

De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of Rajasthan: An Overview

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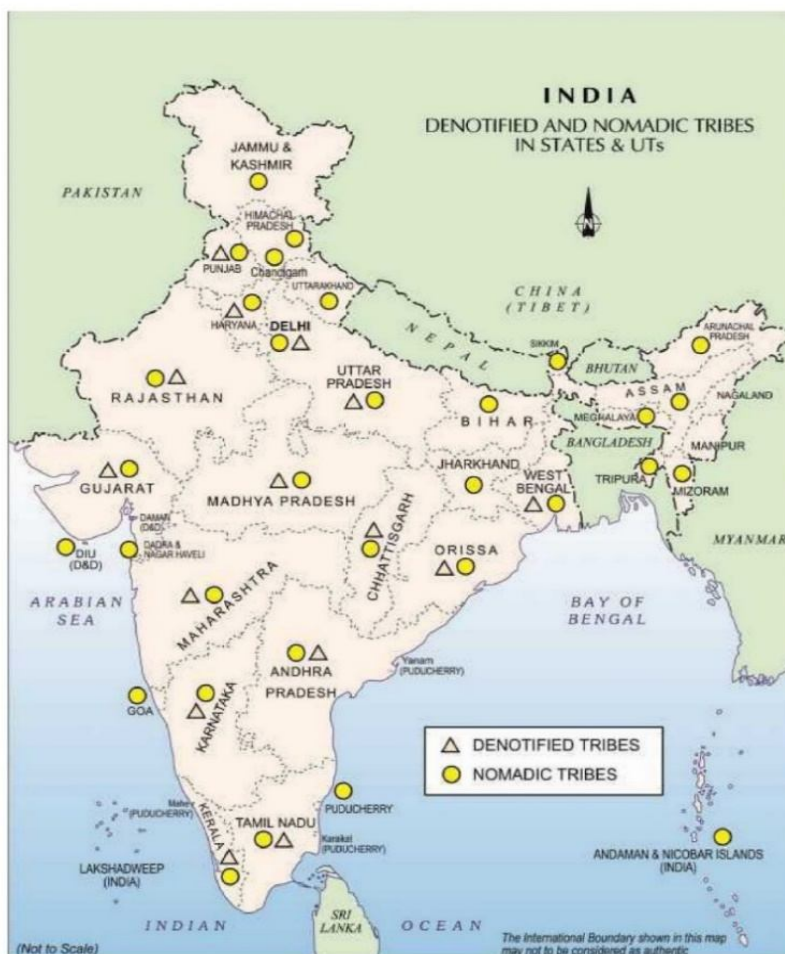
An Introduction of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes: The De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes are very important part in several countries of the whole world. These tribes are an integral part of India and Indian societies.

There is very less information available about the different aspects on De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes. History of each individual tribes is not existing yet. There is the scarcity of their literature.

The history of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes in India is very old. There are

about 500 registered De-notified. Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes are living in India. They are the seven to ten per cent of total population of country. De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribal groups are most neglected, suppressed and oppressed communities in India.

The De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes did not categorise properly in central and state list. They belonged to OBC, SC, ST and None (not described in any category)



in different state as well as in Centre. So, most of them are not able to take proper benefit of development policies and schemes.

Tribes in Rajasthan: Rajasthan is a home of numerous tribal groups and communities. They constitute about 13.5% of total population of Rajasthan. The Different communities and castes who belong to the Rajasthan make the distinct culture. Rajasthan is known for its cultural heritage and the unity in diversity. Each community specially the tribal communities of Rajasthan have their own culture, fairs, festivals, customs, costumes and way of livelihood. They have distinct culture for that they are very famous in worldwide or abroad. In Rajasthan, the tribes are divided into four categories as

1. Scheduled Tribes
2. De-notified Tribes
3. Nomadic Tribes
4. Semi-Nomadic Tribes

Scheduled Tribes: An Indigenous people or communities who officially considered as socially disadvantaged and backward comes under the category of Scheduled tribe in India. These people are previously untouchables in India. These tribes are enabled for incentives and reservation policies and schemes.

