

Fertility Profile of A Primitive Tribe, Madhya Pradesh

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ABSTRACT In this paper, an attempt has been made to present the socio-economic aspects and demographic characteristic indicating specially fertility of Saharia tribe of Madhya Pradesh. Saharia have been scheduled as one of the seven primitive tribes of the state (74 in India). The major findings of the study reveal that they are the members of traditional society and their literacy rate (23.2 percent) as well as socio-economic status is deplorable low. Taking into consideration about their marital status, it has been noticed that most of the women are to be married at very early age (14.0 ± 0.80 years mean age). A large number of women have been categorized under poor health status and proper clinic facility is unavailable throughout the area. Still birth rate, infant mortality rate and child mortality rate are high. Acceptance of family planning methods is almost nil. So, illiteracy, low socio-economic status, early age at marriage, poor health status of women, unavailability of proper health care facility, still birth, infant and child mortality, non-acceptance of family planning devices, etc. are the attributed reasons which influence their high child-women ratio, crude birth rate, general fertility rate, age specific fertility rate, total fertility rate, gross reproduction rate, mean age of child bearing, general marital fertility rate, age specific marital fertility rate, total fertility rate and gross reproduction rate of women in wed-lock. At the end, few suggestions have been made for implementing under long time multi-stages future development policies which will not only improve their entire socio-economic life but also motivate them in a better fertility behaviour.

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