity of the produce.

Table 6.6

Number of Respondents who Owned NTFP Collection Kit

Sl. No.	Regions/TCS	Total respondents	Number of respondents who owned kit					
			1	2	3	4	5	6
I	Thiruvananthapuram region							
	TME	15	12	14	14	6	3	11
	TEF	15	8	11	11	5	5	13
	TLE	25	11	24	22	6	5	7
	TVM Rn. total (A)	55	31	49	47	17	13	31
			(56)	(89)	(85)	(31)	(2)	(56)
II	Thrissur region							
	TME	26	17	26	24	10	11	10
	TEF	24	2	20	18	2	1	10
	TLE	25	13	14	10	5	6	8
	TCR Rn. total (B)	75	32	60	52	17	18	28
			(43)	(80)	(69)	(2)	(2)	(37)
III	Kalpetta region							
	TME	35	32	30	22	12	9	8
	TEF	29	17	20	19	7	6	1
	TLE	20	1	17	8	5	3	2
	Kal. Rn. total (C)	84	50	67	49	24	18	11
			(59)	(80)	(58)	(29)	(2)	(13)
IV	Adimaly region							
	TME	40	30	37	33	17	15	10
	Groupings							
	TME	116	91	107	93	45	38	39
			(78)	(92)	(80)	(3)	(3)	(34)
	TEF	68	27	51	48	14	12	24
			(40)	(75)	(7)	(2)	(1)	(36)
	TLE	70	25	55	40	16	14	17
			(36)	(79)	(5)	(2)	(2)	(24)
	Grand total (A+B+C)	254	143	213	181	75	64	80
			(56)	(84)	(71)	(3)	(2)	(31)

Note : 1. Number 1 to 6 carry NTFP kit items.

1. Patta (Tin), 2.Chacke (sack), 3.Vettukathi (knife), 4.Kodali (Axe)
5. Kambi (Iron bar) and 6.Small iron rod.

2. Figures in parentheses one to six indicate percentage of number of respondents to total respondents.

6.7 Cost of NTFP Collection Kit

The study revealed that none of the institutional agency helps the tribes to procure the NTFP tool kit required for them. The total cost incurred by the tribes for the various tools possessed by them and the expected cost of NTFP collection kit is given in Table 6.7

Table 6.7 points out that the average cost incurred by the tribe for a NTFP kit is Rs. 308 and by considering the life of NTFP kit the yearly cost is calculated as Rs. 146. By considering the requirements of NTFP kit the expected cost of a Kit would come to Rs.345/- and the yearly average cost would be Rs.159/-

Table 6.7

NTFP Collection Kit Possessed by Tribes and Expected Cost of a Kit

NTFP Collection Tools	No. of items possessed	Total Cost (Rs)	Average Cost (Rs)	Average items possessed (Nos.)	Tools required by a NTFP collector		Life exp- ectancy of a tool (Years)
					No.	Total cost (Rs)	
Tin	233	5191	22	1.6	2	44	1
Sack	483	7271	15	2.2	2	30	1
Knife	188	11568	62	1	1	62	3
Axe	75	8490	113	1	1	113	5
Iron bar	65	4475	69	1	1	69	5
Small iron rod	76	1986	27	1	1	27	2
Cost (Rs.)			308			345	

Source: Survey data

6.8 Employment in Mandays

The study reveals that most of the tribes undertake operations such as agricultural work, estate labour, forest work, weaving and cultivation of their own land in addition to NTFP collection. Table 6.8 explains the number of mandays to each type of activities engaged by a tribe and his family.

Table 6.8 indicates that the average days of employment by a tribe through all his operations account 236 (The average number of workers from a tribal family is estimated to be 2), of which 132 days was spent on NTFP collection and marketing. Significant differences in employment among tribes of more effective, effective and less effective TCS were noticed. Table 6.9 indicates that 68 per cent of the total mandays of employment generated by more effective TCS was through NTFP collection and marketing whereas it was only 39 per cent in effective and 45 per cent in less effective TCS.

Table 6.8

Number of Mandays Engaged by the Tribals for Various Operations

Regions/TCS	No. of families	TYPE OF OPERATIONS					Total Mandays	Average mandays per household	Average mandays per worker
		NTPP	Agri. Labour	Estate Labour	Forest Work	Weaving			
Thiruvananthapuram region									
TME	15	5824	559	-	1945	-	300	8628	575
TEF	15	3775	1260	-	1503	1034	555	8127	542
TLE	25	5868	2839	-	303	3319	1180	13509	540
TVM Rn. total (A)	55	15467	4658	-	3751	4353	2035	30264	550
%		(51)	(15)		(12)	(14)	(8)	(100)	
Mandays per worker		115	34	-	27	31	18		225
Thrissur region									
TME	26	11407	2798	856	24	-	60	15145	583
TEF	24	3542	2396	3680	-	-	450	10068	420
TLE	25	5399	1676	423	1621	204	390	9713	389
TCR Rn. total (B)	75	20348	6870	4959	1645	204	900	34926	466
%		(58)	(20)	(14)	(5)	(1)	(2)	(100)	
Mandays per worker		135	46	33	11	2	6		233
Kalpetta region									
TME	35	13728	1368	180	515	-	120	15911	455
TEF	29	4189	5116	-	1014	-	665	10984	379
TLE	20	3140	3750	-	970	-	953	8813	441
Kal. Rn. total (C)	84	21057	10234	180	2499	-	1738	35708	425
%		(59)	(29)	(1)	(7)		(4)	(100)	
Mandays per worker		126	62	1	15	-	9		213
Adimaly region									
TME (D)	40	9365	4420	2120	462	2195	801	19363	484
%		(48)	(23)	(10)	(2)	(11)	(6)	(100)	
Mandays per worker		117	55	26	6	27	11		242
Grand total (A+B+C+D)	254	56872	21762	5139	7895	4557	4673	100898	472
%		(56)	(22)	(5)	(8)	(4)	(5)	(100)	
Mandays per worker		132	52	12	19	9	12		236

Source: Survey data

Note: 1. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total of mandays

2. TME- Tribes of more effective TCS; TEF- Tribes of Effective TCS

TLE- Tribes of less effective TCS

Table 6.9

**Employment in Mandays of Tribes of More Effective, Effective and
Less Effective TCS**

Tribes of Classified TCS	Types of operations						Total Mandays	Average Mandays per worker
	NTPP	Agr. Labour	Estate Labour	Forest Work	Weaving	Cultiva- tion		
TME	40324 (68)	9145 (15)	3156 (6)	2946 (5)	2195 (4)	1281 (2)	59047 (100)	
Mandays per worker	173	38	15	13	11	5		255
TEF	11506 (39)	8772 (30)	3680 (13)	2517 (9)	1034 (4)	1670 (5)	29179 (100)	
Mandays per worker	84	65	30	18	8	10		215
TLF	14367 (45)	8265 (26)	423 (1)	2894 (9)	3523 (11)	2523 (8)	31995 (100)	
Mandays per worker	103	60	2	21	25	18		229

Source: Survey data

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total
of mandays

6.9 Number of Mandays Employed for each Classified items of NTFP

Table 6.10 depicts the average number of days engaged by tribes for each classified items of NTFP.

Table 6.10 points out that 65 per cent of the total mandays created through the collection and marketing of NTFP was on account of the collection and marketing of medicinal herbs and the non-medicinal items accounted only for 35 per cent of the total mandays generated. Among the tribes of different regions, except Thrissur, tribes spent more days for the collection of liquids ie. honey. Whereas in Thrissur region 47.6 per cent of the total days are spent on medicinal items mainly root items such as Kurunthotti, Orila, Movila, etc. It is also observed that 35.3 per cent of the mandays generated in Kalpetta region relate to the collection and marketing of root items, whereas it was only 6.8 per cent in Thiruvananthapuram region. The region-wise analysis shows that there exists significant differences among regions with regard to availability and collection of NTFP in the State.

Of the days spent by the tribes on the collection and marketing of non-medicinal items 49.5 percent were spent on the collection and marketing of soap and shampoo items such as Cheevaccai, Uruvanjiccai and dye and paint items such as Kundirikkam and Koppuvella. Considerable difference existed

Table 6.10

**Number of Mandays Engaged for the Collection and Marketing of
Classified Items of NTFP by Tribes - Region-wise Comparison**

Figures in no. of mandays

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Regions			Total Mandays
		Thiruvananthapuram	Thrissur	Kalpatta	
I MEDICINAL ITEMS					
1	Tuber Crops	1763(18.8)	1092(9.2)	1043(6.6)	3898(10.6)
2	Root items	636(6.8)	5604(47.6)	5543(35.3)	11783(32)
3	Fruits	1923(20.5)	1633(13.9)	3148(20)	6704(18.2)
4	Barks	56(0.6)	--	--	56(0.2)
5	Bushes and Creepers	690(7.4)	590(5)	--	1280(3.5)
6	Liquids(Honey)	3033(32.4)	2531(21.5)	5799(36.9)	11363(30.8)
7	Seeds	533(5.7)	263(2.2)	170(1.2)	966(2.6)
8	Flowers	420(4.4)	--	--	420(1.1)
9	Miscellaneous	307(3.4)	66(0.6)	--	373(1)
	Total (a)	9361(100) [60]	11779(100) [58]	15703(100) [75]	36843(100) [65]
II NON-MEDICINAL					
10	Oil seeds	100(1.6)	494(5.7)	--	594(2.9)
11	Spices	65(1)	378(4.4)	--	443(2.2)
12	Edible items	20(0.4)	--	552(10.4)	572(2.2)
13	Dye and paint items	4634(75.9)	1407(16.3)	1216(22.9)	7257(36.2)
14	Soap and Shampoo items	1277(20.9)	6235(72.4)	2401(45.2)	9913(49.5)
15	Miscellaneous	10(0.2)	95(1.2)	1145(21.5)	1250(6.4)
	Total (b)	6106(100) [40]	8609(100) [42]	5314(100) [25]	20029(100) [35]
Grand total (a+b)		15467(100)	20348(100)	21017(100)	56872(100)

Source: Survey data

Note : Figures in () indicate percentage to column total.

in this among regions. The tribes of Thiruvananthapuram region spent 75.9 per cent of their mandays on the collection and marketing of dye and paint items. This was only 16.3 per cent and 22.9 per cent respectively for Thrissur and Kalpetta regions. It is also observed that Thrissur and Kalpetta regions were able to generate more days of employment to tribes with respect to the collection and marketing of soap and shampoo items. It is to be noted here that considerable differences exist in the availability of non-medicinal items among the regions under study.

6.10 Collection and Marketing of NTFP by Tribes in the Study Region- Region-wise Comparison

As already pointed out the tribes in Kerala collect medicinal as well as non-medicinal herbs from the forest ranges of Kerala for their livelihood. The entire family of tribes directly or indirectly are involved in the collection and marketing of NTFP. Even though they collect medicinal herbs they sell the entire items either in tribal co-operative societies or to non-co-operative channels. Whenever they feel some discomfort, or affect any disease it is observed that they either contact the tribal physician or resort to their own way of treatment by collecting medicinal herbs from the vicinity of their hamlets. It is also noted that some of the tribes even cultivate certain herbs in their homesteads for treatment. But when ever they collect NTFP

Table 6.11

Collection and Marketing of NTFP by tribes - Regions Wise Comparison

Figures in Kg.

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Regions			
		Thiruvananthapuram	Thrissur	Kalpetta	Total Collection
I MEDICINAL ITEMS					
1	Tuber Crops	5662(15.3)	2189(1.4)	14761(10.6)	21612(6.9)
2	Root items	2145(5.8)	46340(30.3)	66601(47.8)	115086(35)
3	Fruits	8213(22.2)	8278(5.4)	19618(14)	36109(11)
4	Barks	54(0.2)	--	--	54(0.02)
5	Bushes and Creepers	3429(9.3)	5921(3.9)	--	9350(2.8)
6	Liquids(Honey)	3944(10.7)	1328(0.9)	7855(5.6)	13127(4)
7	Seeds	993(2.7)	2063(1.3)	279(0.2)	3335(1)
8	Flowers	541(1.5)	--	--	541(0.2)
9	Miscellaneous	176(0.5)	211(0.1)	--	387(0.1)
	Total (a)	25157 (68.1)	66330 (43.4)	109114 (78.3)	200601 (60.9)
II NON-MEDICINAL					
10	Oil seeds	280(0.8)	12870(8.4)	--	13150(4.0)
11	Spices	46(0.1)	1203(0.8)	--	1249(0.3)
12	Edible items	100(0.3)	--	852(0.6)	952(0.2)
13	Dye and paint items	4927(13.3)	8060(5.3)	1219(0.9)	14206(4.3)
14	Soap and Shampoo items	6420(17.2)	64036(41.9)	24811(17.8)	95267(28.9)
15	Miscellaneous	25(0.1)	430(0.3)	3394(2.5)	3849(1.28)
	Total (b)	11798 (31.9)	86599 (56.6)	30276 (21.7)	128673 (39.1)
Grand total (a+b)		36955(100)	152929(100)	139390(100)	329274(100)

Source: Survey data

Note : Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to grand column total.

from forest to market, they will not keep any portion of the plant for their treatment. The hard pressed demand of life force them to market the entire produce immediately. Therefore in this study the collection and marketable surplus of the NTFP remain one and the same. Since they don't have any facility or habit of keeping the produce at least for a short period of time, they sell the entire produce immediately.

Table 6.11 depicts the collection and marketing of NTFP by tribes from the study regions.

Table 6.11 shows that 61 per cent of the total collection of NTFP of the tribes were of medicinal herbs and 35 per cent, root items. Wide fluctuations in the collection of NTFP's at the regional level were also noticed. The table indicates that 78 per cent of the total collection of NTFP's of the tribes of Kalpetta region were to medicinal herbs whereas it was only 43 per cent in Thrissur and 68 per cent in Thiruvananthapuram region. As regards to the collection of honey, the most demanded items of the medicinal group, the kalpetta region accounted double that of Thiruvananthapuram and about six times that of Thrissur region. Nearly 42 per cent of the total collection of Thrissur region is accounted by soap and shampoo items like Cheevaccai and Uruvanjiccai. The table also highlights the fact that the regions were also differed with respect to availability of NTFP in Kerala.

6.11 Marketing of NTFPs-Region-wise Comparison

Table 6.12 presents a comparative position regarding marketing of NTFP by tribes in the study region.

Table 6.12 indicates that 59 per cent of the total sale value of NTFP of tribes was contributed by the sale of medicinal items, of which the liquid i.e. honey contributed a major portion of the sale value. However it is observed that among all NTFPs soap and shampoo items have contributed the highest share to tribe's income i.e., 24.1 per cent of the total sale value of NTFP. The least contribution comes from Barks. The Bark items were seemed to be collected only from one region viz., Thiruvananthapuram. The study thus makes it clear that the collection and marketing of medicinal herbs had played and does play a very important role in the tribal life.

Significant difference among regions could be noticed with respect to marketing of NTFP among regions. While the tribes of Thiruvananthapuram and Kalpetta regions mobilise more money by the sale of medicinal items, the tribes of Thrissur region generates more income through the sale of non-medicinal items especially by the sale of soap and shampoo items. The table makes it clear that there exists considerable differences even in the availability of different produces in different regions.

Table 6.12
Marketing of NTFP by tribes - Regions Wise

Figures in Rs.

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Regions			Total Marketing
		Thiruanantha- puram	Thrissur	Kalpetta	
I MEDICINAL ITEMS					
1	Tuber Crops	43916(9.1)	25254(4.1)	35555(5.5)	108725(6)
2	Root items	11586(2.4)	93398(15.2)	120738(16.7)	225722(12.4)
3	Fruits	66956(13.3)	55713(9.1)	173788(24)	296457(16.3)
4	Barks	1405(0.4)	—	—	1405(0.1)
5	Bushes and Creepers	14440(3)	18280(3)	—	32720(1.8)
6	Liquids(Honey)	127815(26.6)	43535(7.1)	200703(27.7)	372053(20.5)
7	Seeds	6598(1.4)	11768(1.9)	1307(0.2)	19673(1.1)
8	Flowers	12874(2.7)	—	—	12874(0.7)
9	Miscellaneous	5527(1.1)	4001(0.6)	—	9528(0.5)
	Total (a)	291117 [61]	251949 [41]	536091 [74]	1079157 [59]
II NON-MEDICINAL					
10	Oil seeds	1120(0.2)	10908(1.8)	—	12028(0.6)
11	Spices	1400(0.4)	7307(1.2)	—	8707(0.4)
12	Edible items	550(0.1)	—	14685(2)	15235(0.8)
13	Dye and paint items	157736(32.8)	61458(10)	11824(1.6)	231018(12.7)
14	Soap and Shampoo items	28052(5.8)	279027(45.5)	131136(18.1)	438215(24.1)
15	Miscellaneous	105(0.1)	2140(0.5)	29946(4.2)	32191(2)
	Total (b)	188963 [39]	360840 [59]	187591 [26]	737394 [41]
Grand total (a+b)		480080(100)	61289(100)	723682(100)	1816551(100)

Source: Survey data

Note : Figures in brackets indicate percentage to grand column total.

6.12 Marketing Channel of NTFP by Tribes

As per the system the tribes are expected to market the entire collection of NTFPs through their own organisation - ie. Tribal Co-operative Societies. Table 6.13 shows that only 67 per cent of the total sale of NTFP was effected through Co-operatives. Among the non-co-operative channels, the private traders collect 21 per cent of the total sales of NTFP. They also appoint agents-tribal as well as non-tribals to collect NTFP on behalf of them. Altogether they collect 31 per cent of the total sale of NTFP of tribes.

Region-wise analysis of the marketing channel also indicate that the tribes of Thiruvananthapuram region had marketed only 47 percent of their produce through co-operatives. It was the only region where the tribes themselves act as agents of private traders in the collection and marketing of NTFP. The tribes of Potamavu and Njaraneeli TCS of Thiruvananthapuram region marketed 24 per cent of their produce through tribal agents. The tribes of less effective TCS had marketed products worth Rs.89016 through tribal agents whereas they marketed only produces worth Rs. 33245 through co-operatives. In Thrissur and Kalpetta regions, the tribes marketed more than 65 percent of their produce through co-operatives. However , the instances of marketing of NTFP through employers were widely prevalent in Sholayoor area

Table 6.13

Marketing Channels of NTFP by Tribes

Figures in Rs.

Sl. No. Regions/TCS	Total value of produces marketed	Marketing Channel				
		Co-operatives	Private traders directly	Employer	Door step marketing (Agents of Pvt. traders).	Tribal Agents
I Thiruvananthapuram region						
TME	178570	165734	5061	7775	-	-
TEF	115248	25412	59051	1130	3000	26655
TLE	186262	33245	54391	-	9610	89016
TVM Rn. total (A)	480080	224391	118503	8905	12610	115671
	(100)	(47)	(24)	(2)	(3)	(24)
II Thrissur region						
TME	343178	287520	49903	-	5755	-
TEF	132309	44265	21263	37561	29220	-
TLE	137302	67801	65661	400	3440	-
TCR Rn. total (B)	612789	399586	136827	37961	38415	-
	(100)	(65)	(22)	(6)	(7)	
III Kalpetta region						
TME	470889	457273	10016	1000	2600	-
TEF	161927	91989	68483	300	1155	-
TLE	90866	42699	48167	-	-	-
Kal. Rn. total (C)	723682	591961	126666	1300	3755	-
	(100)	(82)	(17)	(0.3)	(0.7)	
IV Adimaly region						
TME	350882	145855	146073	-	58954	-
	(100)	(41)	(42)		(17)	
society Grouping						
TME	1343519	1056382	211053	8775	67309	
	(100)	(79)	(16)	(1)	(5)	
TEF	409484	161666	148797	38991	33375	26655
	(100)	(39)	(36)	(10)	(8)	(7)
TLE	414430	143745	168219	400	13050	89016
	(100)	(35)	(41)	(0.09)	(3)	(20.91)
Grand total (A+B+C)						
	1816551	1215938	381996	48166	54780	115671
	(100)	(67.7)	(21)	(2)	(3)	(7)

Source: Survey data

Note : Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to respective row total

(TEF). The Bhavani Tea Estate Sholayoor , the Goundans of Tamil Nadu etc used to employ the tribes in their cardamom and coffee plantations were the major collectors of NTFP from tribes. All tribes pointed out that the price they get for different NTFP's through different channels were almost the same. The rate for these items would always be equal to the rates of the private traders. But, at the same time the tribes pointed out that some of the unscrupulous persons involved in these marketing channels exploit them through faulty weighing practices. They usually weigh the produces through "Tholas". (A crude weighing rode). The tribes also pointed out the instances of forcing the tribes to market their produces through their employers. The topography of the forest area near to the Bhavani Tea Estate, the fear of loss of job the various punishment measures that can be adopted by the employer, force the tribes to market their produces especially honey, Cheevaccai, Kundirikkam and soap nuts through them. The study thus brings to light that the exchange relations in the tribal economy is also attached with the poor socio-economic conditions of the tribes. The demand and supply of the produce, and the formal institutional arrangements created for the exclusive welfare of tribes did not pay much dividends to them. While analysing the marketing channel of the tribes of more effective, effective and less effective TCS, it was found that the tribes of more effective tribal co-operative societies (TME) have marketed 79 per cent of their total collection through co-operatives and they did

not have any marketing channel through tribal agents Whereas the tribes of effective and less effective Tribal Co-operative Societies have marketed only 39 per cent and 35 per cent of their producer respectively through co-operatives. Diagram 4 gives a more vivid picture about the marketing channels of NTFP of tribes.

6.13 Collection and Marketing of NTFP by Tribes of More Effective, Effective and Less Effective TCS and the Average Sale Rate Per Kg.

The tribes select co-operatives as well as non-co-operative channel to market their produce. Table 6.14 clearly indicates the average sale value of each NTFP by tribes in the study region.

Table 6.14 indicates that the tribes of less effective tribal co-operative societies were able to market their produce at a very high rate as compared to the sale rates of effective and more effective tribal co-operative societies, Particularly on medicinal items such as Tuber crops, Root items, Fruits, Barks, Bushes and Creepers, liquids (honey) and bee wax and non-medicinal items like spices, dye and paint items and soap and shampoo items. It was also observed (Table 6.13) that only 35 per cent of the total sale of NTFP of tribes of less effective tribal co-operative societies were effected through co-operatives. On account of

Table 6.14

Collection and Marketing of NTFP by Tribes in More Effective, Effective and Less Effective TCS

NTFP Items Sl. No.	More effective			Effective			Less effective		
	Quantity Marketed (Kg.)	Sales Value (Rs.)	Rate per Kg. (Rs.)	Quantity Marketed (Kg.)	Sales Value (Rs.)	Rate per Kg. (Rs.)	Quantity Marketed (Kg.)	Sales Value (Rs.)	Rate per Kg. (Rs.)
I MEDICINAL ITEMS									
1 Tuber Crops	22891	138117	6.03	3608	15067	4.18	1748	18190	10.41
2 Root items	82964	142235	1.71	26615	42688	1.6	6017	34319	5.7
3 Fruits	31438	240363	7.65	3139	30613	9.75	1518	20481	13.49
4 Barks	160	930	5.81	--	--	--	54	1405	26
5 Bushes and Creepers	8938	48617	5.44	2238	8662	3.87	2224	15841	7.12
6 Liquids(Honey)	10892	278929	25.61	2758	79950	28.99	1384	62849	45.41
7 Seeds	2941	18410	6.26	414	3662	8.85	421	1290	3.06
8 Flowers	--	--	--	360	9166	25.46	181	3708	20.49
9 Miscellaneous	840	23837	28.38	139	6555	47.16	52	2307	44.37
II NON-MEDICINAL									
10 Oil seeds	13150	12028	0.92	--	--	--	--	--	--
11 Spices	5	330	66	151	8257	54.68	1	120	120
12 Edible items	103	1880	18.25	115	850	7.39	837	14385	17.19
13 Dye and paint items	6851	140402	20.49	7557	55781	7.38	3952	118053	29.87
14 Soap and Shampoo items	58045	267495	4.61	30479	146208	4.8	18768	120662	6.43
15 Miscellaneous	3394	29946	8.82	405	2025	5	50	220	4.4

Source: Compiled from the data collected from 254 tribal households.

Marketing Channels of NTFP by Tribes

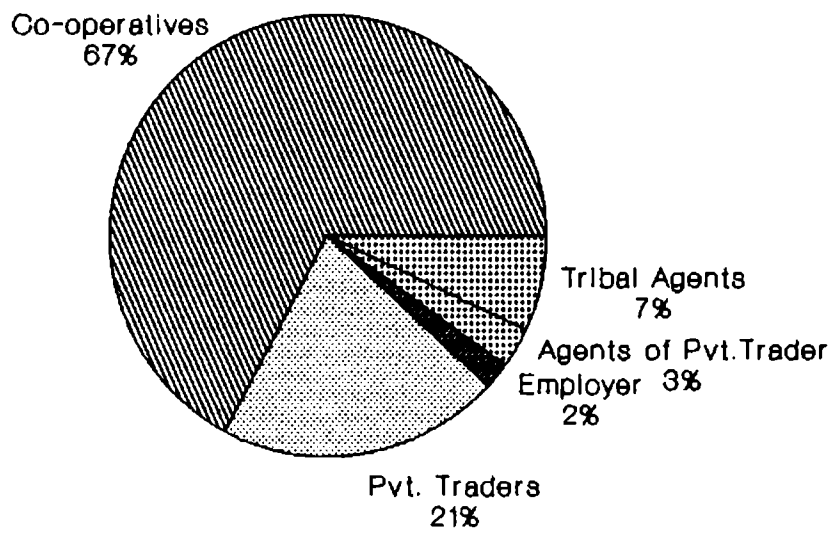


Figure 4

this low market share through co-operatives, these societies were termed as less effective. Thus the study makes it clear that there existed considerable differences in the market rates among co-operatives and private trading channels of NTFP in the state. Without ignoring the importance of co-operative marketing, from the study it can be stated that the monopoly procurement and marketing of NTFPs, by tribal co-operative failed to fetch remunerative prices to tribals for their produce. Actually it is seen that the existing monopoly procurement led to inefficiency in the marketing system. The argument will be more clear when we examine the price spread in the later part of this thesis.

6.14 Inter-Tribal Variations in Marketing

The Inter-tribal variations in collection and marketing of NTFP is explained in Table 6.15.

Table 6.15 points out that, of the 11 tribal communities the Kattunaikens do the maximum collection and marketing of NTFP (Rs. 14744 per annum). They are followed by MalaiPandaram (Rs. 11904 per annum). Wide variations among tribal communities in the collection and marketing of these products were also noticed. Among the tribal communities the Adiyar family collects produce worth Rs. 3285/- in an year the lowest collection among tribal communities under study.

Table 6.15

Inter Tribal Variations per Tribal Household in Collection
and Marketing of NTFP and their Marketing Channel

Figures in Rs.