The term first appeared in the Constitution of India and its Article 366 (25) defined it as such tribal communities of group of people within such tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this constitution. They consider Scheduled Tribes because they included in one of the Schedule of the Indian Constitution. In Rajasthan there are more than 10 Scheduled Tribes are listed as

List No. 1

Scheduled Tribes of Rajasthan

Bhil	Meena	Bhil Mina	Damor	Garasia	Sahariya
Dhanla	Kathodi	Kokna	Koli	Nayaka	Patelia

De-notified Tribes: The tribes that was originally listed under the Criminal Tribes Act (1871) considered as Criminal Tribes. In colonial period these tribes were labelled as Criminal tribes and have been seen with doubt, hatred and suspicion way. Later, the Criminal

Tribes Act 1952 repealed the notification and these tribes became De-notified Tribal communities. Even though in independent India the 1952 Act was cancelled but the stigma of criminality remains for De-notified Tribes. They are living like the marginalised segments from the mainstream society.

According to the different lists made by state, centre and commission (2008) the name of several communities of De-notified tribes are as following

List No. 2**The List of De-Notified Tribes made by Rajasthan State and sent to NCDNT, 2008**

S.No	De-Notified Tribes	Whether SC	Or ST	Or OBC	Or None
1.	Baori, Badri	✓			
2.	Kanjar	✓			
3.	Sansi	✓			
4.	Bagri, Bawaria	✓			
	Jagri			✓	
5.	Mogia			✓	
6.	Nut	✓			
7.	Naik				✓
8.	Multanis			✓	
9.	Bhat			✓	

Source: NCDNT (2008), Vol. 2, Page-193

List No. 3**Database of De-notified People of Rajasthan**

S. No.	Name of the De-notified Communities	Status in Government. Notification
1	Bhil	ST List Sl. No.1
2	Bhil Mina	ST List Sl. No.2
3	Dhanka, Tadv, Tetapia Valvi	ST List Sl. No.4
4	Mina	ST List Sl. No.9
5	Naikda, Nayak(Naik)	ST List Sl. No.10
6	Aheri	SC List Sl.No.1
7	Baori	SC List Sl.No.9
8	Bargo, Vargi, Biragi	SC List Sl.No.10
9	Bawaria	SC List Sl.No.11
10	Bedia, Beria	SC List Sl. No.12.
11	Chamar	SC List Sl. No.17
12	Domme, Dom	SC List Sl.No.24
13	Gandia	SC List Sl.No.25
14	Kanjar, Kunjar	SC List Sl.No.33
15	Kapadia, Sansi	SC List Sl.No.34
16	Khatik	SC List Sl. No.36

17	Kooch Band, Kuch Band	SC List Sl.No.38
18	Mang Garodi, Mang Garudi	SC List Sl.No.41
19	Nat	SC List Sl.No.48
20	Pasi	SC List Sl.No.49
21	Sansi	SC List Sl.No.52
22	Banjara Laman	OBC List Sl.No.5
23	Gujar, Gurjar	OBC List Sl.No.20
24	Jogi, Nath	OBC List Sl.No.24
25	Lodha, Lodh, Lodhi	OBC List Sl.No.33
26	Mogia (Mogya)	OBC List Sl. No. 39
27	Odd	OBC List Sl. No. 42

Source: Sharma, A. South Asian Nomads- A Literature Review (2011), Page-84-85

List No. 4

Draft list of De-notified Tribes of Rajasthan prepared by the collection of information from different sources

