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CAN ADIVASI MOVEMENTS BRING AWARENESS AMONG THEM

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ABSTRACT

The debate on tribal self-rule has brought in new terms of discourse in Adivasis politics. The issue has created an environment among the Adivasis and mobilized themselves on new lines - all non-party political mobilization. The tribal rights protection forums and protest groups like Adivasi Sangheebhava Committee, Adivasi Girigana Hakkula Porata Samithi, Bharat Jan Andloan, Gondwana Singharasha Sdamithi, Girijana Hakkula Sadana Committee have extended their total support to the struggles and acted as the genuine supporters for the formation of an umbrella förum called "THUDUM DEBBA. The public meetings of Thudum Debba were attended by large gatherings of Adivasis in several pockets all over the scheduled areas of the state. Some meetings are attended by huge gatherings numbering around one lakh people, Issues revised by the Thudum Debba since January 1996 include categories of STS into ABCD groups to ensure equity and social justice implementation of the Land Transfer Regulation Act, implementation of Bhurria Committee Report and self-rule and application of the sixth scheduled to the tribal area in the state. Unlike in the past articulation, the markable shift in the Adivasi concerns that there has been growingly a new set of demands began to take shape. Several political parties are compelled to acknowledge the concerns of tribal demands raised above their strict party frameworks. Recent parliament elections where in Bhadrachalam, Thudum Debba have revealed the strength of Adivasi mobilization; however, limited it can reflect the impact of Adivasi politics compared to electoral games played by party systems. Adivasi mobilization is centered around local issues covering natural resources and self-rule. Mr. Thurram Veeraiah Dora, one of the activists of Bhadrachalam Constituency, says stopping the proposed Polavaram dam is as crucial as the implementation of the Central Act on tribal self-rule explaining the issues of the campaign for the elections as a means for building movement to ensure implementation of the essence of self-rule.

KEYWORDS: Discourse in Adivasis Politics, Adivasi Mass Mobilizations

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