Tribal Community	Marketing Channel					
	Total Sale	Co-ope- ratives	Private Traders	Employer	Doorstep Delivery	Tribal Agent
1 Muduvan	10868 (100)	4271 (39)	5601 (52)	-	996 (9)	
2 Mannan	5278 (100)	2606 (49)	409 (8)	-	2263 (43)	
3 Kanikar	7445 (100)	1454 (20)	2780 (37)	28 (1)	315 (4)	2858 (38)
4 Malai Panderam	11904 (100)	11049 (93)	337 (3)	518 (4)	-	-
5 Kattunaicken	1474 (100)	14339 (97)	311 (2)	-	94 (1)	
6 Kuruman	8270 (100)	5260 (63)	2957 (36)	18 (0.37)	35 (0.66)	
7 Kurichiyen	3399 (100)	498 (15)	290 (85)	-	-	
8 Paniyan	10967 (100)	9058 (82)	1666 (15)	40 (1)	203 (2)	
9 Adiyan	3285 (100)	2081 (63)	1169 (36)	-	35 (1)	
10 Irular	8104 (100)	5000 (62)	1060 (13)	1138 (14)	906 (11)	
11 Malayan	5492 (100)	2712 (49)	2626 (48)	16 (1)	138 (2)	

Source: Survey data

Note: Figures in parantheses indicate percentage to row total
of each tribal community

The marketing channels of tribal communities showed a mixed picture. The highest collectors, Kattunaickens of Wayanad district market 97 per cent of their produce through co-operatives followed by MalaiPandarams of Achancovil TCS(93 per cents) (both the tribal communities were members of more effective TCS). But the Kanikkars and the Kurichiyans market only 20 and 15 per cent respectively through co-operatives. Kanikkar is the only community who market their produce through tribal agents. However, wide variations among tribal communities exist not only in the collection but also in the marketing channels.

6.15 NTFP Collection- Average Income for a Manday

The average income from different NTFP items for a manday is depicted in Table 6.16.

Table 6.16

Average Income from Different NTFP Items for a manday

Sl. No.	NTFP	Regions			Average income for a manday
		Thiruvananthapuram	Thrissur	Kalpetta	
Figures in Rs.					
A. MEDICINAL					
1.	Tuber Crops	24.9	23.12	37.92	27.89
2.	Root items	18.22	16.67	21.78	19.16
3.	Fruits	34.82	34.12	55.21	44.22
4.	Barks	25.08	--	--	25.08
5.	Bushes & Creepers	20.93	30.98	--	25.56
6.	Liquids (honey)	42.14	17.20	34.61	32.74
7.	Seeds	12.38	44.75	7.69	20.37
8.	Flowers	30.65	--	--	30.65
9.	Miscellaneous	18.00	60.62	--	25.54
Total (A)		31.00	21.39	34.14	29.29
B. NON-MEDICINAL					
10.	Oil seeds	11.20	22.08	--	20.25
11.	Spices	21.54	19.33	--	19.65
12.	Edible items	27.50	--	26.60	26.63
13.	Dye & paint items	34.03	43.68	9.72	31.83
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	21.96	44.75	54.62	44.21
15.	Miscellaneous	10.50	22.53	26.15	25.75
Total (B)		30.95	49.91	35.30	36.82
Grand Total (A+B)		31.04	30.12	34.43	31.94

Table 6.16 reveals that the average income from NTFP collection and marketing for a person for a day is Rs. 31.9. The Kalpetta region is observed to fetch the highest income for a manday i.e., Rs. 34.43. This is followed by the Thiruvananthapuram region (Rs. 31.04). The collectors of non-medicinal herbs were able to generate Rs. 36.82 per manday whereas it was Rs. 29.29 for medicinal items. Among the regions, the Kalpetta region was able to fetch Rs. 34.14 for a manday for medicinal herbs whereas it was only Rs. 21.39 in the Thrissur region. But the Thrissur region stood first with respect to the payment for non-medicinal items i.e., Rs. 41.00 per manday. Among different NTFP items, the fruit items were able to generate Rs.44.22 per manday. This is followed by soap and shampoo items (Rs.44.21). Wide fluctuations among different NTFP as was noticed in fetching income per manday. Among items, the root items were able to generate only Rs. 19.16 per manday. At the same time it is also observed that it is the most demanded item to the Ayurvedic medicine manufacturing industry as a whole. Collection and marketing of spices brought only Rs.19.65 per manday to tribes. When comparing the income per manday of medicinal as well as non-medicinal items, it seems that the income derived from non-medicinal items are slightly higher than the income derived from medicinal items, but one could easily make out that the level of exploitation for non-medicinal items is certainly higher than for medicinal items.

6.16 Household income of tribes in the study region

The region-wise tribal household income is given in table 6.17

Table 6.17 points out that 52.5 per cent of the total income of tribes is from the collection and marketing of NTFP and altogether 62.6 per cent of the total income is derived from the sale of different products by the tribes. The wage income is accounted only by 36.9 per cent of the total income. It is also noted that 0.5 per cent of the total income is from leasing of land of the tribes. Urgent steps are to be taken to check leasing of land. Kalpetta region accounted for the maximum share of NTFP income of tribes and Thrissur region, the lowest. The study makes it clear that the NTFP has a major role in the life of tribes in the state.

Table 6.17

Income Details of Tribes in the Study Regions

(Figures in Rs.)

INCOME DETAILS	REGIONS									
	TVN (Rs.)	% to Total Income	TCE (Rs.)	% to Total Income	KAL (Rs.)	% to Total Income	ADI (Rs.)	% to Total Income	Grand Total (Rs.)	% to Grand Total Income
1. NTFP Sale	480080	49.4	612789	48.4	723682	59.6	150882	52	2167433	52.5
2. Cultivation	98007	10.1	23682	1.9	52455	4.3	48554	7.2	222698	5.4
3. Weaving	55142	5.7	7000	0.6	-	-	35652	5.3	97794	2.3
4. Firewood	3116	0.3	48321	3.8	28674	2.3	18464	2.7	98575	2.4
Total (A)	636345	65.5	691792	54.7	804811	66.2	453552	67.2	2586500	62.6
B. WAGE INCOME										
5. Agrl. Labour	185996	19.1	232616	18.4	313054	25.8	132361	19.6	864827	20.9
6. Estate Labour	-	-	170446	13.5	5940	0.5	68904	10.2	245290	5.9
7. Forest Work	125798	12.9	100678	8	82101	6.8	15200	2.3	323777	7.8
8. Service	20600	2.1	68408	5.3	2400	0.2	2400	0.3	93808	2.3
Total (B)	332394	34.1	572148	45.2	403495	33.3	218865	32.4	1526902	36.9
C. OTHER SOURCE										
9. Lease	3598	0.4	1230	0.1	4900	0.5	2625	0.4	12353	0.5
Total (C)	3598	0.4	1230	0.1	4900	0.5	2625	0.4	12353	0.5
Total Income (A+B+C)	972337	100	1265170	100	1213206	100	675042	100	4125755	100
Average Income per Household (Rs.)	17679		16869		14443		16876		16243	

Source: Survey data

TVN: Thiruvananthapuram TCE: Thrissur KAL: Kalpetta ADI: Minaly

6.17 Pricing of NTFP under co-operative Set up

Generally speaking, the value of a product is based on its demand and supply in the market. It was observed that so far no agency either co-operatives or non co-operatives made any calculation about the potential demand and supply of NTFP's in Kerala. Therefore the price fixation of these institutional arrangements remained to be tardy and inefficient. The private traders always seem to fix a price which is always higher than what is fixed by co-operatives.

The floor price of NTFP's will be fixed every year by SC/ST federation on the recommendation of the NTFP committee. The Board of Management of each Tribal Co-operatives has the liberty to re-fix the prices. The price so re-fixed should not be less than what is fixed by the committee. It was observed that the NTFP committee would fix three prices, namely collection charge, procurement value and the expected sales value of each NTFP items. The NTFP committee generally fix the price for dry items of NTFP where as the tribes supply the items in fresh quantities to co-operatives. Therefore, the TCS had to work out a norm for converting the fresh items into dry quantities and its equivalent prices. So far no scientific work has been undertaken by any agency to solve this issue. As a result, the tribes were being exploited even by the collection agents of the tribal co-operative societies. However, the researcher in

consultation with the secretaries of tribal co-operative societies, collection agents, Ayurvedic medicine manufacturing units and traders of NTFPs developed a standard for converting fresh items in to dry items which is given in Appendix III.

Since there has been change in the pricing policies with respect to NTFP and the sharing of the sales value between tribes and TCS and TCS and Apex level Co-operative Organisation from 1982-83 to 1993-94, the collection charge fixed and paid by tribal co-operative societies and its share to tribes have been divided in to two periods - 1982-83 to 1990-91 and 1991-92 to 1993-94 and is presented in Tables 6.1 to 6.20.

6.18 Collection Charge Fixed and Paid by TCS from 1982-83 to 1990-91

The collection charge fixed and paid by co-operatives of tribes is presented in Table 6.18

Table 6.18

Average NTFP Collection Charge Paid to Tribes by TCS and Floor
Price Fixed for NTFP by SC/ST Federation from
1982-83 to 1990-91 - A Comparison

Figures in Rs.

Sl. No.	NTFP	Collection charge paid to tribes	Collection charge fixed by SC/ST federation	Collection charge as % collection charge fixed
A. MEDICINAL				
1.	Tuber Crops	4.27	5.32	80.26
2.	Root items	1.59	1.42	111.97
3.	Fruits	0.87	1.29	67.97
4.	Barks	1.52	0.98	155.10
5.	Bushes & Creepers	1.88	1.57	119.74
6.	Liquids (honey)	12.77	11.25	113.51
7.	Seeds	3.13	2.49	125.70
8.	Flowers	10.97	2.95	371.86
9.	Miscellaneous	16.35	14.91	109.66
B. NON-MEDICINAL				
10.	Oil seeds	1.08	1.14	94.74
11.	Spices	20.91	21.90	95.48
12.	Edible items	5.99	2.95	203.05
13.	Dye & paint items	5.55	2.21	251.13
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	2.27	2.14	106.07
15.	Miscellaneous	2.21	3.83	57.7

Source: Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation and TCS under study from 1982-83 to 1990-91.

Table 6.18 indicates that the collection charge paid by c-operatives for all NTFP items except Tuber crops, Fruits, Oil seeds, Spices and Miscellaneous items of non-medicinal herbs were always higher than the price fixed by NTFP committee. It can be very well understood that the price fixation mechanism of the SC/ST Federation was not depending upon the potential demand of the products. The collection charge fixed by NTFP committee for different years also revealed that there was not much variation in prices of different commodities over the years. During the period it was observed that the TCS did not follow a uniform pattern with regard to the fixation of collection charge for NTFP. Some societies especially the less effective societies had given only 75 per cent of the price fixed by NTFP committee as collection charge to tribes for various NTFP and for others a price above the collection charge fixed by the NTFP committee was given as collection charge.

6.19 Collection Charge Fixed and Paid by TCS from 1991-92 to 1993-94

As per the change in the pricing policies 80 percent of the sales value of NTFP must be given to tribes as collection charge. There was an inherent drawback in this policy i.e., the collection charge could be finally fixed only after the sale of the collected produce. Since the tribes require the collection charge then and there, the tribal

co-operative societies used to fix a collection charge not below the one fixed in the previous year. The balance if any, should be paid to tribes as bonus. But it was observed that none of the societies under study had paid any bonus on this account. Some societies especially Malampuzha and Sultan Battery had introduced a system of keeping a certain percentage of their collection charge in the society as deposit and at the end of the year it is repaid as bonus. Strictly speaking it is not bonus. It is only an undistributed portion of the real wages of the tribes.

The collection charge fixed and paid to tribes during the period 1991-92 to 1993-94 is given in Table 6.19.

Table 6.19

Average NTFP Collection Charge Paid to Tribes by TCS and Floor
Price Fixed by SC/ST Federation from 1991-92 to 1993-94

Figures in Rs/per Kg.

Sl. No.	NTFP	Collection charge paid to tribes	Collection charge fixed by SC/ST federation	Collection charge paid as % collection charge fixed
A. <u>MEDICINAL</u>				
1.	Tuber Crops	11.97	12.07	99.17
2.	Root items	3.56	3.05	116.72
3.	Fruits	1.95	3.86	50.52
4.	Barks	3.87	2.68	144.40
5.	Bushes & Creepers	5.34	3.19	167.40
6.	Liquids (honey)	26.43	21.00	125.86
7.	Seeds	6.19	4.96	124.80
8.	Flowers	28.37	6.20	457.58
9.	Miscellaneous	32.68	35.42	92.26
B. <u>NON-MEDICINAL</u>				
10.	Oil seeds	2.70	2.00	135
11.	Spices	55.47	83.10	66.75
12.	Edible items	13.37	5.15	259.61
13.	Dye & paint items	15.63	3.86	404.92
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	5.11	4.17	122.54
15.	Miscellaneous	7.67	8.60	89.06

Source: Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation and TCS under study from 1982-83 to 1990-91.

Table 6.19 indicates that except for items such as tuber crops, fruits, spices, miscellaneous (medicinal-bee wax), and the miscellaneous items of the non-medicinal categories, the price paid by TCS were higher than what was fixed by NTFP committee. By comparing tables 6.18 and 6.19 we could understand that the pricing policy has considerable effect in the payment of collection charge to tribes by co-operative especially from 1991-92 onwards.

6.20 Collection Charge Fixed by NTFP Committee and Paid by Tribal Co-operative Societies from 1982-83 to 1993-94

The average collection charge fixed by NTFP Committee and paid by tribal co-operative societies during the entire period from 1982-83 to 1993-94 is given in Table 6.20.

Table 6.20
 NTFP Collection Charge Paid to Tribes by TCS and Floor Price
 Fixed for NTFP by SC/ST Federation/NTFP Committee - 1982-83
 to 1993-94 - Comparison

Figures in Rs/per Kg.

Sl. No.	NTFP	Collection charge paid to tribes	Collection charge fixed by SC/ST federation	Collection charge paid as collection charge fixed
A. <u>MEDICINAL</u>				
1.	Tuber Crops	6.20	7.01	88.45
2.	Root items	2.08	1.83	113.66
3.	Fruits	1.14	1.93	59.07
4.	Barks	2.16	1.44	150.00
5.	Bushes & Creepers	2.75	1.98	138.89
6.	Liquids (honey)	16.19	13.98	128.26
7.	Seeds	3.89	3.11	125.08
8.	Flowers	15.32	3.76	407.45
9.	Miscellaneous	20.44	20.04	102.00
B. <u>NON-MEDICINAL</u>				
10.	Oil seeds	1.49	1.36	109.56
11.	Spices	29.55	37.20	79.44
12.	Edible items	7.84	3.50	224
13.	Dye & paint items	8.07	2.62	308.01
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	2.98	2.65	112.45
15.	Miscellaneous	3.70	5.13	72

Source: Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation and TC under study from 1982-83 to 1990-91.

Table 6.20 indicates that the overall payment of collection charge to tribes was always higher than the price fixed by NTFP committee and SC/St federation. But for items like tuber crops, fruits, spices and non-medicinal miscellaneous items, the prices paid by co-operatives were less than the floor price fixed by NTFP committee. It clearly indicates that the tribes were not even given the guaranteed price offered by the NTFP committee by TCS.

Table 6.21 depicts the 't' values of collection charge fixed by NTFP committee and paid by TCS to tribes for NTFPs for three periods 1982-83 to 1993-94, 1982-83 to 1990-91 and 1991-92 to 1993-94. The table brings to our notice that there was significant difference between the price fixed and paid by co-operatives for NTFP's in almost all the three periods.

Table 6.21
't' Values of Collection Charge paid by Co-operatives and
Fixed by NTFP Committee

Sl. No.	NTFP	't' values		
		1982-83 to 1993-94	1982-83 to 1990-91	1991-92 to 1993-94
A. <u>MEDICINAL</u>				
1.	Tuber Crops	1.46	12.07	0.12
2.	Root items	1.89	1.51	2.15
3.	Fruits	3.90*	1.06	12.57*
4.	Barks	3.45*	5.30*	3.41
5.	Bushes & Creepers	2.50*	2.30*	5.20*
6.	Liquids (honey)	3.10*	2.06	3.85
7.	Seeds	1.49	1.80	0.58
8.	Flowers	4.88*	4.84	5.62*
9.	Miscellaneous	0.23	0.78	0.67
B. <u>NON-MEDICINAL</u>				
10.	Oil seeds	0.91	0.56	2.66
11.	Spices	0.92	0.51	4.59*
12.	Edible items	3.09*	2.05	3.10
13.	Dye & paint items	4.05*	3.43*	8.70*
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	2.52*	1.27	9.19*
15.	Miscellaneous	1.72	1.64	0.50

* Significant at 5% level.

6.21 Sales Price expected and the Actual Sales Price realised
for NTFP

Every year the NTFP committee will fix the collection charge, procurement value and the expected sales values of NTFP in advance and the same list will be send to TCS through SC/ST federation. Tables (6.22, 6.23 & 6.24) present the average expected and realised value of NTFP and the by SC/ST Federation during the periods 1982-83 to 1990-91, 1991-92 to 1993-94 and 1982-83 to 1993-94

Table 6.22 points out that as regards to all medicinal items except tuber crops, fruits and seeds the actual sales value was below than the expected value. The same thing was happened to non-medicinal items like oil seeds, edible items, and soap and shampoo items. Among the fruit items, Nellicca is seasonal which is a highly required item in fresh quantities for medicinal preparation. Since there is no technology to preserve Nellicca in freshness for long period of time, the market value of the products always depends upon the availability and the unscrupulous activities of traders. Among edible items Kudampuli is in hot demand. Likewise, Cheevaccai, Soap and Shampoo items which have very good market especially in Tamil Nadu and other northern states, but due to lack of proper liaison with the end-users of these products, the TCS were not in a position to realise good price for these products

Table 6.22

Average Sales price of NTFP - Expected and Realised by SC/ST
Federation - 1982-83 to 1990-91

Figures in Rs/per Kg.

Sl. No.	NTFP	Sales price expected	Actual sales value	Actual sales value as % of expectation
A. <u>MEDICINAL</u>				
1.	Tuber Crops	8.24	7.09	86.0
2.	Root items	2.35	2.93	124.7
3.	Fruits	2.66	1.32	49.6
4.	Barks	1.87	2.14	114.4
5.	Bushes & Creepers	1.64	3.12	190.2
6.	Liquids (honey)	10.55	17.39	164.8
7.	Seeds	17.94	5.25	29.3
8.	Flowers	4.06	15.93	392.4
9.	Miscellaneous	4.82	25.15	521.8
B. <u>NON-MEDICINAL</u>				
10.	Oil seeds	5.47	2.58	47.2
11.	Spices	63.00	90.08	143.0
12.	Edible items	15.67	7.69	49.1
13.	Dye & paint items	4.88	8.99	184.2
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	10.56	5.29	50.0
15.	Miscellaneous	3.52	3.36	95.5

Source: Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation and TCS under study from 1982-83 to 1990-91.

Table 6.23

Average Sales price of NTFP - Expected and Realised by SC/ST
Federation 1991-92 to 1993-94

Figures in Rs/per Kg.

Sl. No.	NTFP	Sales price expected	Actual sales value	Actual sales value as % of expectation
A. <u>MEDICINAL</u>				
1.	Tuber Crops	16.09	24.55	152.6
2.	Root items	4.08	6.33	115.1
3.	Fruits	4.29	3.30	76.9
4.	Barks	4.83	5.66	117.2
5.	Bushes & Creepers	3.58	7.07	197.2
6.	Liquids (honey)	24.26	38.61	159.1
7.	Seeds	28.0	9.00	32.1
8.	Flowers	6.62	35.56	537.2
9.	Miscellaneous	18.27	54.86	300.3
B. <u>NON-MEDICINAL</u>				
10.	Oil seeds	7.22	4.02	55.7
11.	Spices	72.51	128.16	176.7
12.	Edible items	16.0	21.20	132.0
13.	Dye & paint items	16.87	31.24	185.2
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	18.35	9.86	53.7
15.	Miscellaneous	5.56	8.10	145.7

Source: Compiled from the records of SC/ST Federation and TCS

While comparing the Tables, 6.22 and 6.23 it was observed that unit sales price has considerably improved from 1991-92 onwards and the SC/ST federation was able to realise the higher prices for NTFP except for fruits, seeds, oil seeds and soap and shampoo items. The expected and the realised sales price of NTFP for the period 1982-83 to 1993-94 is depicted in Table 6.24.

Table 6.24
Average Sales Price of NTFP - Expected and Realised by SC/ST
Federation from 1982-83 to 1993-94
Figures in Rs/per Kg.

Sl. No.	NTFP	Sales price expected	Actual sales value	Actual sales value as % of expectation
A. <u>MEDICINAL</u>				
1.	Tuber Crops	10.21	11.45	112.1
2.	Root items	2.78	3.78	136.0
3.	Fruits	3.07	1.82	59.3
4.	Barks	2.65	3.10	117.0
5.	Bushes & Creepers	2.12	4.11	193.4
6.	Liquids (honey)	14.97	22.70	151.6
7.	Seeds	20.46	6.19	30.3
8.	Flowers	4.70	20.84	443.4
9.	Miscellaneous	5.68	32.58	573.6
B. <u>NON-MEDICINAL</u>				
10.	Oil seeds	4.41	2.94	66.7
11.	Spices	62.13	99.60	160.3
12.	Edible items	19.75	11.07	56.1
13.	Dye & paint items	8.37	14.55	173.8
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	12.51	6.43	51.4
15.	Miscellaneous	4.03	4.54	112.7

Table 6.24 reveals that there exists marketing problems for items like fruits, seeds, oil seeds, edible items and soap and shampoo items. The actual realised value of these items were much lower than the expected value. The 't' values of sales price realised and sales price expected revealed that there is significant difference between these two prices.

Table 6.25

't' Values of Sales Price Realised and Sales Price Expected by SC/ST Federation

Sl. No.	NTFP	't' values		
		1982-83 to 1993-94	1982-83 to 1990-91	1991-92 to 1993-94
A. <u>MEDICINAL</u>				
1.	Tuber Crops	0.75	0.83	5.16*
2.	Root items	2.52*	1.31	9.39*
3.	Fruits	6.99*	7.66*	1.83
4.	Barks	1.39	0.99	0.87
5.	Bushes & Creepers	4.50*	3.25*	6.58*
6.	Liquids (honey)	6.57*	9.49*	6.74*
7.	Seeds	10.82*	9.63*	11.92*
8.	Flowers	6.50*	10.35*	8.86*
9.	Miscellaneous	6.24*	6*.00	13.40
B. <u>NON-MEDICINAL</u>				
10.	Oil seeds	7.07*	6.58*	10.50*
11.	Spices	5.04*	3.69*	4.25*
12.	Edible items	8.72*	7.46*	13.65*
13.	Dye & paint items	2.63*	1.35	14.26*
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	6.59*	4.77*	23.09*
15.	Miscellaneous	0.51	0.14	1.39

Table 6.25 indicates that there has been significant difference between the fixation of expected sales value and actual realisation of price for NTFP from 1982-83 to 1993-94. Significant difference could be noted in the case of almost all items of NTFP. It highlights the inefficiencies of the co-operative marketing system to extract a reasonable sales price for NTFP. It would be possible only through a detailed survey about these products in the market. When the expectation of sales value is low, naturally the fixation of collection charge will also be low. Therefore the low price fixed by the co-operatives force the tribes to market their collected produce through private channels.

6.22 Collection Charge as Percentage to Actual Sales Price Realised

Table 6.26 depicts the collection charge as percentage to sales price realised.

Table 6.26

Collection Charge as Percentage to Actual Sales Price Realised

Sl. No.	NTFP	Figures in Percentages		
		Periods		
		1982-83 to 1993-94	1982-83 to 1990-91	1991-92 to 1993-94
A. <u>MEDICINAL</u>				
1.	Tuber Crops	54.1	60.2	48.8
2.	Root items	55.0	54.3	56.2
3.	Fruits	62.6	65.9	59.1
4.	Barks	69.7	71.0	68.4
5.	Bushes & Creepers	67.1	60.3	75.5
6.	Liquids (honey)	71.3	73.4	68.5
7.	Seeds	62.8	59.6	68.8
8.	Flowers	73.5	68.9	79.8
9.	Miscellaneous	62.7	65.0	59.6
Average (medicinal)		64.3	64.3	65
B. <u>NON-MEDICINAL</u>				
10.	Oil seeds	50.7	41.9	67.2
11.	Spices	29.7	23.2	43.3
12.	Edible items	70.8	77.9	63.1
13.	Dye & paint items	55.5	61.7	50.0
14.	Soap and Shampoo items	46.3	42.9	51.8
15.	Miscellaneous	81.5	65.8	94.6
Average (non-medicinal)		55.8	52.2	61.7

Source : Survey data

Table 6.26 points out that over the years 64.3 percent of the realised value of medicinal herbs had been given to tribes as collection charge and for non-medicinal items it was only 55.8 percent. While comparing the periods, for medicinal herbs the share given to tribes has increased from 64.3 percent during 1982 - 91 to 65 percent in 1991 - 94. The corresponding figure for non-medicinal items was 52.2 percent to 61.7 percent. But it is a pity to note that in the case of most of the TCS could not give 75 to 80 percent of the realised value as collection charge to tribes as was promised.

6.23 Sale rate of NTFP under Co-operative and Non-Co-operative Channel

Table 6.13 point out that 33 percent of the products even under this institutional arrangement is marketed through non-co-operative channels. One of the major reasons is the existence of a wide gap between the price offered by co-operatives and non-co-operatives. The price offered by the non-co-operative channel was always higher than what was offered by co-operatives which is very evident in Table 6.27.

Table 6.27

Average Sale Value of NTFP's of Tribes under Co-operative and Non-Co-Operative Marketing Channel

Figures in Rs/per Kg.

NTFP	Co-operatives (Rs) 3	Non-co-operatives (Rs) 4	% (3 to 4) 5
<u>MEDICINAL</u>			
Tuber Crops	11.97	14.37	83.3
Root items	3.56	5.27	67.6
Fruits	1.95	4.94	39.5
Barks	3.87	22.60	17.1
Bushes & Creepers	5.34	9.51	56.2
Liquids (honey)	26.43	45.52	58.1
Seeds	6.19	12.51	49.5
Flowers	28.37	30.38	93.4
Miscellaneous	32.68	39.89	81.9
<u>NON-MEDICINAL</u>			
1. Oil seeds	2.70	5.50	49.1
2. Spices	55.47	80.00	69.3
3. Edible items	13.37	16.93	79.0
4. Dye & paint items	15.63	27.29	57.3
5. Soap and Shampoo items	5.11	7.33	69.7
6. Miscellaneous	7.67	10.23	75.0

Source: For Column No.3, compiled from the records of TCS (Table 6.18) and for column No.4 directly from tribes through survey of 254 tribal families.