S.No.	De-notified Tribes	Sources
1	Baori, Badri	Renke Commission-2008 & also in the list sent by State -2016
2	Kanjar	Renke Commission-2008 & also in the list sent by State -2016
3	Sansi	Renke Commission-2008 & also in the list sent by State -2016
4	Bagri, Bawaria	Renke Commission-2008 & also in the list sent by State -2016
5	Mogia	Renke Commission-2008 & also in the list sent by State -2016
6	Nut	Renke Commission-2008 & also in the list sent by State -2016
7	Naik	Renke Commission-2008 & also in the list sent by State -2016
8	Multains	Renke Commission-2008 & also in the list sent by State -2016
9	Bhat	Renke Commission-2008 & also in the list sent by State -2016
10	Lodha/Lodhi	Community Leader, Sri Laxmi Narayan Singh Lodhi (Dada)
11	Banjara	Mahasveta Devi (2003)
12	Bhil	Mahasveta Devi (2003)
13	Bijoria	Mahasveta Devi (2003)
14	Nayak	Mahasveta Devi (2003)

Some other communities along with above 14 are also listed in De-notified Tribes are below-

Baldias (Banjaras)	Khurpalts	Pardhis	Ghisadi	Agamnaths	Masanis
Gadias Lohars	Shikkaligar	Dombaris	Girinaths	Namanths	
Jogi Kanphate	Jogi Kalbelia	Iranis	Ajaipals	Jalandhars	

Source: Draft list of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of India (Govt. of India), Page 41-42

List No. 5

Synonyms of De-notified Tribes of Rajasthan

S.No.	Names of the Denotified Tribes as intimated by Govt. of Rajasthan	* Synonyms
1.	Baori (Badri)	Bavari
2.	Kanjar	
3.	Sansi	Sansi Kapadia, Kapdia Sansi, Kapadia
4.	Bagri (Jagri/Bawaria)	Bagdi, Baori
5.	Mogia	Mungia
6.	Nut	Nat, Raj Nat, Bhanmati
7.	Naik	
8.	Multanis	
9.	Bhat	Baldiya Bhat, Banjara Bhat

Source: NCDNT (2008), Vol. 2, Page-402

Nomadic Tribes: Thirty to forty million nomads are living in the world presently. The origin of the word nomads is from the Greek term ‘Nemo’ it refers ‘to pasture’. The different group of people define it in several ways such as, the nomads is a group of people who did not live at a place for the long. They found travelling with their families for the basic things of livelihood. They called Gypsies in European countries.

According to some group of anthropologists the nomads divided into two categories-

1. Pastoral Nomads
2. Non-Pastoral Nomads

Or

1. Subsistence Nomads like- Bharwads, Dhangars, Todas, Gavlis etc.
2. Non-Subsistence Nomads like- Lamans, Vadars, Madaris, Gosavis etc.

According to some another group of anthropologists the nomads are divided into three categories-

1. Hunter-Gatherer
2. Pastoral Nomads
3. Peripatetic Nomads

According to the different lists made by state, centre and commission (2008) the name of several communities of Nomadic tribes are as following

List No. 6**The List of Nomadic Tribes made by Rajasthan State and sent to NCDNT, 2008**

S.No	Nomadic Tribes	Whether SC	Or ST	Or OBC	Or None
1.	Baldias (Banjaras)			✓	
2.	Pardhis				✓
3.	Domabaris				✓
4.	Gadia Lohars			✓	
5.	Iranis				✓
6.	Jogi Kalbelia	✓			
7.	Jogi Kanphata				✓
8.	Khurpalts (Kulphaltas)				✓
9.	Shikkaligar			✓	
10.	Ghisadis				✓

Source: NCDNT (2008), Vol. 2, Page-192

List No. 7**Database of Nomadic People of Rajasthan**

S. No.	Name of the Community	Status in Government. Notification
1	Badi	SC List Sl.No.3
2	Bagri, Bagdi	SC List Sl.No.4
3	Bajgar	SC List Sl.No.6
4	Kalbelia, Sapera	SC List Sl.No.31
5	Madari, Bazigar	SC List Sl. No.40
6	Ahir (Yadav)	OBC List Sl. No.1
7	Badwa, Bhat, Rao	OBC List, Sl. No. 2
8	Dhivar, Kanar, Bhoi	OBC List, Sl. No. 14
9	Gadaria (Gadri, Gaddi, Ghosi)	OBC List, Sl. No. 15
10	Gadia Lohar	OBC List, Sl. No. 16
11	Raika, Rebari	OBC List, Sl. No. 44

