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**Indigenous Planning For Tribal Communities, - A Case Of Vithura Panchayat, Thiruvananthapuram District.**

About 55 percent of the country's tribal population now resides outside their traditional habitats as per Tribal health in India report by Union Ministry of Health and Family welfare. As per Census 2011, there is a 32 percent decline in the number of villages with 100 percentage tribal population between 2001 and 2011. About 66 percent of the tribal population still survives on primary forest related agriculture and livelihood sources. But, when displaced due to natural causes or man-made interventions, there is a disruption in their indigenous lifestyle and livelihood patterns. Moreover, the gaps between their actual needs and areas of intervention by authorities cause their problems to further escalate.

In Vithura Panchayat, a large percentage of tribal population belongs to Kani Tribal group. Their living conditions and housing has deteriorated over time. There is an immediate need for planned intervention for betterment of their infrastructure and livelihood. The literature study mainly focused on Institutional mechanisms, Schemes and Funding sources that can be incorporated in their betterment. A detailed situational analysis of the delineated Podiyakkala settlement and their socio-economic status gave insight into their culture and livelihood profiles. Considerable changes in their settlement pattern and deteriorating living conditions were the major observations.

The proposals were therefore focused on the revival of their lost identity while providing the basic necessities for their social and economic upliftment. The study thus concludes that the right balance between conservation of their culture and development can help in achieving Indigenous Planning of Tribal communities.

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