Table 6.27 makes it clear that the price offered by non-co-operative channel was always higher than the price offered by co-operatives. As regards items like fruits, barks, seeds, and oil seeds the price offered by co-operatives even did not touch 50 percent of the price offered by private traders. While analysing the tribal economy one could understand that the tribes are more concerned about the sharing of benefits. Their participation with any organisation can be attributed to the benefits which they get from that organisation. They are more concerned with immediate benefits rather than waiting for future benefits from the organisation. If a trader offers five paise higher to a commodity, the tribes may be tempted to sell the product to the private trader, and not to their own organisation namely, co-operatives.

Though we have seen the price paid by TCS were much higher than the price fixed by NTFP committee, it was also noted that the price paid by TCS to tribes was also much than the price paid by the non-co-operative channel. However an analysis of the price spread will reveal the real picture of the role of different agencies in the collection and marketing of NTFP in the state and will also reveal the rate of exploitation of tribes even under the well designated system of co-operative marketing of NTFP.

6.24 Price Spread

Price spread indicates the price difference between the collection charge received by tribes and the actual payment made by the end users of the products. It was observed that even though 887 Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units are there in Kerala, they also had no forward linkage with the private traders in and outside Kerala to get raw material in time. Really speaking, the non-co-operative channel is controlling the NTFP market in Kerala. To ascertain the price spread on medicinal items collected were collected from 45 Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units. Since more than sixty percent of the total employment was located for the collection of medicinal herbs and they constitute 59 per cent of the income from NTFP income, the following analysis (Table 6.28) would be much useful to regulate the prices of medicinal herbs in the state and thereby help the TCS to have some forward linkage with Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units of the state.

Table 6.28
Price Spread

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Collection Charge (Rs) A	Procurement value TCS (Rs) B	Sale value of SC/ST federation (Rs) C	Final sale value of Pvt.traders to Ayurvedic industry (Rs) D	Price Spread (D-A) (Rs) E	Market Margin % F
1.	Tuber crops	11.97 [20.78]	23.32	24.55	57.60	45.63	79.2
2.	Root items	3.56 [26.4]	6.01	6.33	13.50	9.94	73.6
3.	Fruits	1.95 [18.4]	3.13	3.30	10.60	8.65	81.6
4.	Barks	3.87 [4.2]	5.38	5.66	92.70	88.83	95.8
5.	Bushes and creepers	5.34 [27.7]	6.72	7.07	19.30	13.96	72.3
6.	Liquids(Honey)	26.43 [50.7]	36.68	38.61	52.10	25.67	49.3
7.	Seeds	6.19 [35.8]	8.55	9.00	17.30	11.11	64.2
8.	Flowers	28.37 [56.70]	33.78	35.56	50.00	21.63	43.3
9.	Oil seeds	2.70 [30.0]	3.82	4.02	9.00	6.30	70
10.	Kundirikkan	15.63 [20.60]	29.68	31.24	76.00	60.37	79.4
11.	Spices	55.47 [13]	121.75	128.16	428.00	372.53	87

Note: All figures A,B,C and D, have been compiled from the records of the respective

1. Organisation from 1991-92 to 1993-94.

2. Collection charge: The rates paid to Tribes for NTFP.

3. Procurement Value : The rate at which the Tribal co-operatives Sold NTFP's to SC/ST Federation

4. Sales Value of : The rate at which the SC/ST Federation sold the NTFP's to endusers SC/ST federation

5. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage of tribal's share of end-user's price which is calculated by the following formula.

$$PS = NP/CP \times 100$$

where PS= Tribal's share in end-user's price

NP= Net price received by the tribe

Table 6.28 highlights that there existed big gap between the price received by tribes and actually paid by the users of the tribal products. On an average only 27.65 percent of the sales value is given to tribes as collection charge. The market margin varies between 43.3 per cent to 95.8 percent. The highest market margin indicates the level of inefficiencies of the created institution to market the tribal produce at a reasonable price to the end-users. The actual sales value realised by SC/ST federation and the purchase price of the Ayurvedic medicine manufacturing units for medicinal herbs indicate a big gap which shows that these two institutional arrangements are not properly linked.

6.25 Sharing of Spread

The marketing channel is mainly linked by three intermediaries viz., Tribal Co-operatives, SC/ST Federation and private traders. Even though tribal agents and employers are there, they are excluded from the purview of the analysis relating to the sharing of price-spread as they pay similar price as what the private traders offer to tribes. Table 6.29 indicates the sharing of spread by intermediaries in the marketing channel.

Table 6.29

Sharing of Price Spread between Intermediaries in the Marketing Channel

Figures in Rs.

Sl. No.	NTFP items	Total Spread	Sharing of Spread		
			TCS	SC/ST federation	Middlemen/Pvt. Traders
I Medicinal Items					
1.	Tuber crops	45.63 (100)	11.35 (24.9)	1.23 (2.6)	33.05 (72.5)
2.	Root items	9.94 (100)	2.45 (24.6)	0.32 (3.2)	7.17 (72.2)
3.	Fruits	8.65 (100)	1.18 (13.6)	0.17 (2.0)	7.30 (84.4)
4.	Barks	88.83 (100)	1.51 (1.7)	0.28 (0.3)	87.04 (98)
5.	Bushes and creepers	13.96 (100)	1.38 (9.9)	0.35 (2.5)	12.23 (87.6)
6.	Liquids(Honey)	25.67 (100)	10.25 (39.9)	1.93 (7.5)	13.49 (52.6)
7.	Seeds	11.11 (100)	2.36 (21.2)	0.45 (4.)	8.30 (74.8)
8.	Flowers	21.63 (100)	5.41 (25)	1.78 (8.2)	14.44 (66.8)
9.	Oil seeds	6.30 (100)	1.12 (17.8)	0.20 (3.1)	4.98 (79.1)
10.	Kundirikkam	60.37 (100)	14.05 (23.3)	1.56 (2.5)	44.76 (74.2)
11.	Spices	372.53 (100)	66.28 (17.8)	6.41 (1.7)	299.84 (80.5)
Total Spread Sharing (%)		100	19.1	2.4	78.50

Note : Figures in Parentheses indicate percentage to column total.

Table 6.29 points out that 78.5 percent of the spreads were swallowed by private traders, 19.1 percent by tribal co-operative and 2.4 percent by SC/ST federation. The high spread was mainly due to poor linking of co-operatives with the potential end-users of the tribal products. Even though the TCS got a monopoly right to employ and collect the NTFPs from Kerala forest, it failed in establishing a rapport with the potential end-users of the product. As a result the institutional arrangement itself had fallen as a prey at the hands of the unscrupulous private traders who virtually control the NTFP market to their own advantage. The study reveals that the existing formal marketing arrangement limits the market and it leads to institutional inefficiencies.

***INDIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE AND ITS LINKAGE
WITH CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING SOCIETIES IN
KERALA***

CHAPTER VII
INDIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE AND ITS LINKAGE WITH CO-OPERATIVE
MARKETING SOCIETIES OF KERALA

The success of a marketing institution lies mainly on its linkage with the potential customers of their produce. The effectiveness of TCS also heavily depends on their linkage with the Indian system of medicine — Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani. The Indian system of medicine mainly relies on ingredients from the medicinal plants and trees in the forest. This chapter examines the linkage of TCS with the Indian system of medicine particularly Ayurveda in the collection and marketing of NTFP in the state.

7.1 Indian Forest and Medicinal Items

Nature has endowed India with a wide range of climatic, soil and topographic conditions suited for our traditional system of medicine. Ayurveda believes that all herbs are medicines. This is expressed as under

"JAGATHEYVA ANOUSHADHAM
NA VIDHYATHE KINCHITH"

our land, which is a punyabhoomi, is gifted with almost all

the medicinal life-saving drugs and raw herbs¹. The best medicine for people living in any particular area is the one that grows in that area² (Charaka Samhita). It indicates that whatever items or herbs we see around us are having medicinal value. It is found that about 20000 species are grown in India,³ of which it is believed that about 2000 species are having medicinal value and importance. About 80 percent of the non-medicinal plants grow in forest. It is estimated that of this 2000, about 800 medicinal herbs are used in the Indian system of medicine especially in Ayurveda for various preparations of medicine. It is found out that about 2000 different types of medicinal formulations are used in our country, of which 1500 are prepared out of herbs⁴. More than 80 per cent of the ingredients in the preparation of Ayurvedic medicine are medicinal herbs⁵. The Kerala Forest has about

1 Sitaraman S. (1994), "International marketing of Ayurvedic medicines" Paper presented in a Seminar on technology Clinic on Ayurvedic Medicines and Herbal Cosmetic, Organised by the Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Project, Kozhikode, at Thrissur, on 17th and 8th of August, p.6-8.

2 Unnikrishnan, (1993), "Medicinal herbs - an Overview", Paper Presented in the Forest Medicinal herbs Seminar Organised by the Kerala Ayurvedic Medicine manufactures Association, Forest Department and SC/ST Federation at Thrissur on 10.5.1993, p.2.

3 Aravindaksha Panicker, (1993), "Forest Medicinal Herbs - Conservation and Usage - An Overview," Paper Presented in the forest Medicinal herbs, Seminar organised by KAMA, Forest Department and SC/ST Federation on 10-5-1993 at Thrissur.

4 Ibid., p.3.

5 Unnikrishnan, (1993), Opcit...p.4.

550 medicinal herbs in its abode. But it is observed that only 69 items alone are included in the NTFP list of the state as medicinal herbs and listed by the TCS for collection⁶.

7.2 Indian System of Medicine and Kerala

Among Indian System of Medicines, Ayurveda is very famous and widely accepted in Kerala. Kerala has a unique tradition in Ayurveda. The book 'Sahasrayoga' is a Magna Carta in the field of Ayurveda which describes the science of life. The Ashtavydyas of Kerala were very famous in the field of Ayurveda. Kerala has also gone ahead in the field of Ayurveda education also. We have five Ayurveda Colleges situated at Thiruvananthapuram, Thripunithara, Kotteckal, Ollur and Kannur. Kerala also keeps medicinal gardens at Kulathupuzha, Konny, Sasthamkotta and Begur to meet the raw-material requirements of the Ayurvedic educational institutions and industry. Amongst the Ayurvedic medicines manufactured today, 57.4 percent are only herbal 28.7 percent herbo-minero-metallic and the remaining 13.9 percent minero-metallic preparations⁷. The use of herbs in latter two categories are either as ingredients of the formulation or as processing materials. It is quite evident from the above

6 Compiled from the MFP list published by The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Thiruvananthapuram, 1993-94.

7 Lucas D.S. (1993), "Forest Produce. A source for Ayurvedic Medicine", Paper presented at the National Seminar on Forest Produce organised by the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, (ICFRE), Forest Campus, Coimbatore, 15 - 16 October 1993.

data that plants have indispensable role in manufacturing Ayurvedic medicines. The number of Ayurveda medical institutions (it includes 7 Unani and 3 Siddha dispensaries) and the patients treated in these institutions are presented in Table 7.1.

Table 7.1
Number of Ayurveda Medical Institutions and Patients Treated
From 1980-81 to 1992-93 in Kerala

Year	Ayurveda Hospitals (Nos.)	Ayurveda Dispensaries (Nos.)	Total (2+3)	No. of Beds in Hospitals	No. of Patients treated under the system (in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1980-81	85	419	504	1818	163
1981-82	92	439	531	1639	152
1982-83	93	453	546	1674	153
1983-84	93	455	548	1702	152
1984-85	94	457	551	1679	159
1985-86	94	473	567	1689	140
1986-87	97	497	594	1769	141
1987-88	101	496	597	1829	143
1988-89	101	498	599	1929	141
1989-90	101	506	607	1979	160
1990-91	106	529	635	2229	445
1991-92	106	550	656	2229	366
1992-93	107	566	673	2259	536
Compound Growth rate	1.8	2.3	2.2	1.7	9.5

Source : Government of Kerala, Economic Review 1981 to 1993, Directorate of Economics and Statistics.

Table 7.1 shows that between 1980-81 to 1992-93 there was a compound growth rate of 9.5 per cent in patients depend on Ayurveda medicine . The growth has increased to 35 percent after 1990s. Since Ayurveda medicine has no side effects, the Keralites as well as the non-Keralites started to give more importance to this type of medicine. Of the 673 Ayurvedic institutions, more than 60 per cent functions in rural areas.

7.3 Growth of registered Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units in Kerala

Table 7.2 shows a booming growth of Ayurvedic units in Kerala especially after 1990. The total number of registered units has reached to 887. During 1992-93 about 126 units have been registered in Kerala.

Table 7.2

Growth of Registered Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing units
in Kerala- (1975-76 to 1992-93)

Year	Yearly Registration (Nos)	Aggregate (Nos)
1975-76	15	15
1976-77	17	32
1977-78	13	45
1978-79	27	72
1979-80	16	88
1980-81	28	116
1981-82	14	130
1982-83	25	155
1983-84	36	191
1984-85	45	236
1985-86	52	288
1986-87	58	346
1987-88	69	415
1988-89	61	476
1989-90	67	543
1990-91	117	660
1991-92	101	761
1992-93	126	887

Source : Compiled from the Records of drug Controllers Office
(Ayurveda) Kerala State, Thiruvananthapuram,
1975-76 to 1992-93

7.4 District-wise Registered Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing units in Kerala

Table 7.3 points out that of the 887 registered Ayurvedic medicine manufacturing units, 190 units i.e., 21.42 per cent have been registered in Thrissur District. This is

followed by Kollam (113 units), and Ernakulam (100 units), the number of units in Wayanad Pathanamthitta and Kasargod districts, are very low.

Table 7.3

District-wise Registered Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing
Units- 1992-93.

Sl.No.	Name of Districts	Total units Registered	%
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	82	9.25
2.	Kollam	113	12.74
3.	Pathanamthitta	4	.04
4.	Kottayam	85	9.58
5.	Idukki	14	1.58
6.	Alappuzha	76	8.57
7.	Ernakulam	100	11.27
8.	Thrissur	190	21.42
9.	Malappuram	23	2.59
10.	Wayanad	2	.02
11.	Kozhikode	86	9.70
12.	Kannur	59	6.65
13.	Palakkad	47	5.30
14.	Kasargode	6	1.29
Total		887	100

Source :Compiled from the records of the Drug Controllers Office (Ayurveda) Kerala state, Thiruvananthapuram.

7.5 Classification of Ayurvedic Medicine

The Ayurvedic industry produces two types of drugs for treatment promotive drugs and curative drugs⁸. The promotive drugs range from drugs for improving water quality (Cyperus Rotundus and Vetiver) and improving appetite (Piper langum), to drugs for improving eye sight (Aloe barbadensis) memory (Bacopa Monnieri) and enhancing immunity (Tinospora cordifolia). Jacob V. Cheeran (1994)⁹ also highlights the potentialities of Ayurvedic drugs to cattle as feed supplements to enhance production, by way of high weight, more yield etc.

The curative drugs cover all therapeutic conditions ranging from drugs for healing simple wounds to diseases of all types including conditions related to the brain and heart.

The preparation of Ayurvedic Medicine in Kerala can be broadly classified in to 9 classes such Kashayams, Asavarishtangal, Pills, Grihithams, Choornam, Tailam/Kuzhambu,

⁸ Darsan Sankar, (1994), "Securing the Future of Ayurveda," Paper Presented in a Seminar on Technology Clinic on Ayurvedic Medicines and Herbal Cosmetics, Organised by the Science and Technology at Thrissur on 17th & 18th August 1994.

⁹ Jacob V. Cheeran, (1994), "Production and Marketing of Ayurvedic Medicines in Animal Husbandry Area" Paper Presented in a Seminar on Technology Clinic on Ayurvedic Medicines and Herbal Cosmetics, Organised by the Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Project, Kozhikode at Thrissur on 17th & 18th August 1994.

Bhasmams, Kasharams, Avalehas, Special Medicines (All Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing units are not Producing Special Medicines but the Ashoka Pharmacy Kannur, Sreesadan Kannur, Oushadhi Thrissur etc. have their own special medicines. Most of these special medicines are promotive drugs.)

About 480 products of Homeopathic, 444 products of Ayurveda, 440 products of Unani and 248 products of Siddha treatment are prepared with medicinal herbs¹⁰. Nearly 80 per cent of ingredients of Ayurveda products are medicinal herbs. This will be very low in other branches of medicines. Even Allopathy also uses medicinal herbs in some of its preparations - eg. Thippalli and Keezharnaelli. All these indicate that there will be great demand for NTFP as raw materials for the preparation of Indian system of medicines.

7.6 Demand for Medicinal Herbs by the Ayurvedic Industry in Kerala

The demand for medicinal herbs and other items vary from industry to industry. Since almost all industries produce all sorts of medicines, they all demand Tuber Crops, root items, fruits, barks, etc. in varying quantities. The

¹⁰ Aravindaksha Panicker, (1993), "Forest Medicinal herbs Conservation and usage - An Overview," Paper Presented in the Forest Medicinal herbs Seminar Organised by KAMA, Forest Department and SC/ST Federation at Thrissur on 10-5-1993.

yearly requirement of medicinal items by the Ayurvedic Industry of Kerala is depicted in Table 7.4.

Table 7.4

Demand for Medicinal Items by the Ayurvedic Medicinal
Manufacturing Industry of Kerala

Sl. No.	Medicinal Items	Range of Qty. Required (kg)	Average Quantity Required/Unit (kg)
1.	Tuber Crops	636525- 777975	717-877 (11.97)
2.	Root items	3351600-4096400	3778-4618 (58.95)
3.	Coats	45000- 550000	508-620 (7.92)
4.	Fruits	146700- 179300	166-202 (2.58)
5.	Barks	32400- 39600	37-45 (.06)
6.	Bushes and Creepers	554850- 678150	625-765 (9.76)
7.	Liquids (Honey)	166500- 203500	188-230 (2.93)
8.	Seeds	144810- 176990	163-200 (2.54)
9.	Flowers	11250- 13750	13-15
10.	Oil seeds	37800- 46200	42-52 (.07)
11.	Kundirikkam	95850- 117150	64-78
12.	Miscellaneous	106500	108-132 (1.68)

Source : Ramanathan D. (1993), "Problems and Prospects of Ayurvedic Manufacturing Industry in Kerala," Paper Presented in a Seminar on strategies for Conservation and Development of Medicinal Plants, held at Odakkali on 31-12-1993, Organised by Kerala Agricultural University in 1993.

Note :1.All items are in dry quantities.

2.Out of 120 items of NTFP only 69 items are found to be used by Ayurvedic Industry of Kerala. The requirements of those 69 items alone have considered in the above Table.

3.Average quantity required for a unit is arrived at by

Table 7.4 highlights the fact that the industry requires different medicinal herbs in different degrees. Nearly 59 per cent of their total requirements are for root items like Adalodaka veru, Orila veru, Kattuthippalli, Kattumulakin veru, Kattuthulasi veru, Kumizhin veru, Moovila veru, Kurunthotti veru, etc.

7.7 Collection and Marketing of Medicinal herbs by Tribal Co-operatives and the Requirements of Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units

Table 7.5 depicts the average supply of medicinal herbs by co-operatives and the demand for the same item by the Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units of Kerala.

Table 7.5 brings to light that the co-operatives of Kerala could not meet the requirements of medicinal herbs of Ayurvedic units of Kerala. As regards to the root items the co-operatives can suffice only 3.2 percent requirements of the medicinal units of Kerala. The low availability of medicinal herbs through co-operatives and their stipulated terms and conditions force the Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units to resort to non-co-operative channel to get their raw materials requirements. Since the co-operatives have very poor linkages with the end-users of the products, it affects their bargaining power to fetch reasonable prices for tribal products. Had the co-operatives were able to collect the entire available NTFPs and controll the market by

establishing direct contact with the medicinal manufacturing units. The tribes and the society at large might have benefitted considerably.

Table 7.5

Average Collection and Marketing of Medicinal herbs by TCS and the Requirements by Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units of Kerala - 1989-90 to 1993-94

Sl. No.	Medicinal item	Av.Qty.Coll. by co-op. (Kg)	Qty avai- lable to Ay. units (Kg)	Qty. re- quired for Ay. units (Kg)	% (4 to5)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Tuber Crops	38050	43	797	5.4
2.	Root items	119878	135	4198	3.2
3.	Coats	--	--	564	--
4.	Fruits	12102	14	184	7.6
5.	Barks	16414	19	41	46.3
6.	Bushes and Creepers	46661	53	695	7.6
7.	Liquids (Honey)	45138	51	303	16.8
8.	Seeds	26911	30	182	16.5
9.	Flowers	1064	1	14	7.1
10.	Oil seeds	29332	33	47	70.2
11.	Kundirikkam	107414	121	71	170.4
12.	Miscellaneous	4444	5	120	4.2

Note: 1. Column No.3 is the average collection of medicinal herbs by co-operatives in the state from 1989-90 to 1993-94.

2. Column No.4 is the result of dividing column No.3 with the total number of registered Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units in Kerala

3. Column No.5 is derived from Table 7.4.

7.8 Suppliers of Medicinal Items to the Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units of Kerala

An enquiry regarding the major suppliers of raw materials to the Ayurvedic medicine manufacturing units in Kerala revealed that there were about 46 agencies who supply raw materials to the industry. Of the 45 Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units surveyed, none has any effective linkage with co-operative set up i.e., SC/ST Federation for their raw material. Occasionally they collect certain items from the branches of SC/ST federation. Table 7.6 gives an account of the number of agencies and the states and stations to which they belong for the supply of raw materials to the Ayurvedic units of Kerala.

Table 7.6 depicts that all units under study had some linkage with about 20 private medicinal dealers in Kerala. These medicinal dealers are mainly concentrated in three towns of the state viz, Thrissur, Kozhikode and Thiruvananthapuram. Forty ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units (89 per cent of the units surveyed) had linkages with seven suppliers in Tamil Nadu for almost all items. It is found that of the 46 agencies which supply raw materials to the Ayurvedic Medicine manufacturing units in Kerala, 25 agencies are from outside Kerala. It is also found that the Pharmaceutical Corporation of Kerala Ltd. purchases only less than one per cent of their requirement of the 69 medicinal items from the co-operatives (SC/ST federation). All other

units under the study still meet their demand either from private traders from Kerala or outside Kerala. Tamil Nadu and very recently Andhra Pradesh emerged as the best dependent sources for the medicinal herbs for the manufacturing units in Kerala.

Table 7.6
Suppliers of Raw Materials to the Ayurvedic Medicinal
Manufacturing Units of Kerala

Sl. No.	State/country	Location	No. of Suppliers	No. of unit having linkage	Major items supplied
1.	Kerala (Pvt.)	Thrissur Kozhikode Thiruvananthapuram	20	45	All materials
2.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Salem, Madras Kunnathoor	7	40	Root items, gur, oils, ghee, fruits
3.	Punjab	Ludhiana, Jalandar, Chandigarh	6	23	Gulgulu, Amukkaram, Kottam, Karpooram, Kungumapoo, Kunthirikkam, Saffron
4.	Bengal	Calcutta	3	30	Black grapes, Amukkaram
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Neemuch	2	10	Amukkaram
6.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	2	8	All Herbs
7.	Maharashtra	Bombay	1	10	All Herbs
8.	Jammu Kashmir		1	25	Kayam, Karpooram Kanmadam
9.	Haryana	Delhi	1	10	All Herbs
10.	Karnataka	Bangalore	1	4	Packing materials
11.	Afghanistan		1	1	Black grapes
12.	SC/ST Federation (Kerala)	Thiruvananthapuram	1	6	Root items & Tuber items

Source: Survey data

7.9 Wide Gap Between Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing Industry and Tribal co-operative Societies.

Lack of proper and effective linkages between the potential suppliers of medicinal herbs, TCS and the Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing units in Kerala (potential demanders) the real fruits of tribal development effort is enjoyed by the middlemen who now play a double role in the market — one as an illicit procurer of NTFP directly from tribes and the other as a controller of medicinal herbs market in the state. The study reveals that most of the traders from Tamil Nadu and Kerala who directly purchase or participate in the auctions of co-operatives and collect items in bulk quantities and supplies the same at a high price to the Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing Units in Kerala. In reality, the TCS as well as the medicinal manufacturing units of Kerala have fallen as victims at the hands of these unscrupulous traders. According to Joshi Damodar¹¹ 90 per cent of ayurvedic drug manufacturers only depend on market supplies of raw drugs which are either adulterated or sub-standard or outdated and thus the drug produced with these could not be of desired quality. Even though the TCS got the monopoly procurement and marketing rights of NTFP in the state, they failed to exercise the same

11 Joshi Damodar (1993), "Scope of MFPs in Ayurvedic Pharmaceutical Industry", Paper Presented in the International Seminar on 'MFP in Forestry', held at Institute of Management Development, Dehradun, 17-18 April 1993.

monopoly in the distribution of medicinal items to the industry.

7.10 Purchase and Sales Rate of Medicinal Items-Linkage between Ayurvedic Industry and Co-operative Marketing

Table 7.7

Purchase Rate of Medicinal Items by the Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units and Sale of Medicinal Items by Co-operatives- A Comparison

Sl.No.	Medicinal items	X	Y	Z
1.	Tuber Crops	57.60	24.55	33.05
2.	Root items	13.50	6.33	7.17
3.	Fruits	10.60	3.30	7.30
4.	Barks	92.70	5.66	87.04
5.	Bushes & Creepers	19.30	7.07	12.23
6.	Liquids (Honey)	52.10	38.61	13.49
7.	Seeds	17.30	9.00	8.30
8.	Flowers	50.00	35.56	14.44
9.	Oil seeds	9.00	4.02	4.98
10.	Kundirikkam	76.00	31.24	44.76
11.	Spices	428.00	128.16	299.84
12.	Miscellaneous	82.00	54.86	27.14

Note: 1. X denotes the average purchase rate of medicinal items by the Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing units of Kerala from 1990-91 to 1993-94.

2. Y denotes the average sales rate of Medicinal items by the SC/ST Federation from 1990-91 to 1993-94.

3. Z denotes the price difference (X-Y)

Table 7.7 explains the purchase and sale rates of different medicinal items purchased by the Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing units in Kerala for the preparation of Ayurvedic Medicine and the sale rate of the same items by the co-operatives in the state. Out of 45 units studied, almost all are collecting their requirements from private traders. column X denotes the average rate at which they collected the items from private traders from 1990-91 onwards. Column Y denotes the rate at which the co-operatives have marketed the same items in Kerala. It shows that the co-operatives have failed to establish a link between Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing Industry in the state. It is very clear that the middlemen by controlling the market, pocket a huge amount as profit. The difference in price, may be one of the reasons for sidelining the co-operatives by tribes and marketing the produce through private traders/middlemen. Since the co-operatives are not aware about the potential demand of the products by the Ayurvedic industry, (so far no survey has been conducted) it could not fix a realistic price for the products. As a result, not only the co-operatives but also the tribes are being exploited by the private channel. The table also points out that the level of exploitation is much high especially in high value items like tuber crops, Barks, flowers, kundirikkam and cardamom. The classification, viz., miscellaneous, mainly includes bee wax, there also the level of exploitation is very high.