Source: Sharma, A. South Asian Nomads- A Literature Review (2011), Page-85

List No. 8

Draft list of Nomadic Tribes of Rajasthan made by the collection of information from the Rajasthan State in 2016

Badi	Bedia, Beria	Garasia	Jogi Nath	Madari, Bazigar	Odd
Bagri	Gawaria/Gwariya	Gavaria	Kalbelia, Sapera	Mang Garudi	Rawal
Baori	Champta/Chamta	Bhand	Kangigar	Ghihara	Sanchia
Bawaria	Dhivar, Kahar, Bhoi	Mangnyar Muslim	Kooch Band, Kuchband	Mirasi (Muslim)	Santia, Satia
Bajgar	Garo, Garoda	Ghosi (Muslim)	Kanjar	Mongia (Mogya)	Singiwala
Bansphor, Banphod	Gadaria (Gadni), Gaddi, Ghosi (Gvala)	Jogi, Kanipa	Langa	Nat	Sindhi Meher (Muslim), Meher

Source: Draftlist of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of India (Govt. of India), Page 41-42

List No. 9

Synonyms of Nomadic Tribes of Rajasthan

S.No.	Names of the Nomadic Tribes as intimated by Govt. of Rajasthan	*Synonyms
1.	Baldias (Banjaras)	Banjare, Bamnia, Labana
2.	Pardhis	
3.	Domabaris	Dombari
4.	Gadia Lohars	Gadia, Gadia Luhar, Damkutia, Lohkutia
5.	Iranis	
6.	Jogi Kalbelia	Jogi Kanipa

Source: NCDNT (2008), Vol. 2, Page-402

Semi-Nomadic Tribes:The group of people who move from one place to another not permanently but generally they move according to the seasons and habitually follow a traditional circuit and route for livelihood.

According to the different lists made by state, centre and commission (2008) the name of several communities of Semi-Nomadic tribes are as following

List No. 10

The List of Semi-Nomadic Tribes made by Rajasthan State and sent to NCDNT, 2008

S.No.	<u>Semi-Nomadic Tribes</u>	Whether SC	Or ST	Or OBC	Or None
1.	Sarangiwala -Bhopas				✓
2.	Rebaris			✓	
3.	Raths				✓
4.	Mangalias				✓
5.	Bhayas				✓
6.	Kannis				✓
7.	Janglus				✓
8.	Jalukus				✓
9.	Jhangs				✓
10.	Sindlus				✓
11.	Jogis (Other than those included in Nomadic Tribes)			✓	
	(i) Girinaths				✓
	(ii) Ajaipals				✓
	(iii) Agamnaths				✓
	(iv) Namanths				✓
	(v) Jalandhars				✓
	(vi) Masanis				✓
12.	Ramaswamies				✓
13.	Bharaddi- Jadhavs				✓

Source: NCDNT (2008), Vol. 2, Page-192

List No. 11

Draft list of Semi-Nomadic Tribes of Rajasthan made by the collection of information from the Rajasthan State in 2016

Sarangiwala-Bhopas	Raths	Mangalias	Jhangs	Jalukus
Bharaddi-Jadhavs	Kannis	Bhayas	Sindlus	Robaris
Ramaswamies	Jogis	Janglus		

Source: Draft list of De-notified Tribes, Nomadic Tribes and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of India (Govt. of India), Page-42

Some other lists of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of Rajasthan presented below-

