

Tribal Development and Forest Resources Management: Hindsights from Kerala

V. Gopalakrishnan Asari

*Population Research Centre, University of Kerala, Kariavattom P.O., Trivandrum 695 581,
Kerala, India*

KEYWORDS Resources. Forest. Development. Tribal. Kerala

ABSTRACT The problem analyzed in this paper is how to reckon with the problem of tribal development and that of the conservation of forest ecology. Using forest survey data 1991 the problems of Tribal Development has been analyzed, which show that more than fifty percent of tribals still depend on forest resources for their livelihood. But most of them are poverty stricken. Unemployment among the tribals is a major problem, even among the agriculture labourers who form bulk of the economically active population. Housing conditions are poor. Safe drinking water scarcity is acute. Diseases are widely prevalent. Primitive tribes are not settled yet. The Joint Forest Resources Management cannot become successful without providing the basic development means to the tribals residing in forests. The programmes of conservation of forests and environmental stability are to be integrated with the programmes of tribal development.