Since there is no co-ordination between the potential suppliers and potential customers of medicinal herbs, the industry as well as the consumers are adversely affected. Though the Government envisaged a system with noble objectives, it is proved that the benefit of the system is ultimately not giving to tribes but to middlemen or private traders. Therefore it is imperative that urgent steps should be undertaken to rectify the system.

The study proved that the gatherers of medicinal herbs receive only a very small proportion of the price the consumer pays. This calls for market regulation to reduce the unhealthy market practices for the healthy promotion of the system of forest based Indian system of medicine. By liberalising the marketing practices for NTFP in the tribal economy the industry would be assured of getting right material of right quality, at the right place and the right price. This will provide incentives to the gatherers to collect the right material of the right quality and receive the right payment, reflecting their opportunity cost of wage and the opportunity cost of the valuable knowledge they possess in identifying and gathering the forest medicines.¹²

¹² Chandra Kanth M.G. and Lokamanya D.S.(1993), "Market Imperfections in Forest Based Medicinal Tree Parts- A Case Study," Paper Presented in the International Seminar on 'MFP in Forestry' held at Dehradun, 17-18 April 1993

7.11 Response of Officials of Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units

Since almost all units collect their raw materials directly from private traders, the advantages of this non-co-operative trade relationship over co-operatives have been collected and placed on record here.

7.11.1. Advantages of Non-cooperative Channel Over Co-operative Channel

1. Supply of raw materials in the factory premises.

Eighty per cent of the respondents point out that on their request the raw materials will be supplied in the godowns of the units. Since they get regular and continuous supply, there is no need to keep big quantities in their godowns.

2. Credit base:

All the responding units under study pointed out that they get raw materials on credit basis. The period of credit varies from one to three months. In the case of co-operatives advance payment is required even to participate in auctions.

3. Formalities:

All officials highlighted the various formalities of co-operatives in releasing and removing the product immediately after auctions. They have to wait for pass from Forest Department. In some cases payment of bribe is necessary to get the movement pass for NTFP. Such things force them not to turn to co-operatives on a second time.

4. Advance Information:

Seventy five per cent of the respondents pointed out that they get advance information from different traders about their stock of items, their prices etc., whereas from co-operatives they don't get any information.

5. Required quantity and Availability

All officials highlighted that their timely requirement and the availability with co-operatives will never coincide. The Ayurvedic units require raw materials for medicinal preparations. They require small quantities of different items at different times. But the co-operatives collect items only seasonally. Since they don't have the facility to store the items for long period, they release the items in bulk quantities through auction. Eighty per cent of

the Ayurvedic units pointed out that they don't have proper storage facilities.

6. Age Old Relation with Certain Suppliers

Of the 45 units under survey, 30 units were family managed units. They have their own formulations in the preparation of medicine and treatment. They point out that they have certain regular customers and suppliers of raw materials. Immediately after giving order, they get the materials in their door steps.

7. Quality of raw materials

Out of the 45 units that exists, only 6 have made some connections with co-operatives in getting raw materials. They all pointed out that the materials supplied by co-operatives are of good qualities.

7.12 Problems Faced by the Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units of Kerala

All respondents pointed out that one of the major problems facing the industry is raw materials shortage. The availability of medicinal herbs from Kerala forest is decreasing. Reduction in forest area, unscientific collection methods, encroachment, fire etc. are the major reasons for

shortage. Of the 45 medicinal manufacturing units, it is found that none except Kottackal Arya Vidyssla and Nagarjuna Herbal Concentrates Ltd. has any medicinal gardens of its own. The medicinal garden of Kottackal Aryavaidyasala and Nagarjuna Herbal Concentrates Ltd. will not be sufficient for even to meet one per cent of their total requirements. The planners have to take note of this situation and initiate steps to encourage the cultivation of medicinal herbs on a large scale. The co-operatives should also try to make a good rapport with Ayurvedic units, consider their requirement etc. and make suitable changes in their marketing strategies including enlarging items in NTFP list. Only then the system will help the tribes as well as the industry and ultimately the society.

PARTICIPATION AND RESPONSE ANALYSIS

CHAPTER VIII

PARTICIPATION AND RESPONSE ANALYSIS

Participation is a widely used term in the current literature on development. Tribal co-operative societies are designed as participatory ventures for tribal development. They are expected to be free from historical lethargy and bureaucratic indifference¹. But the participatory efforts are conspicuous by their absence in the working of TCS.

8.1 Membership

The earlier chapters have highlighted the fact that the coverage of tribal co-operative societies among tribes is very poor. It was observed that only 20.1 per cent of the tribals had taken shares from TCS voluntarily. The rest took shares at the advice or influence of their friends, secretaries of TCS and or co-operative inspectors (Table 8.1). To a question of why they have become members in TCS, 35.4 per cent answered that they became members for marketing their NTFP. More than 16 per cent do not have any idea of their membership in TCS (Table 8.2). It was found that 55 of the tribes also had membership in other credit co-operative institutions in their area. They took such membership on the advice of their own friends and members of the Board of directors of the respective societies. Forty five per cent of

¹ Suresh, K.A., (1990), "Participation of beneficiaries in the development programmes of Non-Governmental Organisations in Kerala", Journal of Rural Development, Vol.9(5), pp.911-915, NIRD, Hyderabad.

those who have membership in other co-operative institutions revealed that they took membership in such societies for availing loans while 42 per cent became members on political reasons. Thirteen per cent do not have any idea regarding why they became members in other societies.

Table 8.1
Mode of Taking Membership in TCS

Regions	Voluntary	Advice of friends	Board members	Secretary	Co-op. Inspectors	Total
1. Thiruvananthapuram						
TME	-	1	7	6	1	15
TEF	8	2	5	-	-	15
TLE	3	5	9	6	2	25
Total(A)	11	8	21	12	3	55
	(20)	(14.5)	(38.2)	(21.8)	(5)	(100)
2. Thrissur						
TME	2	3	10	9	2	26
TEF	1	2	15	4	2	24
TLE	5	4	6	6	4	28
Total(B)	8	9	31	19	8	75
	(10.7)	(12)	(41.3)	(25.3)	(10.7)	(100)
3. Kalpetta Rn.						
TME	5	4	13	13	-	35
TEF	4	4	14	6	1	29
TLE	6	3	5	2	4	20
Total(C)	15	11	32	21	5	84
	(17.8)	(13.1)	(38.1)	(25)	(6)	(100)
4. Adimaly Rn						
TME	17	4	9	8	2	40
Total(D)	17	4	9	8	2	40
	(42.5)	(10)	(22.5)	(20)	(5)	(100)
Grand Total						
	51	32	93	60	18	254
	(20.1)	(12.6)	(36.6)	(23.6)	(7.1)	(100)
Groupings						
TME	24	12	39	36	5	116
	(20.7)	(10.3)	(33.6)	(31.0)	(4.4)	(100)
TEF	13	8	34	10	3	68
	(19.1)	(11.8)	(50)	(14.7)	(4.4)	(100)
TLE	14	12	20	14	10	70
	(20)	(17.1)	(28.6)	(20)	(14.3)	(100)

Note: (1) Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total.
 (2) TME : Tribes of More Effective TCS.
 TEF : Tribes of Effective TCS.
 TLE : Tribes of Less Effective TCS.

Table 8.2

Reasons for Becoming Members in TCS

Regions	Reasons					Total
	1	2	3	4	5	
A. Thiruvananthapuram Rn						
TME	1	-	3	5	6	15
TEF	3	1	4	3	4	15
TLE	10	5	6	1	3	25
Total(A)	14	6	13	9	13	55
	(25.5)	(10.9)	(23.6)	(16.4)	(23.6)	(100)
B. Thrissur Rn						
TME	11	4	7	2	2	26
TEF	5	4	5	3	7	24
TLE	9	-	10	3	3	25
Total(B)	25	8	22	8	12	75
	(33.3)	(10.7)	(29.3)	(10.7)	(16)	(100)
C. Kalpetta Rn.						
TME	12	1	10	6	6	35
TEF	10	2	7	5	5	29
TLE	4	2	7	5	2	20
Total(C)	26	5	24	16	13	84
	(31)	(6)	(28.6)	(19)	(15.4)	(100)
D. Adimaly Rn						
TME	25	2	5	5	3	40
Total (D)	25	2	5	5	3	40
	(62.5)	(5)	(12.5)	(12.5)	(7.5)	(100)
Grand Total (A+B+C+D)						
	90	21	64	38	41	254
	(35.4)	(8.3)	(25.2)	(15)	(16.1)	(100)
Groupings						
TME	49	7	25	18	17	116
	(42.2)	(6.0)	(21.6)	(15.5)	(14.7)	(100)
TEF	18	7	16	11	16	68
	(26.5)	(10.3)	(23.5)	(16.2)	(23.5)	(100)
TLE	23	7	23	9	8	70
	(32.8)	(10)	(32.8)	(12.9)	(11.5)	(100)

Note:(1) Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total.

- (2) Reasons (1) To market NTFP (2) to Avail provisions,
(3) to get pass for NTFP collection
(4) to avail loan facilities (5) don't know.

8.2 Ownership

Table 8.3
Response Towards Ownership of TCS

Regions	Ownership				Total
	Govt.	Members	Emplo- yees	Board Directors	
A. Thiruvananthapuram Rn					
TME	1	14	-	-	15
TEF	5	9	-	1	15
TLE	8	10	3	4	25
Total(A)	14	33	3	5	55
	(25.5)	(60)	(5.4)	(9.1)	(100)
B. Thrissur Rn					
TME	4	19	1	2	26
TEF	12	5	5	2	24
TLE	7	11	4	3	25
Total(B)	23	35	10	7	75
	(30.7)	(46.7)	(13.3)	(9.3)	(100)
C. Kalpetta Rn.					
TME	7	20	2	6	35
TEF	4	20	1	4	29
TLE	2	16	-	2	20
Total(C)	13	56	3	12	84
	(15.5)	(66.7)	(3.5)	(14.3)	(100)
D. Adimaly Rn					
TME	8	23	5	4	40
Total(D)	8	23	5	4	40
	(20)	(57.5)	(12.5)	(10)	(100)
Grand Total (A+B+C+D)					
	58	147	21	28	254
	(22.8)	(57.9)	(8.3)	(11)	(100)
Groupings					
TME	20	76	8	12	116
	(17.2)	(65.5)	(6.9)	(10.4)	(100)
TEF	21	34	6	7	68
	(30.9)	(50)	(8.8)	(10.3)	(100)
TLE	17	37	7	9	70
	(24.3)	(52.8)	(10)	(12.9)	(100)

Note:(1) Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total.

(2) TME: Tribes of More effective Tribal Co-operative Society, TEF: Tribes of Effective Co-operative Society, TLE: Tribes of Less Effective Tribal Co-operative Society.

Table 8.3 explain the concern of tribes with respect to TCS. About 58 per cent of the members consider TCS as their own institution, 22.8 per cent as the government

institutions, 8.3 percent as employees institutions and 11 per cent as the institution of Board of Directors.

8.3 Voting in the Election

Table 8.4
Response Towards Voting in the Election of TCS

Region	Voted		Total
	Yes	No	
A. Thiruvananthapuram Rn			
TME	6	9	15
TEF	-	15	15
TLE	9	16	25
Total(A)	15 (27.3)	40 (72.7)	55 (100)
B. Thrissur Rn			
TME	15	11	26
TEF	-	24	24
TLE	10	15	25
Total(B)	25 (33.3)	50 (66.7)	75 (100)
C. Kalpetta Rn.			
TME	18	17	35
TEF	9	20	29
TLE	-	20	20
Total(C)	27 (32.1)	57 (67.9)	84 (100)
D. Adimaly Rn			
TME	11	29	40
Total(D)	11 (27.5)	29 (72.5)	40 (100)
Grand Total (A+B+C+D)			
	78 (30.7)	176 (69.3)	254 (100)
Groupings			
TME	50 (43.1)	66 (56.9)	116 (100)
TEF	9 (13.2)	59 (86.8)	68 (100)
TLE	19 (27.1)	51 (72.9)	70 (100)

Note:(1) Figures in Parentheses indicate percentage to row total.

(2) TME: Tribes of More effective Tribal Co-operative Society, TEF: Tribes of Effective Co-operative Society, TLE: Tribes of Less Effective Tribal Co-operative Society.

More than 69 per cent of the tribal members of TC had not exercised their voting rights so far (Table 8.4). They do not know anything about the system of election to the Board of management of the society. Most of the tribes revealed that they attended meetings of the TCS on the advice of their friends and headman of their hamlet. They also revealed that they could not make out anything from the proceedings in the meetings as it was conducted in a manner and language which are not familiar to them.

8.4 Opinion about the Efficiency of TCS

Fifty two percent of the tribes (Table 8.5) expressed bad opinion about the overall efficiency of tribal co-operative societies in their area. Significant differences in their opinion also could be seen among different regions.

Table 8.5

Opinion about the Efficiency of TCS

Regions	Very good	Good	Satisfactory	Bad	Very bad	Total
Thiruvananthapuram Rn						
TME	3	5	7	-	-	15
TEF	-	-	-	15	-	15
TLE	-	-	5	19	1	25
Total(A)	3	5	12	34	1	55
	(5.4)	(9.1)	(21.8)	(61.8)	(1.9)	(100)
Thrissur Rn						
TME	4	9	8	4	1	26
TEF	-	2	3	15	4	24
TLE	-	-	-	25	-	25
Total(B)	4	11	11	44	5	75
	(5.3)	(14.6)	(14.6)	(58.8)	(6.7)	(100)
Kalpetta Rn.						
TME	3	22	7	3	-	35
TEF	-	1	6	17	5	29
TLE	-	-	-	14	6	20
Total(C)	3	23	13	34	11	84
	(3.6)	(27.4)	(15.5)	(40.5)	(13.0)	(100)
Adimaly Rn						
TME	2	7	11	20	-	40
Total(D)	2	7	11	20	-	40
	(5)	(17.5)	(27.5)	(50)		(100)
Grand Total						
(A+B+C+D)	12	46	47	132	17	254
	(4.7)	(18.1)	(18.5)	(52.0)	(6.7)	(100)
Groupings						
TME	12	43	33	27	1	116
	(10.3)	(37.1)	(28.4)	(23.2)	(1.0)	(100)
TEF	-	3	9	47	9	68
		(4.4)	(13.2)	(69.1)	(13.3)	(100)
TLE	-	-	5	58	7	70
			(7.1)	(82.8)	(10.1)	(100)

Note:(1) Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to row total.

5 Extent of Participation of Tribes

Participation was measured by assigning individual values to respondents according to their score values of 12 selected parameters taken for participation. The identified

parameters were²: (1) consultation during pre-planning period. (2) Monitoring/supervision during implementation. (3) receipt of benefits. (4) Sharing of cost. (5) Involvement evaluation/follow-up measures. (6) Discussing problems of programs with secretaries/Board of Directors/others. (7) Visiting the office of the organisation. (8) making suggestions for programme improvement. (9) Contacting people outside the organisation for programme. (10) Attending meetings of organisation/training camps. (11) Assisting the organisation and (12) briefing/propagating programme to members.

The maximum participation value of tribes is, thus 12. This has been classified as very low (1-3) low (4-6), moderate (7-9) and high (10-12). The minimum desirable degree of participation has been taken at a score value of seven.

The degree of participation, methods, opinions and important reasons for patronising co-operative and non-co-operative channels and responses were analysed in detail.

8.6 Degree of Participation

Degree of participation of tribes of more effective, effective and less effective TCS at the different stages of the collection and marketing of NTFP is presented in Table 8.6.

Table 8.6
Organisation-wise Participation of Tribes

Level of participation	TME	TEF	TLE	All types
Very low	2.81 (27.58)	2.79 (41.18)	2.75 (62.86)	2.78 (40.94)
Low	4.51 (63.79)	4.79 (55.88)	4.50 (37.14)	4.59 (54.33)
Moderate	8.1 (8.63)	8.0 (2.94)	-- --	8.08 (4.73)
High	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Average	4.35 (45.67)	4.06 (26.77)	3.4 (27.56)	4.01 (100)

Note: 1. TME - Tribes of More Effective Tribal Co-op. Societies.
2. TEF - Tribes of Effective Tribal Co-op. Societies.
3. TLE- Tribes of Less Effective Tribal Co-op. Societies.
4. Figures in brackets indicate percentage distribution of respondents to corresponding column totals. For last row (average percentage is worked out to grand total).

Table 8.6 reveals that only 4.73 per cent of the tribes have satisfactory level of participation. No one has attained high degree of participation. The rate of participation is the highest in more effective TCS followed by effective TCS. About 95 per cent of the tribes have not

attained the desirable degree of participation in collection and marketing of NTFP or any of the developmental programmes of TCS. The methods opened to tribes for participation will throw more light on this aspect.

8.7 Methods of Participation

Table 8.7
Principal Methods of Participation

Sl. No.	Method/Area	Sum	Rank
1.	Pre-planning/Planning Period, consultation	17	11
2.	Monitoring/supervision at implementation	40	08
3.	Discussion	39	10
4.	Visit	166	02
5.	Suggestions	111	04
6.	Attendance in meetings	40	08
7.	Assistance	57	06
8.	Receipt of benefits	254	01
9.	Sharing of Costs	142	03
10.	Evaluation/follow up	Zero	12
11.	Contact outside	86	05
12.	Briefing/propaganda	52	07

The principal methods of participation were calculated by summing up the values scored by the 1

methods/areas opened to the respondents and ranking them in an ascending order. Since one method can score one value each, the maximum value of a method will be 254 for all the respondents and the minimum is of course, zero. Since 12 methods are taken, the lowest rank is twelfth unless there is a tie. The results are presented in Table 8.7.

Table 8.7 points out that the most important method of participation is receiving the benefits i.e., receipt of the value of sale proceeds, consumer goods, NTFP advance etc. Tribes were hardly taken into confidence for evaluating the existing system of tribal produce marketing. They were least consulted even during the pre-planning period in matters relating to price and the potential supply of NTFP in their area. Their participation in the meetings are also very low. Tribes get some share of the benefits out of the operation of TCS, but at times they are forced to share the cost also. The opinions of tribes regarding this aspect of participation is more revealing. This is explained below.

8.8 Opinion about Participation

Since the participation rates of tribes are low, it will be interesting to note the opinion of beneficiaries towards participation. Their responses to six levels of participation are recorded, ranked and presented in Table 8.8.

Table 8.8

Opinion about Participation

Situation	Rank
Participation in management	04
Planning	01
Representation in the Board	02
Advice at implementation	06
Assistance during distress season	03
Assistance in monitoring/evaluation	05

The tribes in general feel that their participatio is required at planning especially in the determination o collection charge for NTFP, items to be collected from forest advance for collection, consumer goods etc. They also fee that their voice in the management of TCS must also b represented. The researcher also found that none of the NTF collectors has ever become members in the Board of managemen of their own organisation or any of the Board of director have any experience in collection and marketing of NTFP. Th collection and marketing of NTFP and the management of TC were treated separately. The collectors do not have any ide about the functioning of their own organisation. Therefor the NTFP collectors feel that if they get prope representation in the Board, they would be able to projec their issues. It clearly indicates that the present level o management in TCS are not to the expectation of NTF

collectors. Most of the Boards under study were constituted either by selection or by election of those tribes who are the good book of secretaries or co-operative department staff. It was also observed that the politics of secretaries of T may also be reflected in the constitution of Board. In account of these facts, the NTFP collectors feel that the participation is required only in sharing of benefits and losses of co-operatives. Though they give suggestions for improvement, it was not properly attended. It may be the reason for low participation rate in TCS by the NT collectors.

8.9 Reasons for patronising Co-operatives and a Non-co-operative Channel for Disposing NTFP by Tribes

The foregoing discussions clearly indicate that tribal participation in co-operative societies are low and they market 32.3 per cent of their product through private traders. Table 8.9 depicts the important reasons for patronising non-co-operative channel also for marketing the products.

Table 8.9

Reasons for Patronising Co-operative and Non-co-operative
Channels for Disposing NTFP by Tribes

Sl. No.	Reasons	No. of tri- bal house- holds patro- nising Co-Op.	No. of tri- bal house- holds patro- nising non- co-op.	Total House- holds (Nos.)
1.	Price difference of NTFP	31	223	254
		(12.2)	(87.8)	(100)
2.	Courtesy	105	149	254
		(41.3)	(58.7)	(100)
3.	Better and prompt service	47	207	254
		(18.5)	(81.5)	(100)
4.	Supply of consumer goods	60	194	254
		(23.6)	(76.4)	(100)
5.	Shares in Co-operative society	176	-	254
		(69.3)		(100)
6.	Active help from management	29	225	254
		(11.4)	(88.6)	(100)
7.	Old relation with the management of the business unit	66	188	254
		(26)	(74)	(100)
8.	Fear of forest officials	90		254
		(35.4)		(100)
9.	Fear of secretaries	208		254
		(81.9)		(100)
10.	Fear of Board of Directors	60		254
		(23.6)		(100)
11.	Own feelings	48		254
		(18.9)		(100)
12.	Incentives during festivals	43	180	254
		(16.9)	(70.9)	(100)
13.	Help during distress season	56	198	254
		(22.0)	(78)	(100)
14.	Delay in completing formalities in sale transactions		185	254
			(72.8)	(100)
15.	Lack of storage facilities with co-operative marketing society		163	254
			(64.2)	(100)
16.	Non-collection of all produces		233	254
			(91.7)	(100)
17.	Prior debt obligations to other agencies		230	254
			(90.6)	(100)
18.	Indifferent attitude and poor service of employees of co-operative society		196	254
			(77.2)	(100)

19. Lack of adequate credit facilities in co-op. marketing society	218 (85.8)	254 (100)
20. Delay in payment	184 (72.4)	254 (100)
21 Alien management	30 (11.8)	224 (88.2)
22. Cheating of collection agents employed by TCS	91 (35.8)	163 (64.2)
		254 (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to total Number of tribal households

Table 8.9 highlights the fact that price differential, better and prompt services, of non-co-operative channel, lack of help from the management of TCS, old relations of tribes with the private traders, incentives during festivals offered by private traders, help during distress seasons, non-collection of all NTFPs by TCS, the debt obligations of tribes to private traders, indifference attitude and poor service of employees of co-operative societies, lack of adequate credit facilities, delay in payment for NTFP, alien management in co-operatives, cheating by collection agents of co-operatives in weighing, pricing etc. are the major reasons attributing the tribes to patronise the non-co-operative channel to market their NTFP.

8.10 Linkages of Various Institutions in the Collection and marketing of NTFP

The main organisations involved in the collection and marketing of NTFP's are the Kerala State Federation for

SC/ST Development Co-operatives, Arya Vydyasalas, Forest department, Tribal Department and Tribal Co-operative Societies in the state. The response of various officers in each category are collected (schedules) and analysed. The responses were mainly classified in two classes viz., (1) response relating to the general marketing management of the organisation and (11) the linkages or liaison of the organisation with other organisation in the marketing channel.

8.10.1 Response of Officials of SC/ST Federation

Responses from Managing Director of SC/ST Federation, Business manager, General Manager, Accountants and clerks were collected and examined. The respondents highlighted the fact that the co-operatives face problems in marketing of NTFP and it could not meet the entire credit requirements of TCS. The institution would not make any direct finance to tribes. Till now the organisation did not conduct any market survey to know the potential supply and demand of NTFP in the State. It was observed that there was no scientific base for the fixation of collection charge, procurement price and sales price of NTFP by the the NTFP committee. They generally examine the price offered by Oushadhi and the Government Ayurvedic College, Thiruvananthapuram to fix the price of medicinal herbs. Both these institutions always try their level best to offer a reduced price to NTFP. But for non-medicinal herbs the base

for fixation is the activities of private traders in the field. The officials reported that the SC/ST federation undertakes processing activities only for honey and cheevakkai. The honey processing unit is set up at Thrissur and the cheevakkai processing unit is at Wayanad. It was observed that the cheevakkai processing unit is not located in an ideal place. Wayanad is a place where the humidity is very high when compared to other districts of Kerala. It will destroy the products very easily.

Enquiry about the management of SC/ST Federation, it was understood that the SC/ST Federation does not have an elected Board to manage the day to day affairs of the organisation. The selected management consists of officials of various departments who do not have any knowledge about the scientific management of co-operatives or knowledge in marketing of non-timber forest produce. They are also far away from the tribal life and tribal economy. All officials point out that the present system of collection and marketing of NTFP do not liberate the tribes fully from the clutches of private traders or middlemen. Moreover the TCS have very poor linkage with other departments.

The officials of SC/ST Federation point out that due to non-co-operation of officials from forest department the illicit collection of NTFP from ranges could not be checked. The collection agents also reported that even if they inform

the illicit collection of NTFP to forest officials they will not register any case or check the collection of NTFP by non-tribes. The secretaries of TCS point out that they had to go to forest officials three to four times to get a movement pass for NTFP signed by the ranger. The delay in getting the pass and the formalities connected with that, invite displeasure from traders and they often keep away from TCS. They all reported that a minimum of Rs.600/- they have to give to forest officials to get a pass. Seventy percent of the secretaries of TCS reported that they had to give honey, to forest officials to avoid delay in issuing pass.

8.10.2. Response of Department Officials

The responses of officials of co-operative and tribal departments prove that their link with SC/ST Federation in the collection and marketing of NTFP is marginal. They have virtually no role either in management or in marketing of NTFP. Since the department heads are the members of the Board of management of SC/ST Federation and the members of NTFP committee, their role is limited to attending meetings of these two bodies. These departments virtually have no role to play at the grass root level. They don't have any supervisory staff to check the payment of NTFP price (guaranteed by TCS) to tribes (Even the TCS donot have supervisory staffs). The officials of forest department point out that so far the department did not conduct any survey on the potential

availability of these produces in the forest. Even though all the Rangers agree that the tribes are the part of forest, 30 per cent of them disagree about the capability of tribes to collect all the NTFP's from forest. On an enquiry regarding sustainability, the officials remarked that the deforestation does not affect the sustainability and availability of NTFP but the extraction methods employed by them of certain items like cheevaccai, honey, soap nuts, barks, bushes and creepers affected the sustainability of forest and NTFP. At the same time the officials pointed out that so far no training has been given either by forest department or by any department to tribes as regards to the collection and marketing of NTFP in the state. All officials of the department have no doubt with regard to improvement of the socio-economic conditions of tribes through the collection and marketing of NTFP in the state.

8.10.3. Response of Collection Agents

More than 75 per cent of the collection agents responded that they get timely advance for the collection of NTFP but that is not sufficient for them to procure the entire item of NTFP from tribes. Since they are asked to collect some notified items of NTFP, the collection agents point out that even if the tribes bring non-notified items they would not be able to collect it. Eighty percent of collection agents revealed that they would not give any advance in any

form either in cash or in consumer goods to tribes. They point out that if they give any advance the tribes may resort to other agencies to market their produce and the recovery would become difficult. It may result in loosing the tribe to the co-operative set up once for all. Ninety per cent of the collection agents said that they would not supply any consumer items to the tribes through collection centres or the TCS would not supply it also. All collection agents said that they had no role in the management of TCS. Eighty per cent of collection agents said they brought to notice the cases of illicit collection of NTFP by non-tribes from their area to forest officials and secretaries of TCS, but no effective action was taken to this effect.