List No. 12

The List of De-notified and Nomadic Tribes prepared by NCDNT, 2008

S.No	Nomadic Tribes	Whether SC	Or ST	Or OBC	Or None
1.	Badi	✓			
2.	Bagri *	✓			
3.	Baori *	✓			
4.	Bawaria *	✓			
5.	Bajgar	✓			
6.	Bansphor, Banphod	✓			
7.	Bedia, Beria	✓			
8.	Bhand	✓			
9.	Champta/Chamta				✓
10.	Dhivar, Kahar, Bhoi			✓	
11.	Garo, Garoda	✓			
12.	Gadari a(Gadri), Gaddi, hosi(Gvala),			✓	
13.	Garasi a		✓		
14.	Gavari a	✓			
15.	Gawaria/ Gwariya				✓
16.	Ghihara				✓
17.	Ghosi (Muslim)				✓
18.	Jogi, Kanipa				✓
19.	Jogi Nath			✓	
20.	Kalbelia, Sapera	✓			
21.	Kangigar				✓
22.	Kanjar *	✓			
23.	Kooch Band, Kuchband	✓			
24.	Langa				✓
25.	Madari, Bazigar	✓			
26.	Mang Garudi	✓			
27.	Mangnyar Muslim				✓
28.	Mirasi (Muslim)			✓	
29.	Mogia (Mogya) *			✓	
30.	Nat *	✓			
31.	Odd			✓	
32.	Rawal	✓			
33.	Sanchia				✓
34.	Santia, Satia	✓			
35.	Sindhi Meher (Muslim), Meher				✓
36.	Singiwala	✓			

Note: The inclusion of the * mark against certain communities indicates that those communities are listed as De-Notified Tribes by the State. **Source: NCDNT (2008), Vol. 2, Page-354-55**

List No. 13

According to The Criminal Tribes Act Enquiry Committee (Ayyangar Committee) (1949-50), the list of Criminal Tribes of Rajasthan is below

Baori	Minas	Sansis	Mogias	Multannis
Baoris	Bhils	Banjaras	Nat	Bhats
Sansi	Kanjars	Bagias	Naiks	

Source: Draftlist of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of India (Govt. of India) Page-62-63

List No. 14

According to the Rajasthan State, the list of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes which have not been included in the list of SC, ST and OBC

De-Notified Tribes	Naik					
Nomadic Tribes (As per Raj. State)	Pardhis	Domobans	Iranis	Jogi Kanphata	Ghisadis	Khurpals
Nomadic Tribes (As per Renke Report)	Champta/Chamta	Gawana/Gwaiya	Ghihara	Ghosi	Mangnyar Muslim	Sindhi Meher (Muslim), Meher
	Kangigar	Langa	Sanchia			
Semi-Nomadic Tribes	Sarangiwala-Bhopas	Raths	Kannis	Jhangs	Ajaipals	Jakanthars
	Ramaswamies	Mangalias	Janglus	Sindlus	Agamnaths	Masanis
	Bharaddi-Jadhavs	Bhayas	Jalukus	Girrnaths	Namanths	

Source: Draftlist of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of India (Govt. of India), Page 69-70

After seen the above lists of the several communities of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of Rajasthan comes out from different sources indicates that these communities did not have proper categorisation either in state or centre. There is no clear-cut definition of words of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes of Rajasthan.

The Status of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of Rajasthan: The contemporary status of the most of families of the De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes of Rajasthan analysed here.

The people from these communities are facing the problems for basic amenities like *Roti*, *Kapada* and *Makan*, and Toilets, water, electricity etc. Child marriage is very common among them. Most of them did not have permanent settlements and houses so they are living in tents, jhuggies, semi-pucca, hut, etc. they have huge families as 10 to 20 members in one

family. They live in waste land, or edge of the villages in towns. Their habitations are located at roadsides, pavements, slums, under the bridges, fringes of villages and along with the highways in the cities and urban areas. These communities do not have their own land. So, they do not have rights on their living place. They use government land, space near to garbage dumps, railways, roadways, rivers, streams, slums etc. Each community from these tribes live individually and far from another community of these tribes rather than together.