They all point out that since they don't have good godowns to keep NTFP in collection centres the products are always being subjected to rain, and even sometimes to theft. They all projected that the present system of commission is inadequate even to meet their entire expenses connected with the collection of NTFP from tribes. All collection agents point out that they are supposed to carry out the entire work connected with the collection and marketing of NTFP from tribes. The TCS will not have any direct link with tribes especially with respect to the collection and marketing of NTFP.

8.10.4. Response of Board of Directors

The response of Board of Directors of More Effective, Effective and Less Effective tribal co-operative societies with respect to the overall management in the collection and marketing of NTFP's and the linkages of tribal co-operative societies with other functionaries in the system were collected through a schedule (Appendix V). Altogether 41 Board Members consisting of four members from Adimaly TCS, 12 members from the TCS of Thiruvananthapuram region, 13 members from the TCS of Thrissur region and 15 members from TCS of Kalpetta region were selected for interview. The responses of these directors to the questions were given in Appendix VI

The model developed by Allen L. Edwards³ (1957) and subsequently used by Mark Gersovitz⁴ (1992) and Mani K.P.⁵ (1994) was used in the present analysis. Methodology suggests that each factor is to be ranked by the respondents based on the Kendall Method of ranking.

In the next step the deviations in ranks between the three groups (A,B,C) of Board of Directors (A= Directors of

³ Allen, L. Edwards (1957). Techniques of Attitude Scale Construction, Appleton Century Crafts INC, Washington, p.86.

⁴ Mark Gersovitz (1992), "Transportation Policy and Panterritorial Pricing", The World Bank Economic Review, Vol.6, No.2, pp.213-233.

⁵ Mani, K.P (1994), "Economics of Rubber - An Econometrics Exercise", Paper presented in the International Symposium on Plantation Crops, Calicut, Dec. 1-3, 1994.

More Effective TCS, B= Directors of Effective TCS, C= Directors of Less Effective TCS) were calculated and their average deviations were estimated from the grand average. If the individual average deviations is greater than the grand average, it is judged that the difference is significant and hence they do not form a homogeneous group. The homogeneity in opinions of groups are presented in Table 8.10.

Table 8.10
Comparative Analysis of Opinion Statements of
Board of Directors of Selected TCS

Opinion state- ments No.	Homogeneity in opinion among group of directors
1	AC
2	ABC
3	-
4	BC
5	ABC
6	AB
7	AB
8	ABC
9	AC
10	BC
11	-
12	ABC
13	BC
14	BC
15	-
16	ABC
17	BC
18	BC
19	BC
20	BC
21	BC
22	ABC
23	AB
24	ABC
25	ABC
26	ABC

Note: A: Directors of More Effective TCS
B: Directors of Effective TCS
C: Directors of Less Effective TCS

Based on this approach all the 26 opinions were judged and it was revealed that nine opinions had almost equal ranks in the analysis among all groups and hence they form a homogeneous group. These nine opinions based on their ranking is presented in Table 8.11.

Table 8.11

Homogeneity in Opinions of Directors of ME, EF and LE TCS

-
1. All Directors Attend the Board Meeting without fail
 2. There is effective Co-ordination with SC/ST federation
 3. Bribe has to pay to forest officials to get the the Movement Pass for NTFP
 4. The area of operation of the TCS, still possess non-listed NTFP items.
 5. There is untimely disbursement of NTFP Advance by SC/ST federation
 6. The Board of Directors are not going for NTFP collection
 7. The Board of Directors are not at all aware about the forest laws concerning the collection and marketing of NTFP from forest
 8. No training has given either to members for the extraction of NTFP's or to collection agents to collect NTFP's from tribes.
 9. None of the Board members receive any training regarding management of co-operative societies.
-

One of the major observations in Table 8.11 was that, all the groups unanimously agreed that they have to give handsome bribe to the officials to get things done. Another notable feature is that even today the TCS still possess

non-listed NTFP's in their area. This indirectly enforce that the present list of NTFP items is not exhaustive and consequently collections are also not complete. Hence it is high time to revise the list and make facilities to include more items under the purview of collection. One of the major weaknesses of co-operative sector as a whole is the lack of professionalisation which is quite relevant in the working of TCS. The members as well as the Board of Directors of these societies are not properly and scientifically trained to meet the present needs and this adversely affects the efficiency and sustainability. Hence it is important to develop various training module for the TCS and also to implement the training programmes properly.

In the above paragraphs we have identified nine factors which are relevant to all the groups. However, further splitting showed that there are variations in opinions among various groups. To examine this all possible permutations and combinations of the three societies were dealt separately. Among the permutations and combinations a close association was observed between groups B and C, (Directors of Effective and Less Effective TCS respectively). They commonly agreed to nine points which is given in Table 8.12.

Table 8.12

Homogeneity in Opinions of Directors of Effective and Less
Effective TCS

-
1. The TCS could not meet the credit requirements of members
 2. The TCS would not be able to collect the potential supply of NTFP from its area
 3. The members are not collecting any non-listed items of NTFP
 4. The TCS are not distributing NTFP collection advance to collection agents
 5. The TCS are facing marketing problem for NTFP
 6. There is enough tribes in the area to collect NTFP
 7. The Directors prefer to sell the collected NTFP directly to private parties
 8. So far no market survey was conducted to fix the collection charge of NTFP
 9. No pre-contract with private parties to market NTFP
-

Firstly, both the groups agreed that the capital base of the TCS is insufficient to meet the credit requirements of members. Hence the objectives of TCS. can be well achieved only if the resource base of the TCS is strengthened or if appropriate alternative arrangements are made. The weak credit base leads to twin problems viz., (i) low collection of NTFP and (ii) tribal unemployment. Another area where substantial improvement required is the marketing system. The present marketing channels are not sufficient to cater the flow of NTFP. Further the domination of non-tribals even with the patronage of Directors of TCS, prevent the free

operations of illiterate and ignorant tribals. Hence we may infer that even after the setting up of TCS, the tribes are exploited even by the tribes who are acting as the Directors of TCS. Thus an urgent need of the hour is to strengthen the present marketing systems of NTFP. This can be done if alternative arrangements are made with ensuring fair price. In this respect the effectiveness of a private system was found better in our earlier analysis. Thus an organisational set up not only with freedom but also with maintaining the spirit of co-operation will be the justifiable alternative.

Between More Effective and Less Effective TCS, there is unanimity in case of two opinions. Both the director groups agreed that there is no political interference and the present inlets to collect NTFP's are sufficient.

Homogeneity in Opinions of Directors of More Effective and Less
Effective TCS

[AC]

-
1. No Political interference
 2. There is sufficient number of collection centres to collect NTFP from tribes
-

Similarly between the Directors of More Effective and Effective TCS, there is unanimity among three opinions. As discussed earlier it was revealed that facilities from forest department are not easily available unless the forest

officials are "well treated". Lack of linkage with other departments also reflected in the analysis between groups A and B.

Homogeneity in Opinions of Directors of More Effective and
Effect TCS
[AB]

-
1. No assistance from tribal department
 2. There is difficulty in getting passes from forest department
 3. They are aware about the rules and regulations of a TCS
-

Between groups A and C and A and B, homogeneity was found to be very little. Group A consists of directors of more effective Tribal Societies only and hence naturally they will be having more positive responses compared to groups B and C. At the same time there is more unanimity among the opinions of the Board of Directors of groups B and C. This is because they belong to moderately efficient and less efficient categories. Naturally in many cases their problems will be similar and opinions will be consistent.

From the above analysis it may be inferred that there are nine opinions among 26 over which the Directors had similar opinions. Also group A directors considerably differ in their views compared to B and C, because they are in a more

advantages position. However these observations are based on rankings and these rankings are based on the perceptions and attitudes of Board of Directors. Perceptions may differ and vary from time to time. Thus these findings cannot be given the status of rigid rules. This limitation is unavoidable in any analysis using scores. Within the limits these observations have a very important role in framing the future policy of tribal co-operative development.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

CHAPTER IX

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In this Chapter an attempt is made to highlight the major inferences with a view to provide guidelines for the policies that may be adopted, so as to accelerate the development of tribal Co-operatives, marketing of NTFP and the tribal life as a whole. The Tribal Co-operative Societies have a leading role to play in the marketing of tribal produce. But it was felt apriori that these formal institutional arrangement had failed to carry out the entrusted functions effectively. Hence the present study was attempted on the collection and marketing of NTFP through tribal Co-operative Societies of Kerala with the following objectives.

1. To assess the procurement and marketing practices of NTFP by tribes and Tribal co-operative societies and examine the role of co-operatives in liberating the tribes from the clutches of private traders.
2. To study the relative efficiency of marketing channel.
3. To analyse the inter-difference between tribes and regions in the collection and marketing of NTFP.
4. To examine the forward linkages of Tribal Co-operative Societies with the Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units of the State.

5. To examine the impact of marketing on employment and income of tribes and

6. To examine the extent of involvement of tribes in Tribal Co-operative societies in Policy formulation and implementation.

In order to study the stated objectives, data were collected with the help of pre-tested schedules from 254 tribal households, 10 TCS, 25 NTFP collection agents of TCS, 14 Forest Range Officers, 41 Board of Directors of TCS and 45 Ayurvedic Medicinal Manufacturing Units from the four regions of Kerala viz, Thiruvananthapuram (Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Pathanamthitta Districts), Adimaly (Idukki and Kottayam Districts), Thrissur (Thrissur, Palakkad and Malappuram Districts) and Kalpetta (Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasargode Districts). The findings emerged from the study are the following.

9.1. Socio-Economic Profile of the Sample Population

9.1.1. Sex-wise and age-wise composition

The average size of a tribal family is four consisting of two males and two females. Fifty three per cent of the tribes fall in the most productive class of 15-45 age group, the juvenile class account 32 per cent and the age group 45+ account to 15 percent. Among the NTFP collectors,

69 percent are in the age group of 15-45, 22 percent above 45 years and the children constitute nine percent. Hence it is observed that the exploitation of child labour is very much prevalent among the NTFP collectors.

9.1.2. Literacy Level

Even though it was found that the rate of literacy among the tribals is about 47 percent, the literacy at the effective level works out only to 20.45 per cent, probably due to the reasons discussed in earlier chapters. The tribes of Kalpetta region is found to be the most illiterate among all the tribes under the study. The distance of school from the dwelling place, remoteness, employing children for collection and marketing of NTFP, illiteracy of parents and poverty are the root causes for the poor literacy of tribes. It was also noted that the neo-literate programmes were not properly conducted in tribal areas.

9.1.3. Occupational pattern.

The study reveals that 81 per cent of the work force is engaged in occupations like collection and marketing of NTFP, Agricultural labour, cultivation, forest and estate work, weaving etc. More than 52 per cent of these tribes treat collection and marketing of NTFP as their main occupation and 45 per cent, as their main subsidiary

cupation. Only 4 per cent of the tribes are engaged in cultivation of their land. Regional disparities were also noticed, primarily due to the variations in the availability of NTFPs.

1.4. Land holdings and area cultivated

All tribes in the study area possess land but only 45 per cent of them had the ownership right. It was noted that 45 per cent of the tribal households were having lands less than one acre and 12 per cent, keep more than three acres of land in their custody. Significant differences in holdings and cultivating areas were noted among regions. This disparity is probably due to the encroachment of the forest land by the tribes in certain regions like Kalpetta and Thiruvananthapuram. Instances of land alienation and leasing of land particularly among tribes of Thiruvananthapuram region were also reported. However, the average holdings of a tribal household in the study area is 1.26 acres which is well below the state average of 2.96 acres. Of the holdings, only 0.67 acres are being brought under cultivation.

1.5. Dwelling houses

It was observed that 53.9 per cent of the tribal houses were thatched ones. Most of these houses were in a dilapidated condition. Among regions, more than 50 per cent

the tribes of Thrissur and Kalpetta are having tiled houses, but the plight of these houses were also deplorable. So far no concrete sanitation facilities are available in most all tribal colonies under study.

1.6. Drinking water facilities

Though the NTFP collectors reside near the forest area, the study established that in certain seasons these areas were in utter scarcity of drinking water due to drought and absence of government supported facilities. The tribes have to travel miles to fetch drinking water.

1.7. Institutional support

None of the basic institutions such as ration shop, provision shop, health centre, schools, post offices, Tribal co-operative societies, electricity, etc. is within two kilometres of tribal hamlets. But it is noted that almost all tribal areas are well covered by the illicit arrack/toddy shops of contractors which is considered as the most nearest institution to tribal hamlets.

1.2. Collection, Procurement and Marketing of NTFP

As per the system, the tribes are supposed to collect about 120 items from forest as NTFP. But so far no

training has been given to them either by the co-operatives or any other agencies to extract these items from forest. Their age-old practices help them to extract these items. From the survey and the discussion with the officials of Forest Department, it was ascertained that the crude extraction methods adopted by tribes hinder the regeneration of the plants and sustainability of the forest.

It is also observed that the NTFP list published by the authorities are not exhaustive. The regions are still vested with a lot of NTFPs which can easily be collected. In certain regions tribes collect these items and market them through private traders. Since the TCS are not undertaking marketing of these products, the tight lipped attitude of the officials help the tribes to develop some relation with private traders and that ultimately may lead the tribes to market even the listed NTFPs through private traders. The study also highlights nomenclature differences existing for the same item of NTFP in different areas. Once the collected plant got dried, it would be very difficult to recognise the NTFP and the family in which the species belong.

The study also points out that none of the NTFP collecting families in the State had the full kit required for the extraction of NTFP. The ill-equipped collection kit may not only affect the total quantity of NTFP collection but also the quality too.

The average days of employment of a tribal worker through all his operations is 236 mandays, of which 132 is devoted for the collection of various NTFPs. Non-collection of all NTFPs by co-operatives, low price offered by co-operatives, and alternate employment opportunities might be some of the reasons for low number of mandays in the collection and marketing of NTFP by tribes. Significant differences among regions and collections of various items were also brought out in the study. Thrissur region accounted for the maximum number of mandays for the collection of NTFPs. Of the total mandays for NTFPs, 65 per cent was spent on collection of medicinal herbs and 35 per cent, was on the collection of non-medicinal herbs. Hence it is inferred that institutional facilities and employment opportunities are directly linked.

Sixty one per cent of the total collection of NTFPs of tribes were of medicinal herbs and 39 per cent non-medicinal items. Among medicinal herbs, root items claimed the maximum share. It is noted that 59 per cent of the total sale value of NTFP of tribes was from medicinal herbs and the balance from non-medicinal items. Region-wise differences in the collection and marketing of NTFP brought out that the tribes of Thiruvananthapuram and Kalpetta region realised more sales value through the sale of medicinal herbs whereas the Thrissur region account for non-medicinal items. It is interesting to note that the Thrissur region is more

gifted with medicinal items as compared to all the other regions under study.

The tribes are expected to market their entire collection of NTFP through Co-operatives. The Co-operatives are supposed to play a dynamic role in the marketing of tribal produce and fetch remunerative price for NTFP. The study revealed that the tribes market only 67 per cent of their produce (sale value) through co-operatives. It means that the tribes are still under the clutches of non-cooperative channels even after the introduction of co-operative system of tribal produce marketing in 1978. This monopoly right resulted in lack of competition, enthusiasm, forward and backward linkages and ultimately, resulted in low prices for NTFP. It is recalled here that the tribes of 'less effective' tribal co-operative societies realise a higher unit sale price than the tribes of effective and more effective TCS. Hence the hypothesis that the monopoly procurement and marketing of NTFP leads to institutional inefficiencies and low prices for tribal products is established.

Marketing theory establishes a functional relationship between marketing efficiency and economies of scale. Economies of scale can arise from different angles. For the time being the concept of economies of scale refers to the availability of infrastructure and other facilities. In order to carry out the analysis the researcher has identified

certain parameters like quantity of NTFP collected by TCS, collection facilities, transportation facilities, availability of marketing channel, involvement of the members, staff position in TCS, etc. On the basis of these parameters it is found that the procurement practices and marketing strategies are relatively good in TCS of Achencoil, Malampuzha, Sulthan Battery and Adimaly. These societies altogether constitute 50 per cent of the permanent staff in sample societies. Similarly these societies together had 49 per cent of collection depots. Also these societies has on an average three permanent collection depots compared to one in other societies. With regard to collection days, these societies effectively utilised 68 per cent of the total working days. As a result of these facilities (economies of scale the term used as a rule of thumb) these societies could bring and market 79 per cent of their members total collection of NTFPs through co-operatives, while the rate is below 40 per cent in other societies. Incidentally these societies belong to the category of " more effective TCS"- the classification made for selecting the samples. These observations establish that the societies with better facilities could procure and market more compared to effective TCS and less effective TCS. Thus our hypothesis is that procurement and marketing practices are directly related to economics of scale (the term as a rule of thumb) may be accepted.

Inter-difference among tribal communities also exist in the collection and marketing of NTFP. Among the 11 tribal communities under the study, the kattunaicken tribal community does the maximum collection and marketing of NTFP in the study region (Rs. 14744 per annum). This is followed by Malai Pandaram. The Adiyar tribal community collects and markets NTFP worth Rs. 3285/- per annum. It is also observed that 97 per cent of the total sales of Kattunaicken were through co-operatives whereas it was only 20 and 15 per cent for Kanikkars and Kurichiyen respectively. Kanikkars is the only tribal community which market a portion of their NTFP through tribal agents of private traders. Strict supervision and control of TCS, the topography of the tribal area, protection by the Forest Department, and restricted entry of private traders, comparatively poor socio-economic condition of Kattunaicken especially in the case of literacy may pave the way for marketing this produce through co-operatives.

9.3. Linkages

The marketing channel of Co-operative sector for NTFPs also highlight the fact that it is also under the clutches of private traders. The co-operative sector does not have proper liaison with the end-users of NTFP. The entire non-medicinal herbs are being marketed through private traders in and outside Kerala. In the case of medicinal herbs only 31.8 per cent is directly marketed to the end uses of the

products during the period 1990-91 to 1993-94. Though we registered 887 Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units in the State and their demands are so high to absorb the entire collection of medicinal herbs from the state, but the lack of proper linkage between these institutional arrangements and the various tactics of the private traders resulted in piling up of stock in the godowns of SC/ST Federation.

Most of the Ayurvedic manufacturing units are not having proper awareness about the co-operative channel of medicinal herbs. They try to maintain the old relation with the private traders to get raw materials in time. It is also observed that the mis-match between the terms and conditions of co-operatives and end-users, sale of NTFPs usually in bulk quantities from TCS through auctions, formalities and procedures, untimely supply of items etc. are some of the major reasons for the low level of association between co-operatives and end-users of medicinal herbs. Thus it rejects the hypothesis that there is functional association between Ayurvedic medicinal manufacturing units and tribal co-operative societies in the state.

Since the private traders keep a good rapport with the end-users of the produces and the failure of TCS to keep a proper linkage with the end-users ,the monopoly procurement of NTFP by TCS has given much advantage to private traders.They

get the produces through a single agency (TCS) and would be able to meet the demands of end-users in time.

The response analysis of the officials from Forest department, Tribal department, the pharmaceutical corporation of Kerala Ltd and Arya Vaidya Salas also indicate that their linkage with the co-operative set-up for the collection and marketing of NTFP is only marginal. Even the role of Co-operative Department and Tribal Department is limited only for the contribution of share capital, that too in a limited way to TCS. None of these institutional set up is taking a daring step for the collection and marketing of NTFP and to make the system effective. Hence it is clear that not only the end-users but also the supporting institutional arrangements are not having proper liaison with TCS that collect and market NTFP in the state.

9.4. Pricing Strategies

The study makes it clear that the price fixation mechanism of NTFP committee in the state is tardy and inefficient. The committee normally do not make any scientific survey to fix the prices. Since they don't have any liaison with the demand pockets of NTFP, the price which they normally fix would be far away from the reality. It is noted that the price paid by the TCS for various items of NTFP were always much higher than what was fixed by the NTFP

committee. Instances of offering less than the guaranteed price of NTFP committee were also observed in items like tuber crops, fruits, oil seeds, and spices. The officials of tribal co-operatives points out that they get very poor marketing support from the SC/ST Federation to market the collected produce.

The study indicates that during the period under study 1982-83 to 1993-94 the co-operative set up had paid only 50 per cent of the sales value as collection charge to tribes though the institutional arrangement has guaranteed to pay 75 to 80 per cent of the sales value as collection charge. Region wise analysis indicate that the Adimaly region has paid 75 per cent of the sales value as collection charge but for Pissur it was only 63 per cent. Item-wise analysis indicate that for medicinal items the collection charge varies from 29.1 per cent to tuber crops to 73.5 per cent for flowers and for non-medicinal items it varies from 29.7 per cent for spices to 70.8 per cent for edible items. Though a shift in the pricing policy has been made from 1990-91 and an increase in the collection and marketing of NTFP had also affected, it is also noted that only a slight increase in the share of sales value to tribes as collection charge was made. While comparing the share of collection charge for medicinal as well as non-medicinal herbs, it is very clear that the share given to tribes for non-medicinal herbs is very low.

It is also noted that the price offered by the non-co-operative channel were always higher than the price offered by co-operative channel. As regards to items like fruits, barks, seeds and oil seeds the price offered by co-operatives were even did not touch 50 per cent of the price offered by private traders. Hence it accepts the hypothesis that significant differences exist in the price of NTFP under co-operative and non-co-operative channels . The price spread and its sharing clearly indicate that 78.5 per cent of the spread is gone to the hands of private traders. Even though the TCS got a monopoly right to procure and market NTFPs it failed in establishing a rapport with the real users of the product . As a result the institutional arrangement itself had fallen a prey at the hands of the unscrupulous private traders who virtually control the NTFP trade to their own advantage that too at the expense of tribe and TCS. Thus it is also established the fact that any controlled or formal marketing arrangement without liasion with the end-users will limit the market and will lead to institutional inefficiencies and low prices for the target group.

9.5. Impact of collection and marketing of NTFP on Income and Employment

The broad national goal of poverty alleviation is achieved through generation of additional income and employment. It is a well-established fact that majority of

the tribes live below the poverty line due to multiple reasons and their pathetic situation can be improved only through launching aggressive welfare measures like creation of employment opportunities and providing marketing facilities.

The present study explored the extent of employment and income generation in detail. It was revealed that 69 percent of the employment created came from collection and marketing of NTFPs by the TCS. Analysis also suggest that the average employment can go up to 253 mandays in an year if proper measures are taken by the TCS. Region-wise, maximum employment opportunities was created in Thrissur region probably due to better availability of NTFPs and the appropriate measures launched by the TCS in the district.

The average annual income acquired by a tribal household is worked to Rs.16243, and 52.5 per cent of this income is contributed by the sale of NTFP, which is substantial. The average income for a day for a tribe from NTFP collection is Rs. 31.94. Kalpetta region is found to be generating the highest income (Rs.34.43 per day). Among medicinal items honey generated the maximum while among the non-medicinal items soap and shampoo generated the highest income.

From the above paragraphs it may be inferred that the NTFPs could generate sufficient employment opportunities

and provide substantial income to the tribes. Thus we may conclude that marketing created significant impact, on employment and income of tribes and hence the hypothesis may be accepted.

However, a quite interesting phenomenon deserves special mention. Earlier we have stated that raising the tribes above the poverty line is the prime objective of tribal welfare measures. In reality it is found that even though the tribes are getting substantial income, majority of them still live below the "poverty line". A detailed examination of this issue is beyond the scope of the present study because the problem is more sociological and psychological. However, it may broadly be inferred that the expenditure pattern is not proper and scientific. For instance majority of the tribes spent a substantial portion of their daily income for the consumption of illicit liquor, tobacco etc.

6. Tribal Participation

The survey revealed that only 4.73 per cent of the tribes have a satisfactory level of participation. The rate of participation is the highest in more effective TCS followed by effective TCS. About 95 per cent of the tribes have not attained the desirable degree of participation. The tribes in general feel that their participation is required at planning specially in the determination of collection charge of NTFP,

tems to be collected from forest, advance for collection, apply of provisions, etc. They also feel that their voice in the management of TCS must also be represented . It is observed that none of the NTFP collectors have ever become members in the Board of Management of their own organisation . Many of these Board of Directors had any experience in the collection and marketing of NTFP. It is also observed that the real management of a TCS is always vested with the secretary of that society who is a non-tribe in majority of cases. He constitute the Board at his own "interest" sacrificing the tribal involvement. Therefore it rejects the hypothesis that there is strong association between member participation and decision making in tribal co-operative societies.

The society-wise grouping revealed that the least effective TCS have the highest coverage (37 percent) on tribes as compared to more effective and effective TCS. It is observed that only 34 percent of the total members of TCS go for collection and marketing of NTFP and which is high (50 percent) in more effective TCS followed by effective (27 percent) and less effective TCS (18 per cent). By considering the potentiality of NTFPs in the state, it is high time to bring all the tribes under the co-operative fold and pursue them to engage in the collection and marketing of NTFP.

The study also points out that most of the TCS are far away from the tribal hamlets. Of the 390 colonies which

have come under the purview of the study area, only 7 percent of them are within ten kilometers of the distance of the society. Thirty five percent of the offices of TCS, are about 35 K.M. away from the tribal hamlets and they are not properly connected by roads. The distance of tribal hamlets and offices of TCS definitely have a bearing on the participation of tribes in the functioning of TCS.

9.7. Suggestions and Policy Implications

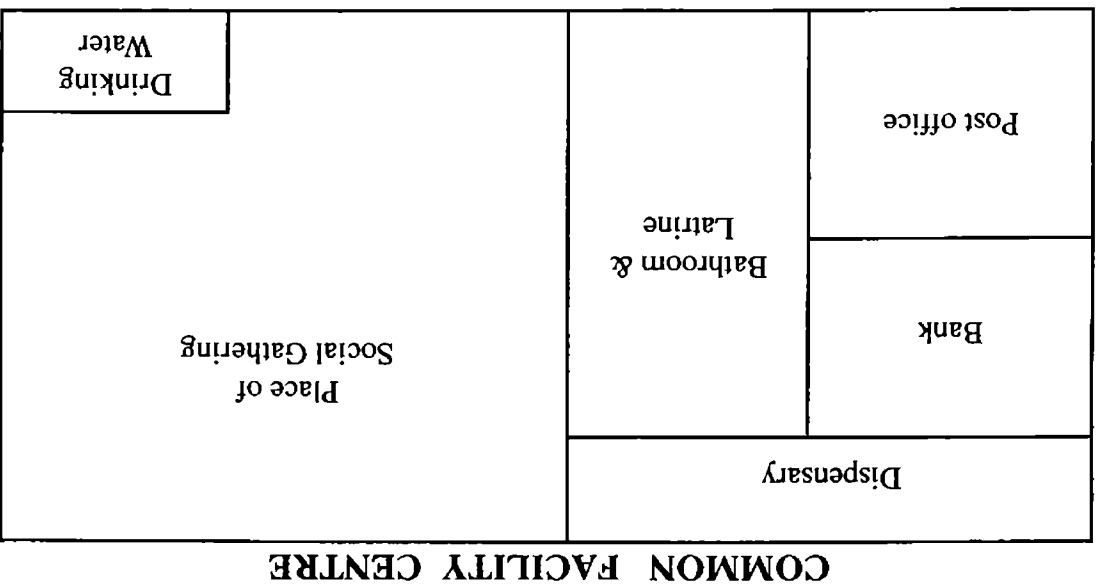
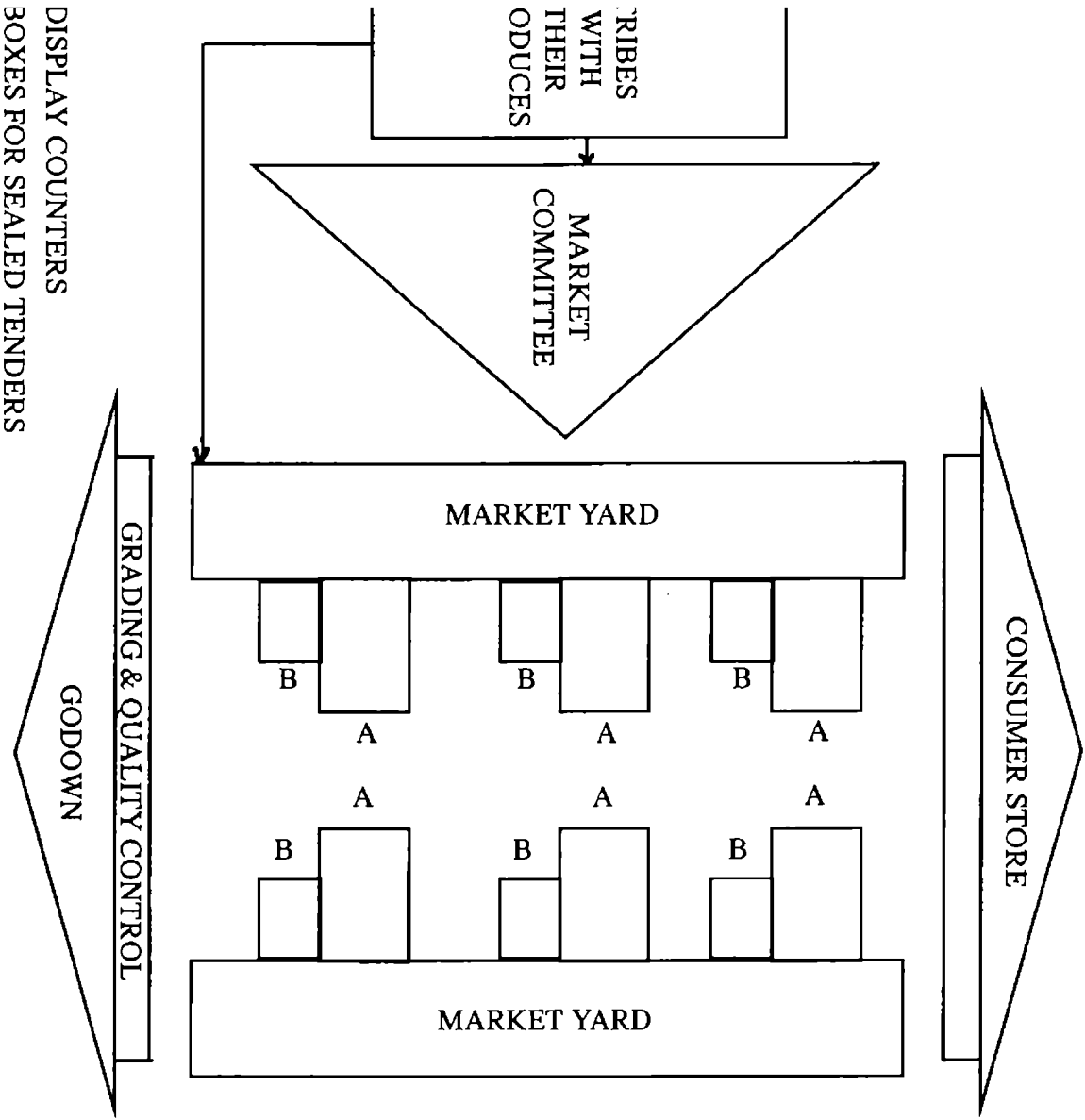
On the basis of the findings of the study the following suggestions are made for modifying the policy.

1. The present institutional arrangement and their role requires modification. The tribes are to be given a free hand to market their produce from a common market yard where the private traders as well as the end-users be allowed to participate. The best remedy will be the formation of Regulated Markets, in each tribal area. The structure of the proposed regulated market is given in Figure 5.

Under this system, all tribes who are in the area of TCS should take membership in the society and the marketing facilities must be extended only to the members. The marketing of tribal produces, particularly NTFP through any other channel within the area of operation of the regulated market must be banned. The private traders or the end-users

.5

PROPOSED TRIBAL MARKET



middlemen can be completely eliminated. The researcher suggests the immediate formation of 'Regulated Market' as the best remedy.

9.8. Areas of Future Research

The scope of the present study was limited only to the collection, Procurement and marketing of NTFP by tribes and tribal co-operatives in Kerala. However, during the course of data collection, discussion and analysis, the researcher felt that the following areas deserve specific studies.

1. Demand Analysis of specific NTFPs.
2. Detailed and indepth studies on Non-NTFP collecting TCS and
3. The scope of NTFP as a poverty alleviation and welfare measure.

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APPENDIX - I

LIST OF NOTIFIED WTFP'S IN KERALA

Botanical/Scientific Name	Family	Sanskrit Name	Malayalam (local) Name
I. MEDICINAL ITEMS			
A. TUBER CROPS			
1 <i>Acorus calamus</i> Linn	Araceae	Vacha	Vayampu
2 <i>Alpinia calcarata</i> Rose	Zingiberaceae	Vruchikali	Kolinch
3 <i>Alpinia galanga</i> SW	Zingiberaceae	Rasana	Chittaratha (dry)/Aratha
4 <i>Asparagus recemosus</i> Willd	Liliaceae	Sathamuli	Sethavari kizhangu
5 <i>Curcuma angustifolia</i>	Zingiberaceae	Haridra	Manjal koova
6 <i>Curcuma aromatica</i>			Kattumanjal
7 <i>Curcuma longa</i> Linn	Zingiberaceae	Haridra	Kasthuri Manjal/
8 <i>Cyclea peltata</i> (Lamk)	Menispermaceae	Pada	Padakizhngu
9 <i>Cyperus rotundus</i> Linn	Cyperaceae	Mustha	Muthanga
10 <i>Elettaria Cardamum</i> Varminuscule	Zyngiberaceae		Chittelam
11 <i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> (Linn) RBr	Asclepiadaceae	Sariba	Naruneedi (dry)/ Mannari
12 <i>Holostemma ada-kodien</i> Schult	Asclepidaceae	Arkapushpi/Jeevanthi	Adapathiyam Kizhangu (dry)
13 <i>Ipomea mauritiana</i> Jacq	Convolvulaceae	Vidhari	Palmuthukkum kizhangu
14 <i>Kaempferia galanga</i> Linn	Zingiberaceae	Karcurah	Kachollam
15 <i>Nelumbium nucifera</i> Gaertn	Nymphaeaceae	Ambujam/Kamalam/	Thamerakizhangu
16 <i>Plumbago zeylanica</i> Linn	Plumbaginaceae	Chithraka	Koduveli (Chethikoduveli)
17 <i>Rauwolfia serpentina</i> (Linn)	Apocynaceae	Surpagandha	Amalpori (White)
18 <i>Rauwolfia serpentina</i> (Linn)	Apocynaceae	Surpagandha	Amalpori (Red)
19 <i>Zingiber zerumbet</i> Rose-ex-sm	Zingiberaceae	Karpuraharidra	Kattinchi (Fresh)
20 <i>Zingiber zerumbet</i> Rose-ex-sm	Zingiberaceae	Karpuraharidra	Kattinchi (Dry)

B. ROOT ITEMS

21 <i>Adhatoda zeylanica</i> Medicus	Acanthaceae	Vasaka	Adalodaka veru
22 <i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> Linn	Nyctaginaceae	Punarnava	Thazhutama veru (dry)
23 <i>Cassia tora</i> Linn	Caesalpinaceae	Chakramadha	Thakara veru
24 <i>Clerodendrum serratum</i> Moon	Verbenaceae	Bharangy	Cheruthekku veru
25 <i>Desmodium gangeticum</i> (Linn) DC	Fabaceae	Prsniparni	Orila veru (dry)
26 <i>Gmelina arborea</i> Roxb	Verbenaceae	Kasmari	Kumbil veru
27 <i>Hibiscus rosa-sinesis</i> Linn	Malvaceae	Japa	Chemparathi veru
28 <i>Lauca aspera</i> (Willd) Spr.	Lamiaceae	Dronapushpi	Vellathumba veru
29 <i>Nilgiriianthus ciliatus</i> (Nees) Bremk	Acanthaceae	Sahachara	Karinkurinji veru
30 <i>Ocimum tenuiflorum</i> Linn	Lamiaceae	Vishnapriya	Krishnatbulai veru
31 <i>Piper longum</i> Linn	Piperaceae	Vanaharidra	Kattuthippally/Thippali
32 <i>Piper trichostachyon</i> DC	Piperaceae	maricham	Kattukurumulake
33 <i>Pseudarthria viscida</i> Linn	Fabaceae		Moovilaveru
34 <i>Rachidophora Pertusa</i>			Athithippali
35 <i>Ricinus communis</i> Linn	Euphorbiaceae	Eranda	Veluthavanakin veru (dry)
36 <i>Sida cordifolia</i> Linn	Malvaceae	Bala	Vanakurunthotti veru
37 <i>Sida rhombifolia</i> (Linn) Borss	Malvaceae	Athibala	Kurunthotti veru
38 <i>Solanum indicum</i> Linn	Solanaceae		Putharichunda veru
39 <i>Tragia involucrata</i> Linn	Euphorbiaceae	Durulabha/	Kodithuvba veru
40 <i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i> (Linn) Nash	Poaceae	Usiram	Ramacham (dry)
41 <i>Vigna trilobata</i> (Linn) verdcourt	Fabaceae		Kattupayar (dry)

. FRUITS

<i>Butea monosperma</i>			Plashe
<i>Helicteres isora</i> Linn	Sterculiaceae	Mrugasrianga	Edampiri/Valampiri
<i>Momordica charantia</i> Linn	Cucurbitaceae		Kattupavaccai
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> Linn	Euphorbiaceae	Amlaki	Nellicca (fresh)
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> Linn	Euphorbiaceae	Amlaki	Nellicca (dry)
<i>Strychnos potatorum</i> Linn	Loganiaceae	Kadaka	Thettamparal
<i>Terminalia bellirica</i> (Gaertn) Roxb	Combretaceae	Vibheethaki	Thannicca (Whole dry)
<i>Terminalia chebula</i> Retz	Combretaceae	Hareethaki	Kadukka (Whole)

D. BARKS

<i>Caesalpinia sappan</i> Linn	Caesakoubuaceae		Chappangatholi (dry)
<i>Cinnamomum cassia</i>			Elavangam
<i>Symplocos cochinchinensis</i>	Symplocaceae	Lodhara	Pachottitholi (lodra)

E. CREEPERS

<i>Aloe barbadensis</i> Mill	Liliaceae	Kumari	Kattarvazha Leaf
<i>Andrographis paniculata</i> (Burnf) Wallich ex. Nees	Acanthaceae	Kiridathiktha/ bhoonimba	Kiriyath
<i>Aristolochia indica</i> Linn	Aristolochiaceae	Eeswari	Garudakodi (dry)/ Karalayan
<i>Cissus quadrangularis</i> Linn	Vitaceae	Vajravalli	Changalam paranda (fresh)
<i>Coscinium fenestratum</i> Colebr	Menispermaceae	Daru haridra	Maramanjai
<i>Eclipta prostrata</i> (Linn) Linn	Asteraceae	Bringaraja	Kunjuni/Kaithonni pach
<i>Indigofera tinctoria</i> Linn	Fabaceae	Neeli	Neelamari samoolam
<i>Milgiriianthus ciliatus</i> (Nees) Bremk	Acanthaceae	Sahachara	Karinkurinji Samoolam
<i>Phyllanthus amarus</i> Schum & Thom	Euphorbiaceae	Thamlaki	Keezharneeli (fresh)
<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> (Willd)	Merispermaceae	Amrutha	Chittamruthu (fresh)
<i>Trichosanthes cucumerina</i> Linn	Cucurbitaceae	Padola	Padavalam samolam/kaipan padavalam/Kattpadavalam

LIQUIDS

<i>Inocarpus laurifolia</i> Dennst	Flacourtiaceae	Thoovarakam	Marotti
ney			Karimthean
ney			Then (raw)

SEEDS

<i>Desalpinia bonduc</i> (Linn) Roxb	Caesalpiniaceae	Kubarakshi	kazhanchikuru
<i>Ston tiglium</i> Linn	Euphorbiaceae	Jayapalam	Neervalakuru
<i>Lada phaseoloides</i> Merrill	Mimosaceae		Kakkavalli/Malamanchadi/ Kakkunkai
<i>Inocarpus laurifolia</i> (Bennsf) Sleumer	Bixaceae		Marottienna (seed oil)
<i>Cuscuta pruriens</i> (Linn) DC	Fabaceae	Athmaguptha	Nayakorana parippu
<i>Piper tricostachyon</i> DC	piperaceae	Maricham	Kattukurumulaku
<i>Psychotria nuxvomica</i> Linn	Loganiaceae	Karaskaram	kanjirakuru
<i>Strychnium jambolanum</i> (Lam) DC	Myrtaceae	Jambu	Njavalkuru
<i>Alseodaphne limonella</i> (Dennst) Alston	Rutaceae	Suthejasi	Mullilam

FLOWERS

<i>Clitoria elatum</i> Bedd.	Clusiaceae		Punna poove/Kattupunna
<i>Clitoria thymifolia</i>			Chithirapoovu
<i>Clitoria cassia</i> (Linn) Kostermans			Vayaria

MISCELLANEOUS

Shellac (Inferior)	(Not a plant product)		kanmadam (II grade)
Shellac (Super)	(Not a plant product)		Kanmadam (I grade)
Beeswax			Thean Mezhuke (Raw)
Beeswax			Thean Mezhuke (Purified)
Resin of lac			Kolaraccu
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> Linn	Euphorbiaceae	Amlaki	Nellicathode (dried without seed)
<i>Terminalia foetida</i> Linn	Sterculiaceae		Peenari (dry)/Pottakkavalam

<i>Silindia bellirica</i> (Geertn) Roxb	Combretaceae	Vidheethaka	Thannicca thode (dry)
<i>Silindia chebula</i> Retz	Combretaceae	Hareethaki	Kadukkathode (dry)

MEDICINAL ITEMS

OIL SEEDS

<i>Sesuvium portulacastrum</i> Linn	Portulacaceae	Kakamari	Pollacai (Nanchinkuru) dry
<i>Phyllanthus esculentus</i> Linn	Clusiaceae	Vanapunnaga	Kattupunnacai
<i>Phyllanthus esculentus</i> Linn	Gnetaceae		Odakuru
<i>Phyllanthus esculentus</i> Linn	Clusiaceae	Nagakesaram	Nankin Kuru
<i>Phyllanthus esculentus</i> Linn			Palikkuru
<i>Sapindus trifoliatus</i> Linn	Sapindaceae	Mukulaka	Poovam

SPICES

<i>Albizia lebbek</i> (Dennst) Alston	Simarubiaceae	Doopa	Mattipal
<i>Albizia lebbek</i> (Dennst) Alston	Dipterocarpaceae	Vavragu	Kalpasam
<i>Albizia lebbek</i> (Dennst) Alston	Zyngiberaceae	Ela	Ela (I Grade)
<i>Albizia lebbek</i> (Dennst) Alston	Zyngiberaceae	Ela	Ela (II Grade)
<i>Albizia lebbek</i> (Dennst) Alston	Zyngiberaceae	Ela	Ela (III Grade)

EDIBLE ITEMS

<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i> Linn	Solanaceae		Kamtarimulak (dry)
<i>Cycas revoluta</i> Linn	Cycadaceae	Varaguna	Eenthalpanacai
<i>Clusia glaucescens</i> (Linn) Roxb	Clusiaceae		Kodumpuli (fresh)
<i>Clusia glaucescens</i> (Linn) Roxb	Clusiaceae		Kodumpuli (dry)
<i>Clusia glaucescens</i> (Linn) Roxb	Malvaceae		Puli/Warumpuli (With seed)
<i>Clusia glaucescens</i> (Linn) Roxb	Malvaceae		Puli/Warumpuli (Without seed)

APPENDIX-II

LIST OF SCHEDULED TRIBES-KERALA

Adiyan	23.Malai Vedan
Arandan	22.Malai Pandaram
Eravallan	23.Malakkuravan
Hill Pulaya	24.Malasar
Irular, Irulan	25.Malayan (2)
Kadar	26.Malayaraya
Kammara (1)	27.Mannan
Kanikaran, Kanikar	28.Marati (3)
Kattunaicken	29.Muthuvan, Mudugar, Muduvan
. Kochuvelan	
. Konda Kapus	30.Palleyan
. Kondareddis	31.Palliyan
. Koraga	32.Palliyar
. Kota	33.Paniyan
. Kudiya, Melakudi	34.Ulladan
. Kurichiyan	35.Uraly.
. Kurumans	
. Kurumbas	
. Mala Malasar	
. Malai Arayan	

In the area comprising the Malabar District as specified by Sub section (2) of section 5 of the State Re-organisation Act 1956 (37 of 1966).

Excluding the areas comprising the Malabar District as specified by Sub Section (2) of section 5 of the States Re-organisation Act 1956 (37 of 1956).

In Hosdurg and Kasaragod taluk of Kasaragod District.

urce: Government of Kerala. (1992). Notes on Scheduled Tribes Development in Kerala, Directorate of Scheduled Tribes Development, Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram.

Appendix III

Base for Converting Fresh Medicinal Items to Dry Items

Sl. No.	Items	Possible reduction in weight while drying (%)	Reduction for stock exceed dry items (1 month)
1.	Amlpori	70	
2.	Adapathiyam	50	
3.	Elaccai	80	
4.	Kattuthippally	50	10
5.	Karimkuriji	58	
6.	Koova	75	
7.	Kadukka	30	
8.	Padakizhamgu	50	
9.	Kolincha	66	
10.	Kattukanjal	60	
11.	Veluthavanikkin veru	75	
12.	Kattukurumulake	66	
13.	Cheruthkku veru	60	
14.	Orila	53	
15.	Moovila	75	
16.	Kurumthotti	67	
17.	Karimkurunji	53	
18.	Kattukurumulaku vally	60	10
19.	Palakkuru	75	5
20.	Putharichunda	53	
21.	Kattupadavalam	30	
22.	Nannari	60	
23.	Athithippally		10
24.	Cheevaccai		5 to 10
25.	Uruvanji		5 to 10
26.	Honey		2 to 5
27.	Bee wax		2 to 5
28.	Marottikuru		5 to 10

Source :Compiled from the records of TCS,SC/ST federation and discussion with secretaries of TCS in the state.

APPENDIX IV

Average Family Expenditure of Tribal Households under study

(Figures in Rs.)

Sl. No.	Region/ Tribal Community	Average Total Exp.	Family expenditure break up							
			Food	Eating out	Liquor	Tobacco	Medical	Clothing	Recreation	Festivals
I THIRUVANANTHAPURAM RN.										
1	Malai Pandaram	18853	10868	485	1938	1659	537	2407	313	647
2	Kanikkar	16455	8616	674	1930	1550	289	1300	581	1515
	Total TVM. RN. (a)	17109 [100]	9230 [54]	622 [4]	1932 [11]	1580 [9]	357 [2]	1602 [9]	508 [3]	1278 [8]
II THRISSUR RN.										
3	Irular	17054	8572	1261	2909	1627	52	1598	539	498
4	Paniyan	16908	9586	1805	1995	1312	205	250	319	276
5	Malayan	17164	8946	1878	2325	1855	220	1100	461	357
	Total TCR. RN.(b)	17058 [100]	8696 [53]	1690 [10]	2507 [15]	1682 [10]	193 [1]	1126 [6]	463 [3]	401 [2]
III KALPETTA RN.										
6	Kattunaicken	14808	7293	1693	2459	1256	148	1037	402	520
7	Paniyan	14087	7855	885	1558	1646	188	1207	355	393
8	Kurumar	13680	7658	1407	1236	1753	101	928	263	334
9	Adiyan	14030	7750	880	1315	1216	120	1010	325	1414
10	Kurichiyen	14820	8315	1320	1230	1326	150	1215	215	1049
	Total KAL. RN.(c)	14365 [100]	7690 [54]	1337 [9]	1688 [12]	1399 [10]	137 [1]	1058 [7]	321 [2]	735 [5]
IV ADIWALY RN.										
11	Muduvan	16477	10393	847	1374	1242	107	1743	392	379
12	Wannan	15850	8980	2300	1210	1055	180	1310	280	535
	Total ADI. RN.(d)	16242 [100]	9863 [60]	1392 [9]	1313 [8]	1172 [7]	134 [1]	1581 [10]	350 [2]	437 [3]
	Average (a+b+c+d)	16194 [100]	8945 [55]	1260 [8]	1860 [12]	1458 [9]	205 [1]	1342 [8]	411 [3]	713 [4]

Appendix V

Collection of NTFP by TCS in the Study Area

NTFP items	Thiruvananthapuram				Thrissur		Kalpetta		Adimaly		No. of societies Collecting items
	1 ACH	2 POTO	3 WJA	4 MAL	5 SHO	6 PALA	7 SB	8 TIRU	9 KAN	10 ADI	
1 Kasturimanjal	*	*	*			*	*	*	*	*	8
2 Kolinji	x	*	*								2
3 Sathavarikizhangu	x	*				*	*				2
4 Kurumthotti veru	x	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	8
5 Nellicca	*	*		*		*	*				5
6 Pachottitholi	x	*						*		*	3
7 Kalloorvanji	x	*									1
8 Maramanjai	*	*	*			*	*			*	6
9 Honey	*	*	*	*		*	*	*		*	8
10 Bee wax	*	*	*	*		*	*	*		*	8
11 Kakkumkai	*	*				*	*		*	*	6
12 Marottikuru	*	*		*		*				*	5
13 Vayanapoove	x	*	*							*	3
14 Chithirapoove	x	*									1
15 Poovanathari	x	*									1
16 Nemgari	*	*					*				3
17 Pollaccai	x	*		*		*					3
18 Cardamom	*	*		*	*	*					5
19 Kudampuli	x	*						*		*	3
20 Kattumanjal	*	*									2
21 Kudirikkam	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	10
22 Cheevakkai	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	9
23 Kattupayar	x	*									1
24 Pattinja	*	*	*			*				*	5
25 Amalpori	*	x		*			*				3
26 Koppuvella	*	x									1
27 Kannadivella	*	x									1
28 Orila	*	x	*	*	*	*					5
29 Pathiripoove	*	x	*			*					4
30 Kadukka	*	x			*		*			*	3
31 Mattipal	*	x				*	*				3
32 Soap nuts	*	x		*	*	*		*	*	*	7
33 Thannikka	x	x	*								1
34 Edampiri/Valampiri	x	x	*								1
35 Garudakody	x	x	*								1
36 Naruneendi	x	x	*	*							2
37 Moovila	x	x	*	*		*		*			4
38 Chittalam	x	x	*								1
39 Kurinji veru	x	x	*								1
40 Adapathiyam	x	x	x	*			*				2

41 Kattuthippally	x	x	x	*							1
42 Karimkurinji	x	x	x	*	*	*	*				4
43 Putharichunda veru	x	x	x	*	*		*				3
44 Kattupadaivalam	x	x	x	*					*		2
45 Kazhanji kuru	x	x	x	x	x	*			*		2
46 Kattu kurumulaku	x	x	x	x	x	*	*	*	*	*	5
47 Athithippally	x	x	x	x	x	*					1
48 kanjira kuru	x	x	x	x	x	*				*	2
49 Kolinja	x	x	x	x	x	x	*		*		2
50 kalpasam	x	x	x	x	x	x	*				1
51 Cherutheku veru	x	x	x	x	x	x	*				1
52 Aavanakin veru	x	x	x	x	x	x	*				1
53 Dharbapullu	x	x	x	x	x	x	*				1
54 Kolarakke	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	*		1
55 Chittaratha	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	*	1
56 Peenari	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	*	1

No. of items collected by TCS	21	24	18	19	9	23	23	11	9	20
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Source: Survey data

Note: 1. ACH- Achancoil TCS; POTO- Potomavu TCS; NJA- Njaraneeli TCS; MAL- Malampuzha TCS; SHO- Sholayoor TCS
PALA- Palappally TCS; SB- Sultan battery TCS; TIRU- Tirunelli TCS; KAN- Kannanam TCS; ADI- Adimaly TCS

2. * - NTFP items collected

3. x - NTFP items not collected

Appendix . VI

Schedule to Collect Information from Board of Directors

- Sl . Opinion Statements of Directors of TCS
No.
-
1. Does there any political interference in the management of TCS? Yes/No
 2. Do you attend the Board meetings regularly? Yes/No
 3. Does your organsiation have adequate staff for executing the activities of TCS? Yes/No
 4. Does the TCS meet the entire credit requirements of members? Yes/No
 5. Does the Board has effective co-ordination with the SC/ST Federation? Yes/No
 6. Do you receive any assistance from Tribal Department? Yes/No
 7. Do you face any difficulty in getting the Movement Pass from the forest officials? Yes/No
 8. Do you bribe the forest officials for availing any services? Yes/No
 9. Does the TCS has sufficient number of collection centres for NTFP? Yes/No
 10. Does the TCS collect the entire potential supply of NTFP? Yes/No
 11. Are you satisfied with the present system adopted by TCS for the collection and marketing of NTFP? Yes/No
 12. Does your area possess non-listed NTFP? Yes/No
 13. Does your members collect non-listed NTFP? Yes/No
 14. Does the TCS timely disburse the NTFP collection advance to collection agents? Yes/No
 15. Do you think the commission charged by the SC/ST Federation high? Yes/No
 16. Does the SC/ST Federation timely disburse the required NTFP advance to TCS? Yes/No

17. Does the TCS face any problems in marketing the NTFP?
Yes/No
18. Does the TCS face any difficulty to collect the entire NTFP due to paucity of tribes? Yes/No
19. Do you prefer to the market the collected NTFP directly to private traders? Yes/No
20. Do you conduct any market survey or rely on market information for fixing the collection price? Yes/No
21. Does the TCS enter in to contract with any demand packets to market NTFP? Yes/No
22. Do you go for collecting NTFP after assuming office? Yes/No
23. Are you aware of the rules and regulation of TCS? Yes/No
24. Are you aware of the forest legislation governing the collection of NTFP? Yes/No
25. Have you imparted any training for NTFP collection to the members and the collection agents? Yes/No
26. Have you attended any training programmes designed for the managing committee members? Yes/No

**APPENDIX VII
RESPONSE OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Opinion Statements Sl. No.	A		B		C	
	DME		DEF		DLE	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
1	6	12	8	5	02	11
2	18	0	9	4	10	3
3	16	2	4	9	7	6
4	8	10	1	12	0	13
5	15	3	11	2	8	5
6	0	18	0	13	4	9
7	12	6	7	6	12	1
8	13	5	9	4	11	2
9	11	7	9	4	6	7
10	66	12	0	13	0	13
11	16	2	3	10	7	6
12	9	9	8	5	6	7
13	4	14	4	9	6	7
14	13	5	6	7	4	9
15	5	13	6	7	7	6
16	9	9	8	5	5	8
17	3	15	11	2	11	2
18	14	4	6	7	4	9
19	8	10	9	4	10	3
20	8	10	1	12	0	13
21	12	6	2	11	0	13
22	5	13	2	11	3	10
23	10	8	8	5	4	9
24	4	14	3	10	2	11
25	0	18	0	13	0	13
26	0	18	0	13	2	11

Note: Figures in each column indicates the number of Board of Directors responded to opinion statements.