The traditional occupations of these tribes are puppetry, artisans, musicians, singing, dancing, snake charming, hunting, handicrafts, fortune telling, healing, wage labourers (agricultural and non-agricultural labourers), bonded labourers, private services, garbage segregation, acrobatics, menial works, cultivation, herding, foraging, traders and begging etc. Nowadays their children can be seen along with the parents perform on the roads in cities/towns. They depend on the unorganized sectors for wage employment because of illiteracy, stigma of criminality, continuous mobility or the nomadic lifestyle etc.

Some of the communities from the De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes owning livestock and had symbiotic strong relationship with the landowning communities for utilising their land and other property resources for herding and grazing their cattle's. Mostly they have goat, sheep, camel, dog, cat, hen, rabbit but some of them have buffalos, cows, horses, oxen, pigs etc. These tribes losing their customary rights to graze their livestock in common, public, government lands and forests because of the different forest laws and acts.

In India the ownership of land considered a very important part and a source of sustainability, permanency and livelihood or a permanent income source. But most of the communities from these tribes did not have any land ownership and any form of land. Because of that they are deprived from welfare programmes as well as citizenry rights.

They have very low social, economic, political and educational status. Most of their traditional skills to earn or their traditional skills could not be utilised to earn livelihood in present time or in the era of mechanization.

These tribes are very far from education and they have very low literacy. They are facing several problems and not able to utilise the quotas and different facilities provided by the government. Their basic problems like lower education status or illiteracy, lower income sources, poverty, not much share in political power and administrative mechanism etc. have been depriving them from empowerment and development.

The all families of these tribes did not have different identity cards as ration card, caste certificate, voter I.D. card etc. so they are not able to take the benefits of different schemes as without ration card they are not able to take benefit of public distribution system (PDS). Without caste certificate they are not able to take the benefit of reservations and different developments. Not having the fixed place to live they are not able to take the different identity cards because they did not have proper residence proof, absence of birth certificates, stigma of criminality on their caste name, lower status in society etc. are making problems to them. Most of the people from these community have voter identity card it gives the right to a citizen for participating in local democratic processes but they did not much aware about it that what are the benefits of this card and they can be the part of Indian politics. After having the card, they are far from its benefits.

The women in De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes are working very hard as they are fetching water, cooking, washing clothes, trading cattle, taking care of children, fetching fuel and fodder etc. After all these they are playing a major role in their family income as well. Some communities from these tribes give preference to girl child and other communities give the preference to the male child. The communities who giving preference to girl child are Bagria, Pardhi, Ganga Reddula, Yanadi, Nakkala, Yerukula, Pusala, Jangam, Nari Kuravar, Koravar, Konar etc.

Conclusion: After about 70 years of formal eradication of punitive restrictions, discrimination, stigma, humiliation and renunciation of basic rights continue. The years of deprivation and poverty affect their lives in present time as well. The struggle of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes for Basic amenities showing their poverty and how they are living below the poverty line.

The De-notified, Nomadic and Semi Nomadic Tribes are untouched traditionally of social, cultural, economic and political rights. Their very low educational status is one of the main barrier in their empowerment and development. Their children are not going schools yet. It can be said that their historical injustice is still affecting them.

They are not only considered untouchables, but they occupy lowermost positions in the social hierarchy. The reason of vulnerabilities among the De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic tribes are due to non-availability of land, access to grazing land for livestock, diminishing traditional occupation or livelihood opportunities and scarcity of daily basis wage or wage employment.

Mostly the Nomadic tribes prefer to live in urban areas because they find their earnings near the cities. De-notified tribes prefer to live in rural areas because they have their earning sources in villages, in forests or in waste land. The Semi-Nomadic tribes live in villages because they have cattle's and for their herding, they must live near to the villages.

Suggestions: These tribal groups are requiring the help of academicians, activists, media, government and many more should focus and highlight their issues to their empowerment and overall development and to bring out them from their existing conditions and situations as poverty and deprivation. Their participation in political activities is also needed to mobilize themselves and advocate for their basic rights.

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