A - DME: Directors of More Effective Tribal Co-operative Societies

B - DEF: Directors of Effective Tribal Co-operative societies.

C - DLE: Directors of Less Effective Tribal co-operative societies.

APPENDIX VI
RESEARCH SCHEDULES

Dynamics of Co-operative Marketing in Tribal Economies

— A Study of NTFP Marketing in Kerala

Household Survey

Schedule No.

P A R T - I

Socio - Economic Details

1. Name of the Key Respondent
2. Panchayat
3. Village
4. Block
5. Forest Range
6. Forest Division
7. District
8. Religion
9. Caste
10. Mother tongue - Speak, Read, Write
11. Knowledge of Regional Language - Speak, Read, Write
12. Demographic Details

Sl. No.	Name	Sex	Age	Rel- ation ship	Mar- ital status M/UM	Edu- cation	Occupation	
							Main (1 to 5)	Subsidiary (1 to 5)

1. NTFP collection and marketing
2. Cultivator
3. Agricultural labourer
4. Service personnel employed
5. Other occupation
 - (a) Making mats, baskets, etc.
 - (b) Fire wood collection and sales
 - (c) Hunting and fishing activities

13. Education

(a) No. of children below the age of 15 years attending/
Not attending schools

No.	Attending school				Not attending school	
	Name of school	Hostel	Day scholar	Distance from house (Km.)	No.	Distance (Km.)
Boys						
Girls						

(b) Reasons for Non-attendance

- (i) Children help the family by engaging in NTFP collection
- (ii) Agricultural work
- (iii) Collecting eta, bamboo, cane, etc. and make baskets, mats, etc.
- (iv) Look-after younger ones while the parents go for work
- (v) Disease
- (vi) No schools near by
- (vii) Feeling of separation
- (viii) Handicapped
- (ix) Any other (specify)

14. Occupational details (Except NTFP collection, cultivation, service and other occupation)

Sl. No.	Name (code)	Main				Subsidiary			
		Agl. labour				Agl. labour			
		Season	No. of days work in a week	Daily wage (Rs)	Hrs. of work	Season	No. of days work in a week	Daily wage (Rs)	Hrs. of work

(a) Monthly income from service

Name	Monthly income (Rs)

(b) Agriculture labour - Employer Details

Name of Employer	Relationship starts from	Opinion

(c) Do you know the prevailing wage rate in the market? Yes/No
If yes, give the following details

Type of Agl work	Market wage rate	Actual wage	Hrs. of work (From To)

(d) If you feel that the payment of wages by the employer is low, have you ever demand more from the employer? Yes/No.
What was the response from the employer

(e) Mode of receipt of wages

- (a) Completely the cash
- (b) Completely in kind
- (c) Partly in cash and kind

(f) Did the employer force you to purchase provisions (payment of wages) from a specified shop? Yes/No.

(g) Do you feel that the price changed by no trader for there provision is higher than market rate

15. Landed property and details of cultivation.

Crops	Acres	Freehold/ Leasehold
<u>Food Crops</u>		
Rice		
Tapioca		
Milletts		
<u>Commercial Crops</u>		
Plantation crop		
Pepper		
Coconut		
Arecanut		
Mixed cropping		
Inter cropping		

Plantation crop: Coffee, Tea, Rubber and Cardamom

16. If you are not cultivating the land then who cultivate the land and how much do you get as rent?

Acre	Cultivator		Year (From)	Rent			Payment in lumpsum/Not
	Tribe	Non-Tribe		Cash	Kind	Total	

17. Purchase and Disposal of land (10 year information)

Year	Purchase				Disposal			
	Area	Value	Purpose	Party from	Area	Value	Purpose	Party to whom

18. Did you alienate your land? (Yes/No) If yes give details.

Area (cents)	Party to whom	Year	Consideration		Adjustment or not
			Cash	Kind	

19. Reasons for alienation.

- (a) To clear old debts (b) Compulsion (c) Encroachment
(d) Effect of Land Reforms Act.

0. Did you file any case to recoup the alienated land? (Yes/No)
If yes give details.

Year case filed)	Place of petition filed	Recouped/Not	In the Court

1. Details of Asset Possession (Physical and Financial)

A. Physical

Sl.No	Type	Year of purchase	Value

Savings in	Rs.
Co-operatives Banks Money lenders Savings banks Post Office	

2. Do you have the following institutions near by to your dwelling place? Yes/No. Give the following details.

Sl. No.	Institutions	Distance from dwelling place	Transport Facilities
1.	Banks		
	a) Co-operative		
	b) Nationalised Banks		
2.	GSCS		
3.	Rationshop		
4.	Consumer Co-op.		
5.	Post Office		
6.	Private provision shop		
7.	Educational Institutions		
	LP		
	UP		
	High School		
8.	Liquor Shop		
9.	NTFP Selling Shop		
10.	Agl. produce/ other products Marketing shop		

23. Type of dwelling house : Tiled/Concrete/Asbestos/Thatched

24. Source of drinking water: River/Well/Pipe/Pond

25. Type of lighting :
Electricity/Kerosene/Oil of any seed

26. Do you have own house? Yes/No. If not, with whom are you staying/ Are you paying any rent? (Rs.)

27. Expenditure Pattern (Yearly)

1. Food (Weekly)

	Qty.	Price	Agency
2. Liquor : Illicit liquor & : Arrack Tobacco : Toddy			
3. Housing -----			
4. Fuel & Lighting -----			
5. Education -----			
6. Medical -----			
7. Travelling -----			
8. Consumer durables -----			
9. Clothing -----			
10. Recreation -----			
11. Social Activities ----- Marriage Festivals Birth & Death ceremonies Other			

P A R T - II

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL CROPS

1. Cost of Cultivation of Agl. Crops

Crop	Cost of cultivation					Area under each crop	
	Planting Cost		Variable Cost			Leased	Owned
	Seed	Labour	Lab-our	Ferti-lizers	Pesti-cides		
Food crop							
Commercial crop							

2. Production of Agl. crops (Yearly)

Crops: Food/Commercial	Production (Qty.)	Self Consumption	Product paid as rent	Seed (kg)	Market-able surplus (Kg)

3. Do you have sufficient quantity of agricultural crops to market Yes/No. If no, why you want to sell the meagre agricultural crops

- (a) To pay off old debt.
- (b) To clear the debt to the private trader.
- (c) To meet the production cost.
- (d) To find money for celebrating festivals/ceremonies.

4. Did you get any help from any agencies for cultivating your land? Yes/No.

If yes, give details

Dept./ Agency	Seed	Fertilizers	Cash	Pesticides

5. Marketing of Agricultural crops.

Crops	Marketed surplus (Kg)	Agencies					
		Co-operatives		Pvt. Traders		Pvt. Traders II	
		Kg.	Rate(Rs)	Kg.	Rate(Rs)	Kg	Rate(Rs.)
Food-Crops							
Commer-cial Crops							

6. Year of association with the present marketing agency.

7. When do you sell the agricultural crops?

- a) Immediately after harvest.
- b) Even before harvest-plant itself.
- c) Only after waiting for a better price.
- d) Any other (specify).

8. Receipt of sales price.

Agency	Cash	Kind	Party in Cash/Kind	Settling debt.
Co-operatives				
Pvt. Traders I				
Pvt. Traders II				

9. Type of Kind

- a) Consumer Articles of daily use
- b) Durables - Radio, Watch, etc.
- c) Arrack, Toddy, etc.
- d) Cosmetics

10. Can you produce sufficient quantities of agricultural products required for your family from the land? Yes/No. If not, state the reasons.

- a) Quality of the land is inferior
- b) Animal attack on crops
- c) Attack of pests and insects
- d) No financial assistance for cultivation
- e) Uneconomic holdings of land
- f) No market for the produce
- g) No irrigation facilities
- h) Not interested in cultivation
- i) Land has given for cultivation to outsider
- j) Full-time employment with the landlord

11. If you get fertile land, can you cultivate it? Yes/No.

If No, why?

- a) Employer will not permit.
- b) Fear of lossing
- c) Land of finance for cultivations.
- d) Marketing problem.

12. Do you have knowledge of cultivating different types of agricultural crops in your land? Yes/No.

13. Do you think that the imperfections/happenings in the land market force you to work as a labourer in the agriculture field? Yes/No.

If yes, give the priority for each of the following items.

- a) Land alienation
- b) Land sale
- c) No market for agl. produce.
- d) Inferior land
- e) Age-old relation with the present employer
- f) Threatening by the employer.

P A R T III

COLLECTION AND MARKETING OF NON-TIMER FOREST PRODUCE

1. How many members of your family hold passes to collect NTFP?

Members	No. holding passes	NTFP collectors (No.)	Experience in NTFP collection	
			No.	Experience

2. Do all the members of your family have NTFP collection Kit? Yes/No. Give the following details.

Sl. No.	Tools Required	Tools Possessed	Value(Rs) Possessed	Life of each tools (years)

3. Does the GSCS supply collection Kit? Yes/No.

If Yes, specify the items.

Sl.No.	Items supplied	Amount expended (Rs.)

4. Does the pass transferable? Yes/No.

If no, have you ever transferred? If yes, give details.

- a) To whom it has transferred?
- b) For the collection of which NTFP?
- c) Consideration if any received (Rs.)

5. Does the NTFP procuring agencies declare the items which they require in advance and the price they propose to give for each items? Yes/No.

Agencies	Declare items required (Yes/No)	Price Quoted (Yes/No)
Co-operatives:		
Private Traders:		

6. Do you collect only those items specified by the agencies? Yes/No.

7. Details of NTFP collections.

8. Extraction Methods to collect NTFP.

9. Did you face any risk in collecting NTFP in the past?
Yes/No.

10. Do you have any insurance cover? Yes/No.

If yes, who pays the insurance premium and amount.

11. Do you face any difficulty from any dept.? Yes/No.

If yes, give details.

Dept.	Problems usually faces

12. Do you undertake any processing activity before the product to market? Yes/No.

If yes, give the following details.

13. Period of selling the NTFP.

- a) Immediately after collection
- b) Weekly
- c) Monthly
- d) At the end of the season
- e) Waiting for a remunerative price.

14. Do you think that the present extraction method will reduce the availability of NTFP in future? Yes/No.

15. Have you received any training to extract NTFP? Yes/No.

If yes, for which NTFP?

Items	Agency

SALE OF NTFP THROUGH CO-OPERATIVES

16. Do you sell the entire NTFP collection through GSCS? Yes/No
If yes, give the following details

17. Does the society collect all collections of NTFP from you?
Yes/No.

If no, how do you market them? Pvt. Traders/Other Agencies

Sl. No.	Items not collected by society	Qty.	Sales price received pvt. trader/

18. Does the society grade your collections and price accordingly? Yes/No.

Are you satisfied with the grading? Yes/No.

19. Does the price paid by the society a) equal to b) less than c) higher than the market value.

20. Does the price paid by the society a) equal to b) less than c) higher than the price of private traders.

21. Do you think that the entry of the society in the collection of NTFP has ensured.

- a) a ready market for NTFP
- b) a fair price for NTFP
- c) eliminated the exploration of Pvt. traders.

22. Mode of collection of NTFP of the society

- a) Door to door
- b) Delivery at the office of the society
- c) At the collections centres of the society
- d) Collection from the agents of the society

23. Do you think that the commission agents of the society is cheating you in the form of

- a) Giving a less price (than guaranteed price of the society)
- b) Unscientific Weighing methods
- c) Taking samples, charities, etc.
- d) Undesirable cut in weighting

- e) Same price for all grades
- f) Supplying provisions at a high price
- g) Supply of Arrack, Toddy, etc.

24. Do you get bill when you sell produce through co-operatives? Yes/No.

25. Distance from the

- a) dwelling place to the office of the society - Km.
- b) dwelling place to the collection centre - Km.
(society's)
- c) dwelling place to the available area - Km.

26. Mode of receipt of NTFP selling price.

- a) Immediate receipt of full value in cash
- b) Receipt of full value after the sale of NTFP by society
- c) Partly in cash and kind
- d) Completely in the form of consumer goods
- e) Part payment after the sale by society

27. Did you get anything extra (amount after the initial payment for NTFP)? Yes/No.

If yes, give details.

Sl. No.	Items	Amount received (Rs.)	Year

28. Does the society declare any bonus to the tribals who sell NTFP to the society? Yes/No.

If yes, amount of bonus received during the previous year.

29. Have you received any NTFP advance from the society? Yes/No. If yes, give details.

Year	Items	Season	Advance			Repaid	
			Cash(Rs.)	Kind	Adjust	Cash(Rs)	Outstanding

30. What is the normal repayment period and interest of the advance?

31. Details of consumer goods purchased from the society (P.Y.)

Sl.No.	Items	Quantity	Price

32. Do you think that the price charged by the society for consumer goods is

- a) Less than that of private traders
- b) Higher than that of private traders
- c) Equal to that of private traders

33. How do you make payment to the consumer goods supplied by the society?

34. What are the different other benefits you get from society?

35. Do you use NTFP for curing disease (self consumption) Yes/No. If yes, give details.

Items	Use for disease (Name)	Method of application	Quantity applied

Sales through Private Traders or other Agencies

36. Mode of collection by the private traders

- a) Door to door
- b) Delivery at the shop of the trader
- c) Collection centres fixed by the trader
- d) Collection from the collection point in the forest itself
- e) Other (specify).

37. Distance from the

- (i) dwelling place to the shop of the trader
- (ii) dwelling place to the collection centre

38. Mode of receipt of NTFP selling price

- (i) Full value in cash, immediately on sale
- (ii) Full value completely on goods
- (iii) Partly in cash and kind
- (iv) Partly in goods and partly in Arrack and cosmetics
- (v) Others

39. What are the different types of items supplied by the traders?

Sl.No.	Items	Quantity	Price(Rate) Rs.

40. Do the private traders collect all items of NTFP? Yes/No
If not, list out the items procured by Private traders

Sl.No.	Quantity	Reasons for not procurement

Then, how do you market the produce?
Society/Other Agencies

41. NTFP sale to Private Traders

Sl.No.	Items	Agency I				Agency II			
		Qty.	Rate	Amount		Qty.	Rate	Amount	
				Cash	Kind			Cash	Kind

Home, Address, Retailer/Wholesaler

42. Years of acquaintance with the private traders?

43. Do you know, where the private traders sell NTFP? Yes/No
If yes,

Agency	Place of sale	Buyer (Name and address)

44. Do the private traders grade your NTFP and price it accordingly? Yes/No
If yes, are you satisfied with the grading and pricing

45. Do you receive reasonable price for your NTFP from private traders? Yes/No

46. Does the price of the private trader
a) Equal to b) Less than c) higher than the market price

47. Does the price paid by the private trader
 a) Less than b) Equal to c) More than the price paid by the society

48. Have you received any loan (advance from pvt. trader against the future supply of NTFP to them? Yes/No
 If yes, give details.

Year	Amount	per-iod	Pur- pose	Rate of interest	Amount repaid		Out st- anding	Over- due
					Cash(Rs)	NTFP		

49. Would you be able to get loan from pvt. traders even without the security of NTFP? Yes/No

50. Can you list out the comparative advantages of selling NTFP to pvt. traders.

- a) Easy accessibility
- b) Better price
- c) Loan facilities without any intricacies
- d) Sale at door step
- e) Entire collection can be sold
- f) Supply of provisions as and when needed
- g) Help during distress season
- h) Bonus
- i) Extra payment during festivals

51. Do you think that the availability of NTFP is declining from forest? Yes/No.

If yes, state the reasons for declining and solution to solve lives problem.

52. Do you get financial help as and when you require? Yes/No.

If yes, give the following details

Agency	Year	Purpose of borrowing	Period	Amount	Interest

53. Do you feel that the imperfections of credit market force you to sell your produce at a throw away price to the money lenders/traders? Yes/No.

54. Do you get regular flow of NTFP from the specified areas of supply? Yes/No.

NTFP items	Interval of harvest	If not, reasons

1. Livestock Holdings (Cattle, Sheep, Poultry, etc.)

Sl. No.	Type	No. of heads		Cost		Output per day (litre)	Year of purchase
		Cross	Local	Fixed	Daily cost		

2. Marketing of Milk and other products (Annual)

	Agencies			
	Co-operatives		Pvt. Trader-I	Pvt. Trader-II
	Kg./litre	Rate(Rs.)		
Milk				
Cow dung				

3. Did you purchase the livestock by using loans from any dept.? Yes/No.

Agency	Purpose of loan (Type)	Amount	Amount outstanding	Year (period of loan)

4. If you are not marketing the milk and other products through Co-operatives, States the reason for that?

Product and Marketing of Mats, Baskets and other produces

5. Cost of production

Items produced	Materials	Hours worked	No. of items produced

6. Do you need to expend anything to the forest dept. to collect eta, bamboo, cane, etc? Yes/No.

Department	Expenses (Rs.)

Marketing of Baskets, Mats, etc. (Yearly)

Products	Co-operatives		Pvt. Trader-I		Pvt. Trader-II	
	No.	Rate(Rs)	No.	Rate(Rs)	No.	Rate(Rs)
Baskets Mats Artistic Products						

If you are not marketing these produces through Co-operatives, state the reason for that?

P A R T - V

TRIBAL PARTICIPATION IN CO-OPERATIVES

1. Membership in the Co-operative Society

Sl.No.	Name	Years of becoming	No.of shares	Value (Rs)

2. Reasons for becoming member in the society

- a) To market NTFP
- b) To avail loan facilities
- c) To avail provision facilities
- d) To market NTFP not collected by the trader
- e) To get pass for NTFP collection
- f) To sell agricultural produce
- g) To sell baskets, mats, milk, etc.
- h) Dont'know

3. Membership in other Co-operative Societies

Sl.No.	Name	No.of shares	Year	Value

4. Reasons for becoming member in other societies?

- a) To get agricultural credit
- b) To sell agricultural produce
- c) To sell milk
- d) To exercise vote
- e) To sell products such as baskets, mats, etc.
- f) Dont' know

5. Mode of taking membership

- a) In the society (uses)
 - i) Voluntary
 - ii) Compulsion
 - iii) Advice of friends and relatives
 - iv) Persuasion by politician
 - v) Others
- b) In other societies
 - i)
 - ii)
 - iii)
 - iv)
 - v)

6. Do you know the basic objective of the society?

- a) To collect the NTFP members and market.
- b) To supply consumer items
- c) To give loans to members
- d) To sell agricultural and other produce of members
- e) The overall Socio-economic improvement of members

7. Which of the following the society belongs?

- a) Government
- b) Members
- c) Employees
- d) Board of Directors
- e) Others (specify)

8. Status as a member

- a) Existing Board Member
- b) Ex-board member

9. When was the last several body meeting of the society held?

10. Have you or any member of your family attended the G.B.?
 Yes/No. If yes, what did you come to know in the meeting? If not, why?

11. Did you speak or any member of the family at the G.B.?
 Yes/No. If yes, what subject you spoke?

12. Have you got any other benefit apart from undertaking the sale of produce from the society? If Yes, specify.

Year	Type of benefit	Amount

13. Have you ever been consulted in the fixation of collection charge for NTFP price for agricultural and other produces?
 Yes/No.

14. Have you ever been consulted to know the availability of NTFP in the forest region of the society? Yes/No.

15. Did the society arrange any training programme for the collection of NTFP, to the members?
 Yes/No. If yes, have you attended?

Year	Agency	Type of Training	Type of education programme	Period	Attended or not

16. What is your opinion about the behaviour of employees in the society?

- a) Very good
- b) Good
- c) Very bad
- e) Satisfactory

17. What is your opinion about the overall efficiency of the society?

- a) In dealing with agl. produce Very good/Good/Satisfactory/Bad/Worse
- b) In dealing with NTFP Very good/Good/Satisfactory/Bad/Worse
- c) In dealing with produce from other occupation Very good/Good/Satisfactory/Bad/Worse

18. Do you know the Cooperative principle? Yes/No.
If yes, what are they?

19. Do you think that the principles you pointed out are coupled in this society? Yes/No.

20. What are the irregularities you have come across in the working of the society?

21. State your suggestions to make the functioning of the society more efficient.

22. Do you favour the finding of the present system of procuring NTFP through co-operatives? Yes/No.

23. What would have happened if there were no co-operatives for procuring NTFP from tribals.

Do you know all the items specified for collection? i.e., NTFP list. Yes/No. If yes, can you mention the names of other NTFP you have come across in the forest and that to be included for future collection in the NTFP list. If not mention the items that you have normally collected.

24. Rank the rate of participation in the following parameters

- a. Consultation during the pre-planning period
- b. Monitoring / supervision during implementation
- c. Receipt of benefits
- d. Sharing of cost
- e. Involvement in evaluation / followup measures
- f. Discussing problems of programmes with secretaries / board of directors
- g. Visiting the office of the organisation
- h. Making suggestions for programme improvement
- i. Contacting people outside the organisation
- j. Attending meetings of the organisation / training camps
- k. Assisting the organisation
- l. Briefing / propagating programmes to others

25. Rank the opinion about participation

- a. Planning
- b. Advice at implementation
- c. Participation in management.
- d. Representation in the board
- e. Assistance during distress season
- f. Advice in monitoring/evaluation

10. Major suppliers of MFP to Organisation: (Attach MFP lists)

Name of supplier	Major items supplied	Qty.	Rate	Amount

11. Method of collecting MFP:

- a) Inviting tenders
- b) Participating in auction
- c) Direct purchase
- d) Other methods

12. If by tender, generally, how many tenders do you get?

13. Do you feel any grid of suppliers in quoting the price of herbs? 1) Yes 2) No

If yes, how will you tackle the situation?

14. Do all these parties supply the herbs in the factory premises of the Corporation

If not, how will you get the herbs in the factory premises and who will bear the transportation cost?

- a) Seller b) Buyer c) Merchants/Traders

15. Do you inspect or check or collect samples before the purchase of the product from parties?

- 1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give the details of the component authority to do it:

16. Do you get purchase commission from the supplying parties including co-operatives?

- 1) Yes 2) No

If yes,

- a) How much commission %
- b) Minimum purchase for commission Rs.
- c) Mode of receipt Cash Kind

17. Do you collect advance quotation from parties?

- 1) Yes 2) No

18. Does the Co-operative also participative in quotation every year?

1) Yes 2) No

19. Do you make advance payment to parties?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give the following details:

(Separate sheet attached)

Year	Party to whom advance given	For items (name)	Amount	Advance period

If not, how will you make payment?

- a) Immediately in cash
- b) Immediately in kind
- c) Partly in cash/kind

20. Does any supplying party receive medicines (product) in lieu of the price of the herbs? 1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give the details:

Name of the party	Items supplied	Medicine/other product accepted (Rs.)

21. Do you get herbs on credit?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give the time lag:

Name of suppliers	Time lag	Amount

22. Amount pending for payment to parties:

Year	Party to whom	Amount (Rs.)	Due on (Date & Year)

13. Do you have any contractual obligation to collect the available medicinal herbs from co-operatives?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, do you act accordingly?

1) Yes 2) No

If not, state the reasons

14. Do you have any breach of contract from Co-operatives?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, what action would you take?

Year	Reason for breach of contract	Action taken

15. Do you get sufficient quantities of herbs from Co-operatives at the specified time?

1) Yes 2) No

If not, how will you replenish the balance?

16. If there is any breach of contract from other supplying parties, what action would you take?

Year	Branch	Action taken

17. Do you comply with the price fixation mechanism (sales price) of Federation?

1) Yes 2) No

If no, what difficulties would you face?

18. Do you exercise any quality testing before the collection of herbs from parties?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, what about the qualities of herbs collected from Co-operatives when compared to other channels?

Very good Good Satisfaction Bad Very bad

19. Do you consider that the co-operatives can supply the entire medicinal herbs required for you?

1) Yes 2) No

If not, why?

30. Do you think that the supply of herbs from Kerala forest have been declining from year to year?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, state the reason for that

a) Reduction in forest area

b) Unscientific MFP collection method

c) Forests are not maintained sustainably

d) Undertaking of more dam consumption

e) Encroachment

f) Felling of trees by forest robbers

31. Do you have any herbs suppliers outside Kerala?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give the following details:

Name of the	State to which the party belongs	Items generally supplied	Approximate	
			Qty.	Value

32. Do you have any direct collection of herbs from tribes?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give the following details:

33. Do you have any difficulty in collecting the entire medicinal herbs collection of GSCS?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, specify the reasons.

34. Do the seasons of Kerala play any role in the availability of herbs and the prices to the organisations?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give reasons.

35. Do you have proper storage facilities?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give details:

Plinth area of godown	Storage capacity	Capacity utilisation (%)

If not, what alternative measure do you have to store the items?

36. Storage details:

Sl. No.	Commonly used items for medicine	Maximum storage (Qty.)	Turnover period	Cost of storage (Rs.)

37. Do you require all collections of herbs by TCS in the state?

1) Yes 2) No

38. Do you face any difficulty in co-operating with a co-operative institution?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, enumerate these difficulties.

39. Do you think that the price quoted by co-operatives to Tribes for NTFP collection is lower/higher/equal to market prices?

40. Do you pass information pertaining to your requirements well in advance to co-operatives?

1) Yes 2) No

41. Do the Co-operative pass information pertaining to collection and stock of NTFP well in advance to the organisation?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, would you take immediate steps to collect it?

1) Yes 2) No

42. Do you have any medicinal garden of your own?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give the following details:

Acre	Herbs	Yield per year (Kg.)

43. Do you import any medicinal herbs?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes give details:

Year	Items imported	Country from	Qty.	Value

44. Do you have any ancillary units for the production of medicine?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, give the following details:

Sl. No.	Name of ancillary units	Year of establishment	Distance from HQ

45. Do you have purchase Department?

1) Yes 2) No

46. Though the Federation has different depots, even then from which depot do you normally collect herbs? Is there any reason for that?

Name of Depot	Quantity Collected	Amount

47. Which are the major classification of items produced (Output) by the organisation in the last year (1992-93)?

Classification

No. of items

48. How will you market the products?

- a) Our own outlets
- b) Through private agencies
- c) Through Co-operatives

49. Marketing Details

Year	Total Sale (Rs.)	Marketing through		
		Our own (Rs.)	Co-operative (Rs.)	Private (Rs.)

50. Do you export medicines?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes,

Year	Items exported (classified)	Country	Qty.	Value

51. Do you collect medicinal herbs from those countries where you export medicine?

1) Yes 2) No

52. Do you face any marketing problem?

1) Yes 2) No

If yes, bring out the problems.

53. Does anyone from Co-operative or Forest Department or tribal Department has become member in the Board of Oushadhi?

1) Yes 2) no

If yes, give details:

Name	Year in which became Board Member	Designation in the Parent Institution

54. Since scientific collection method is very important for the NTFP from the point of view of quality as well as sustained supply, are you giving any guidelines for collecting materials?

1) Yes 2) No

If not,

If any agency organise such training programmes, are you willing to co-operate?

1) Yes 2) No

55. Do you help in identifying economically viable new items for cultivation/procurement?

1) Yes 2) no

56. Do you help in identifying economically viable new items for cultivation/procurement?

1) Yes 2) No

57. Though your production prices are stabilised, there is high fluctuation in the prices of MFP. what are the reasons?

SCHEDULE OF OPINION SURVEYS

A. Response of Collection Agents (Yes / No)

1. Do you get the essential items required at collection centres timely?
2. Do you receive required money at collection centres timely?
3. Do you have any permanent godown at the centre to store the NTFP?
4. Do you have transport facilities to supervise collection of NTFP?
5. Do you have the knowledge of checking the adulteration of NTFP by tribes in its quality?
6. Do you get proper assistance from society and forest officials to check the illicit collection of NTFP from your area?
7. Do you believe adulteration of NTFP by tribes?
8. Do you able to keep the required consumer items for tribes at the collection centre?
9. Do you get adequate number of tribes to collect the potential supply of NTFP from your area in all the seasons?
10. Does the society allow you to reduce the wastage of NTFP collection at the centre?
11. Do you get your salary/commission at the correct time?
12. Does the management committee of the society call you to attend any meeting pertaining to the NTFP collection and marketing?
13. Do you give timely information to the society regarding the collection of NTFP?
14. Do you give information to the Forest officials regarding the collection of NTFP?
15. Do you make any NTFP sale to parties from the collection depots?
16. Do you undertake the marketing of tribal produce other than NTFP through private traders?
17. Do you know co-operative principles?

18. Have you got any training to deal with Tribal produce?
19. Do you collect NTFP other than that is mentioned in the list?
20. Does the society collect the non-listed items?

B Officials of Tribal Department (Yes / No)

1. Do you attend all the MFP committee meetings?
2. Do you believe that the present system of monopoly procurement and marketing of NTFP through co-operatives have liberated the tribes from the clutches of private traders?
3. Do you give any financial assistance for NTFP collecting societies?
4. Do you believe that the present system of fixing NTFP price is scientific?
5. Have you conducted any market survey to fix the NTFP price?
6. Do you make any marketing arrangement for marketing the tribal produce other than NTFP?
7. Do you get any complaints from TCS or tribes directly regarding the collection and marketing of NTFP?
8. Do you believe that the price fixed by NTFP committee is reasonable?
9. Do you believe that tribal development can be possible through market orientation to tribes?
10. Do you undertake any training programme to tribes to extract NTFP effectively?
11. Do you believe the tribes are as part of forest?
12. Are you a Board member in the SC/ST Federation?
13. Do you attend all the Board meetings of SC/ST Federation?
14. Do you exercise any influence on the following department for a better deal to tribal produce marketing?

Forest Department
SC/ST Federation
Oushadhi

C. Response of Forest Officials (Yes / No)

1. Do you consider the tribes as part of forest?
2. Did the Forest Policy give any consideration to the needs of tribes?
3. Do you think it possible and desirable to associate tribals in forest management?
4. If yes, how? By guarding forest/ protecting forest from fire/stopping illegal selling/plantation/preventing deforestation/collection of NTFP/any other?
5. Do you believe that the deforestation has adversely affected the availability of NTFP in you area?
6. Do you think that the tribals are capable of undertaking forest jobs?
7. Did you conduct any survey to know the potential supply of NTFP from your area?
8. Do you think that the tribes can extract the full potential supply of NTFP?
9. If the tribes are not capable, do you allow any non-tribe to collect the NTFP from the area?
10. Do you think that the monopoly procurement and marketing of NTFP given to co-operatives have helped the tribes to get a better price for the produce and to eliminate the exploitative practices of then contractors?
11. Do you favour to delink the tribes from the collection of NTFP in the state?
12. Do you favour to delink the co-operatives from the collection and entrusting the NTFP collection to some other agencies?
13. Do you conduct any scientific market survey to fix the price of NTFP?
14. Do you think that the extractions methods adopt by tribes affect the sustain ability of the NTFP in the forest?
15. Do you conduct any training programme to tribes for equipping the tribes to collect NTFP?
16. Do you have any mechanism to ensure the payment of specified NTFP to tribes by Co-operatives?
17. Do you get complaints from tribes?

18. Do you get complaints from TCS?
19. Do you know the incomings of NTFP from other state?
20. Do you know the market price of NTFP?
21. If the tribes identify some more items as NTFP ,would you permit them to collect?
22. Do you believe the NTFP collection can provide a better standard of living to the tribes?
23. Do you know the contribution of NTFP to the total income of forest revenue form Kerala forest?

D Response of officials of SC/ST Federation

1. Do you collect all items of NTFP for marketing?
2. Do you face financial problem for the collection of tribal produce?
3. Do you believe that the present rate fixed for NTFP is reasonable?
4. Would you face any marketing problem for NTFP?
 Medical herbs -
 Non Medical herbs -
5. Does Oushadhi collect all you medicinal herbs?
6. Can the terms & conditions of Oushadhi be adjustable to Federation ?
7. Are you ready to supply all the medicinal herbs at the specified sale price of NTFP committee?
8. Can you meet all the financial requirements of TCS for collection of NTFP?
9. Would you be able to recoup NTFP advance and stock advance from TCS within the specified time?
10. Do you believe that the tribal development can be possible through market orientation to tribes?
11. Do you believe that the present marketing arrangement for tribal produce has eliminated the contractors and their exploitative practices from the collection areas?
12. Do you attend all the NTFP committee meeting?
13. Does the Federation has a marketing Manager?

14. Have you conduct any market survey to know ↗
 - a) the price of NTFP in various districts
 - b) the potential demand of the produce in the state ?
15. Have you made any scientific survey to know the potential supply of NTFP from the forest?
16. Do you conduct any collection training programme to collectors of NTFP?
17. Do you think that the crude extraction methods of tribes will ultimately affect the sustainability of the produce
18. Do you help tribes during distress season?
19. Do you supply the necessary provisions to tribes through GSCS?
20. Do you offer any special benefit to members who engaged in NTFP collection?
21. Do you convene meetings of secretaries atleast once in a month ?
22. Do you convene meetings of Branch Managers atleast once in two month?
23. Does the Federation has a Board democratically elected?
24. Does the constituted board has tribal representation?
25. Do you undertake marketing arrangement for mats, baskets etc?
26. Does the Federation undertake any processing activities for NTFP?
27. Do the branches are capable of managing all the TCS coming under their jurisdiction?
28. Does the Federation able to supply all the medicinal herbs requirements of Ayurvedic manufacturing units of Kerala?
29. Does the federation has any role in the fixation of
 - a) NTFP price
 - b) Finalisation of NTFP list?

allocation seems to be very low. It is also clear that in all the years except during the second, the fifth and the Annual plans for 1978-79 and 1979-80 the entire allocation for rural development has been utilised.

3.12 Tribal Sub-Plan of Kerala

The Tribal Sub-Plan programme is being implemented through resources drawn from a) State plan b) special central Assistance provided by the Ministry of welfare c) Central plan and centrally sponsored programme and d) institutional finance. The allocation to the Tribal Sub-Plan, which is part of the overall state plan, is determined by taking in to consideration the major factors like a) total tribal population of the state b) geographical area c) economic backwardness d) level of achievement obtained so far as a result of the past developmental endeavours and e) social conditions prevailing. The sectoral outlays are shown in the budget under separate major heads to show funds flowing to the Tribal Sub-Plan under the relevant demand of the concerned sectoral department. As per the procedure ordered by Government for implementation of Tribal Sub-Plan, it has become the joint responsibility of the project officers of the Integrated Tribal Development Project/ Tribal Development officers on the one hand and the officers of the sectoral departments and the District collectors concerned on the other to ensure proper utilisation of the amount provided.

The tribal Sub-Plan of Kerala has been prepared in consonance with the guiding principle of five year plan and according to the recommendation of the working group on Tribal development with the following objectives¹¹.

1. Alleviation of poverty among Scheduled Tribes by raising productivity in the field of agriculture, horticulture, Animal husbandry, forestry, village and small scale industries etc.
2. Provision of formal and non-formal education with emphasis on vocationalisation.
3. Elimination of exploitation in relation to land transfer, agricultural tenancy, money lending, forestry, trade and in socio-economic activities.
4. Provision of adequate socio-economic infrastructure.
5. Removal of socio-economic disabilities of special groups like primitive tribes, tribal women, tribals displaced by various development projects.
6. Improvement of environment and ecology of tribal areas.

To carry out the tribal development programmes, about 27 sectors have been identified by the Government. The investment for Tribal development in Kerala is given in Table 3.10.

11 Government of Kerala, (1988), Tribal Sub Plan 1985-90 and 1988-89 (Revised), Directorate of Scheduled Tribes Development, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.10

Investment for Tribal Development in Kerala- Outlay and
Expenditure from 1984-85 to 1993-94

Year	Outlay (TSP) state	SCA to TSP	Total outlay (Rs)	Expen- diture (Rs)	Rs in Lakhs		
					Total Tribal Popul- ation	perhead Invest- ment(Rs.)	Exp.% to Outlay
1984-85	645	N.A	645	644	283819	227	99.8
1985-86	657	111	768	778	289697	269	101.3
1986-87	668	118	786	797	295697	270	101.4
1987-88	711	102	813	736	301821	244	90.5
1988-89	775	99	874	763	308072	248	87.3
1989-90	953	128	1081	988	314453	314	91.4
1990-91	1148	101	1249	1098	320967	342	87.9
1991-92	1181	303	1484	1479	327614	451	99.7
1992-93	1871	200	2071	1673	334399	500	80.8
1993-94	2002	523	2525	1729	341325	507	68.5
State							90.9

Note :Total outlay includes the state allocation under Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) and the allocation from the centre under special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribal Sub-Plan for investment in designated schemes.

Source:Government of Kerala, Annual Review on SCP and TSP and Special Central Assistance for 1984-85 to 1993-94, planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.10 indicates that about 91 per cent of the outlay earmarked for tribal development has been used. The per head investment varies from Rs.227 in 1984-85 to Rs.507 in 1993-94. As per 1991 census, the amount available for per

usehold investment is Rs.1581, which would be too low to
ing a family above the poverty line.

13 District-wise Investment and Tribal population- A
Comparison (1985-86 to 1993-94)

Table 3.11
District wise Investment for Tribal Development and
Tribal Population of Districts- A comparison (1985-86
to 1993-94)

Name of Districts	Rs in lakhs		
	Aggregate Investment (Rs)	Total Population (1991 census)	Investment disproportionate to population
Thiruvananthapuram	482.81 (5.4)	16181 (5.0)	+108
Kollam	209.47 (2.4)	3884 (1.2)	+200
Pathanamthitta	219.02 (2.5)	6922 (2.2)	114
Alappuzha	85.02 (.01)	2801 (.01)	100
Kottayam	512.69 (5.8)	17996 (5.6)	104
Idukki	1413.85 (15.9)	50269 (15.7)	102
Ernakulam	127.49 (1.4)	4941 (1.5)	93
Thrissur	137.81 (1.6)	4051 (1.3)	123
Palakkad	1055.95 (11.9)	35465 (11.0)	108

0. Malappuram	424.00 (4.8)	10555 (3.2)	150
1. Kozhikode	290.23 (3.3)	5407 (1.7)	194
2. Kannur	462.81 (5.2)	18243 (5.7)	91
3. Wayanad	2807.43 (31.6)	114969 (35.8)	88
4. Kasargode	646.15 (7.2)	29283 (9.1)	79
Total	8875.56 (100)	320967 (100)	

Source: Compiled from the special Component Plan and Tribal Sub Plan - 1985-86 to 1993-94 Planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Note 1.: The total investment for Tribal development from 1985-86 to 1993-94 was Rs.10041 lakhs of which Rs.1161.44 lakh were invested by Scheduled Tribe Development Department directly. Since district-wise break-up for the above figure is not available, it is excluded from the calculation.

2. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to column total

Table 3.11 highlights that the northern districts of Kerala where more than 50 per cent of the tribal population are inhabited (50.6%) did not get their due share of investment. They got only 44 per cent of the total investment between 1985-86 to 1993-94. Kollam and Kozhikode districts, where comparatively less number of tribal population reside, get double the amount (200) what they deserve. The table points out that there is disproportionate investment for tribal development in the state. The data with respect to

sector-wise investment for tribal development is available only from 1987-88 to 1992-93 and an attempt is made to know the percentage of investment in each sector for tribal development.

3.14 Tribal Development- Sector-wise Investment in Kerala (1987-88to 1992-93)

Table 3.12 reveals that more than 50 per cent of the investment under Tribal Sub-Plan was in income generating areas like agriculture and industry. It is also observed that 23.65 per cent of the investment was for promoting social and community development of tribes. Only 6.1 per cent of the investment was spent for industrial development. The institutional investments were mostly for the educational development of tribes.

Sector-wise Investment on Tribal Development in Kerala

(1987-88 to 1992-93)

		Rs in lakhs						
Sl. No.	Sectors	1987-88	88-89	89-90	90-91	91-92	92-93	Total
1.	Agriculture & Allied Activities	344.9 (46.86)	419.0 (54.91)	518.5 (52.48)	484.17 (44.1)	661 (44.69)	858.3 (51.30)	3285.87 (48.77)
2.	Industrial Development	23.85 (3.24)	39.85 (5.22)	75.5 (7.64)	99.4 (9.05)	80.2 (5.42)	92 (5.50)	410.8 (6.1)
3.	Education	2.0 (.01)	--	--	--	13 (.10)	2.45 (0.15)	17.45 (0.26)
4.	Social & Community Development	224.25 (30.74)	165 (21.63)	200 (20.24)	189 (17.21)	404 (27.31)	411.15 (24.58)	1593.4 (23.65)
5.	Institutional Investment	141 (19.15)	139.15 (18.24)	194 (19.64)	325.43 (29.64)	320.8 (22.48)	309.1 (18.47)	1429.48 (21.22)
	Total	736 (100)	763 (100)	988 (100)	1098 (100)	1479 (100)	1673 (100)	6737 (100)

Note 1.: Institutional investment means investment made by the Scheduled Tribe Development Department, SC/ST Corporation, KIRTADS, Co-operative Department and Panchayat.

2. Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to column total

Source: Compiled from Special Component plan and Tribal Sub-Plan 1987-88 to 1992-93, planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

3.15 District-wise Incidence of Poverty

It is interesting to note that even after fifty years of planning and creation of a lot of institutions and programmes for tribal development, the tribal life is still miserable and pathetic. The incidence of poverty in tribal areas are very severe. They lead an inhuman life.

The district-wise incidence of poverty is given in Table 3.13.

Table 3.13

No. of Tribal Families living below Poverty Line

Sl.No.	District	Total No. of Tribal families	No. of ST families below poverty line	Poverty rate %
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	4059	2161	53.23
2.	Kollam	925	95	10.27
3.	Pathanamthitta	1647	722	43.83
4.	Alappuzha	651	47	7.21
5.	Kottayam	3999	749	18.72
6.	Idukki	11516	6422	55.76
7.	Ernakulam	1212	118	9.73
8.	Thrissur	967	430	44.46
9.	Malappuram	2363	1247	52.77
10.	Palakkad	8610	4571	53.08
11.	Wayanad	23287	14063	60.38

12.	Kozhikode	1215	288	23.70
13.	Kannur	3635	196	5.39
14.	Kasargode	5355	2555	47.71
Total		69441	33664	48.47

Note 1. :The above figures (poverty) are based on the Tribal family survey conducted by the Rural Development Department, Thiruvananthapuram in October 1991.

Table 3.13 points out that 48.47 per cent of the tribal population are still below poverty line even after a period of 40 years of planning. The incidence of poverty is very high in Wayanad District (60.38) where more than 35 per cent of the tribal population of the state inhabits. Of the total investment for tribal development more than 30 per cent was invested in Wayanad district, but it is clear that the investment was disproportionate to the actual population. Therefore it is imperative to examine the tribal development planning and change the schemes and programmes accordingly.

3.16 Tribal Development- Physical Targets and Achievements

Physical target for tribal development has started to be fixed from 1985-86 onwards. Each sectors will be given separate target for lifting the tribes above the poverty line. During 1992-93, 8,000 tribal families were targeted to cross the poverty line and for 1993-94, it was 5,918. But the real achievement was 71 per cent in 1992-93 and 94 per cent of the

target in 1993-94¹². The sectors through which the families have crossed the poverty line is presented in Table 3.14.

Table 3.14
Sectors through which the Families Crossed the
Poverty line - 1992-93 & 93-94

Sl.No.	Sectors	No. of families crossed poverty line	
		1992-93	93-94
1.	Agriculture	244 (4.3)	253 (4.6)
2.	Land Board	50 (.01)	59 (.02)
3.	Animal husbandry	307 (5.4)	375 (6.8)
4.	Dairy Development	204 (3.6)	210 (3.8)
5.	Fisheries	374 (6.6)	248 (4.5)
6.	Rural Development	1853 (32.7)	1845 (33.5)
7.	Khadi & Village industries	366 (6.5)	645 (11.6)
8.	Industries & Commerce	933 (16.5)	839 (15.5)
9.	MD. KSDC for SC/ST	415 (7.3)	240 (4.4)
10.	ST. Development Department	913 (16.1)	847 (15.2)
		5659 (100)	5561 (100)

Source : Government of Kerala (1995), Annual Review on SCP and TSP and Special Central Assistance, 1992-93 and 1993-94, Planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Note : Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to column total

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Source : Government of Kerala (1995), Annual Review on SCP and TSP and Special Central Assistance for 1985-86 to 1993-94, Planning and Economic Affairs (c) Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.14 points out that Agriculture and allied activities have directly helped only 1179 families to cross poverty line during 1992-93. It has again decreased to 1145 families in the subsequent year 1993-94. While comparing the investment in agriculture and allied activities, the level of achievement seems to be very poor. Though planners give much importance to the production aspect, they failed to give any importance on the marketing of the produce of tribes. It may force the tribe to market their produce through the unscrupulous traders and they may thus fall prey to innumerable tactics of exploitation of such traders.

3.17 Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP)

Considering the peculiar nature of the Scheduled Tribes Concentration and to ensure effective co-ordination of development programmes, Integrated Tribal Development Projects were started during the fifth five year plan. The first ITDP project in the state was started in Attappady in Palakkad district by converting the then Tribal Development Block Attappady. Subsequently four more ITD project viz. Punalur, Idukki, Nilambur and Mananthavady were formed. Out of the total Scheduled Tribe population 40.47 per cent was covered by these projects. All the ITD projects except Attappady were spread over more than two or more revenue district and this naturally created several administrative problems. More over majority of the Scheduled Tribes could not enjoy the benefits

under ITD projects as they were outside the project area and were treated as dispersed tribes.

During 1989-90, the ITD projects and field level offices were reconstituted. Since then seven ITD projects and seven Tribal Development officers have been functioning in the state. The ITD projects are (1) Nedumangadu (Thiruvananthapuram) (2) Idukki (3) Nilambur (4) Kanjirapally (5) Attappady (6) Kalpetta and (7) Kannur. Idukki and Wayanad districts were exclusively covered under ITD project area. Since the highest scheduled tribe concentration is in Wayanad district, three offices are functioning there viz, project office Kalpetta and tribal development offices at Sultan Battery and Mananthavady. In the re-organised arrangements 84.46 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes in the state is covered under ITD project, while under the erstwhile projects it was only 40.47 per cent. The total area covered under ITD project is 11961 sq. km (30.78%). The details of scheduled tribe population in ITD projects and total area covered are shown in Table 3.15.

Table 3.15
ITD Projects and the Area Covered

Sl. No.	Name of ITDP	ST. population (1991 census)	% of ST population to that of total STs in the district	Area Under ITDP (Sq.km)	% to the total area of the district (sq. km)
1.	Nedumangadu	13976	86.37	1098	50.09
2.	Kanjirappally	13874	77.09	625	28.36
3.	Idukki	50269	100	4998	100
4.	Attappady	24228	68.32	827	18.46
5.	Nilambur	9046	85.70	1429	40.28
6.	Wayanad	114969	100	2132	100
7.	Kannur	13449	73.72	852	28.43
Total		239811	84.46	11961	30.78

Source : Government of Kerala, (1994), Tribal Sub-Plan Annual Plan 1995-96, Directorate of Schedule Tribes Development, Thiruvananthapuram.

Out of the 48 Tribal Extension Offices, 34 are in the Project area. Except the Wayanad District all the other Tribal Development offices are functioning for the dispersed tribes. Tribal Development offices are functioning at Punalur, Ranni, Muvattupuzha, Sultan Battery, Mananthavady, Thamarassery and Kasargod. The Tribal development officer, Punalur is in charge of Kollam and Alappuzha districts and the Tribal Development officer, Muvattupuzha is in charge of Ernakulam and Trichur Districts. Tribal Development office at Sultan Battery and Mananthavady are in Wayanad district and are in the project areas.

3.18 Markets

The marketing facilities in ITDP area are not developed. The distance of market places from the tribal hamlets is depicted in Table-3.16.

Table 3.16
Marketing facilities in ITDP area

ITDP	Percentage of hamlets			Total
	Within 1. km	1 to 5km	Above 5 km	
Punalur	8	33	59	100
Idukki	3	17	80	100
Nilambur	-	9	91	100
Attappady	5	21	74	100
Mananthavady	6	20	74	100

Source : Government of Kerala (1988), Tribal Sub Plan 1985-90 and 1988-89 (Revised), Directorate of Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Thiruvananthapuram.

Table 3.16 clearly indicates that 75 per cent of the hamlets are away from the vicinity of marketing places. It creates problems for tribes to market their produces at remunerative prices. About 75 per cent of the total tribal population of the state are covered by ITD Projects but they don't have adequate facilities to market their produce in the state.

3.19 Institutions Engaged in Tribal Development and Tribal Produce Marketing

Apart from 25 departments which carry out the various tribal development programmes, a lot of state level institutions are also set up to carry out the tribal development programmes. They are.

1. The Department of Scheduled Tribes Development.
2. Committee of the Kerala Legislative Assembly.
3. Tribal Advisory Board.
4. The Kerala State Development Corporation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
5. Kerala Institute for Research Training and Development Studies of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
6. The Kerala State Federation of SC/ST Development co-operatives and
7. The National level organisation TRIFED.

Among these various institutional setup, the study revealed that the Department of Scheduled Tribes Development, Committee of Kerala Legislative Assembly, Tribal Advisory Board, The Kerala State Development Corporation for SCs and STs, The Kerala Institute for Research, Training and Development studies of SC and STs (KIRTADS), and The Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED) do not play any decisive role in the marketing of tribal produces in

our state. Though the scheme proposed by the SC/ST Corporation covers assistance for co-operative setup mainly in the form of participation in the share capital of TCS, the study revealed that the Corporation so far does not make any contribution to the NTFP collecting societies of the state. It also did not make any attempt to market the produce of tribes.

Though the corporation was started with high hopes of giving assistance to SC/ST in different fields, they were not fulfilled to the extent expected. Still more than 50 per cent of the tribes remains unemployed. Though the tribes can collect different NTFP's from forest, still it is marketed through non-formal channel without undertaking any processing activities. The processing activities can definitely enhance employment opportunities of tribes. The Corporation and other organisations for tribal development together can take a leading role in this regard.

TRIFED as a national level organisation has registered under the Multi-purpose Societies Act 1984 with the prime objective of improving the tribal community by helping them to market their produces. Full utilisation of natural products, its marketability in an organised effort, higher earnings and larger employment opportunities for tribal population, bringing all NTFPs under co-operative marketing channel etc. are listed as the major objectives of TRIFED.

But it is observed the role played by this national level institution in Kerala is almost nil. The SC/ST Federation does not have proper linkage with TRIFED. As a result the possibility of marketing the produces outside Kerala and the export potentials are beyond the reach of the Federation. Hence in most of the time, the SC/ST Federation is forced to market NTFPs at a throw away price to private traders and tribes are becoming the victims of the organised institutional arrangement.

While examining the research work of KIRTADS, one could very well come to know that little effort has been made to examine the marketing side of tribes. Most of the studies are related to anthropological, cultural and social milieu of tribes.

3.19.1 The Kerala State Federation of Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribes Development Co-operatives Ltd., Thiruvananthapuram. (SC/ST Federation)

The SC/ST Federation registered on 22-7-1981 as a co-operative society with limited liability started functioning at Thiruvananthapuram on 7-4-1982. It is an apex body for all the SC/ST societies affiliated to the federation in the state. As on 30-6-1992, 84 TCS and Sheduled Caste societies have been affiliated to SC/ST Federation. The object of this federation is to provide integrated credit and

services through its member societies in an effective and co-ordinated manner for improving the socio-economic conditions of SCs and STs. To achieve the above objectives, about 18¹³ functions have been earmarked by the federation. Till 1987 the Federation has advanced loans to SC/ST societies for setting up of consumer stores, Sahakarana Maveli Stores, Integrated Rural Development Schemes, Reed based handicrafts etc., but factors as non repayment of the amount collected by TCS in time and the resultant financial crunch in the organisation forced them to confine their main activity only to the collection and marketing of NTFP through its selected TCS in the state. NTFP advance and NTFP stock advance are the two types of financial assistance extended by the federation to these TCS to facilitate the collection and marketing of NTFP in the state. However the Federation is now facing a very heavy over due situation which is given in table .

3.19.1.1 Board of Management

Though the SC/ST federation was registered in 1981, till now it is managed by nominated members. The Board consists of the Minister for Co-operation as Chairman, the secretaries to Co-operation and SC/ST development, Registrar of co-operative societies, Chief conservator of forests,

13 Government of Kerala, (1986), Tribal Sub-Plan of Kerala 1985-90 and 1986-87, ST. Development Department Thiruvananthapuram, p.43.