



An overview of a tribal development programmes: in Madhya Pradesh state

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Abstract

The tribals constitute a significant portion of Indian population. Most of the areas inhabited by the tribals are remote and underdeveloped. The tribals live mostly in isolated villages or hamlets. There are innumerable constraints responsible for lower pace of tribal development process than desired. The tribals have been given numerous rights and concessions under various statutes of Central as well as State Governments but they remain deprived of the benefits arising out of such statutory provisions due to their ignorance and apathy of enforcing agencies. There exists lack of awareness among tribal population about various developmental programmes launched by Government of India, and States, resulting in their exploitation. In spite of the efforts made by the Government, the benefits are not reaching to the needy poor people. The present study is an attempt to present the different dimensions relating to tribal development policy adopted by the Government of India.

Keywords: Tribals, Development programmes, Policies, Scheduled Tribes

Introduction

The planning of state is a crucial component of any development brought about in society particularly among tribal population, as they are the most backward communities in India. The term 'development' is a universally cherished goal of individuals, families, communities and nations all over the world. The word "development" indicates the overall improvement in the quality of life. However, development in tribal regions has remained a challenge since time immemorial. Development is subjective and value loaded, there cannot be a consensus on its meaning. Initiative to development and change has come to be regarded as an urgent and pressing national responsibility. A large number of governmental and non-governmental agencies are involved in this endeavor. In the Indian context, a tribe is a stable, endogamous community with a distinct cultural and psychological makeup; going back into interaction with other sections of society and its exposure to the mainstream of national life. Various tribal groups are at different stages of development.

Nevertheless, the battle of isolation and assimilation has affected tribal communities, thus obstructing the implementation of tribal development programmes. It was understood that the progress of social development can be observed in the form of empowerment, equitable distribution of income and wealth or in the broader context of socialization of natural resources, which can be possible only with the involvement of tribals in project formulation and implementation by working through their traditional system. The present gives a completely



different scenario; instead of involving tribals in the planning and implementation of development programmes. The concern remains within the administrative system itself; the multiplicity and complexity of the administrative machinery helps only in confusing innocent tribals.

Status of Tribal Population in India

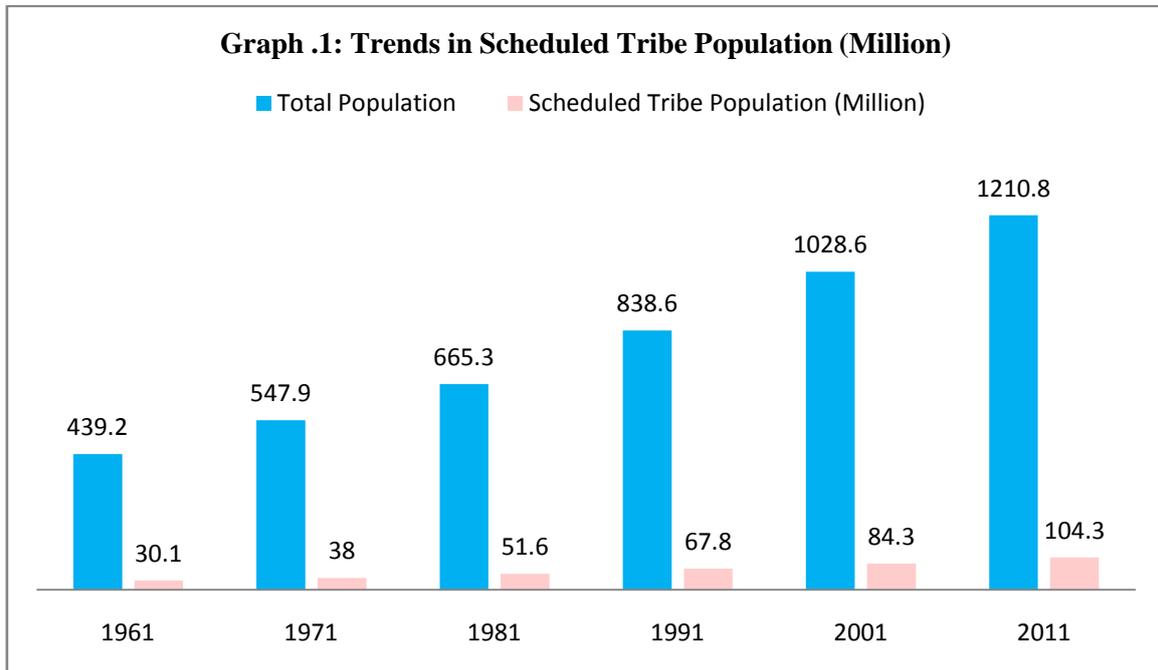
Tribal Communities live, in various ecological and geo-climatic conditions ranging from plains and forests to hills and inaccessible areas. Tribal groups are at different stages of social, economic and educational development while some tribal communities have adopted a mainstream way of life, at the other end of the spectrum. Constitution of India under Article 366 (25) refers Scheduled Tribes as those communities, who are scheduled in accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution, says that only those communities who have been declared as such by the President through an initial public notification or through a subsequent amending Act of Parliament will be considered scheduled tribes. 'Article 342 provides for specification of tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribes or tribal communities, which are deemed to be for the purposes of the constitution, the scheduled tribes in relation to that State or Union Territory.

The Scheduled Tribes are notified in 30 States/ UTs and the numbers of individual ethnic groups etc. notified, as scheduled tribes are 705, there are certain Scheduled Tribes, 75 in number known as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups. The tribal population of the country, as per 2011 census, is 10.43 crore, constituting 8.6 percent of the total population. 89.97 percent of them live in rural areas and 10.03 percent in urban areas. The decadal population growth of the tribal's from census 2001 to 2011 has been 23.66 percent against the 17.69 percent of the entire population. **(Annual Report 2017-18)**. The trend in ST population since Census 1961 is illustrated in **(Table-1 and Graph-1)**

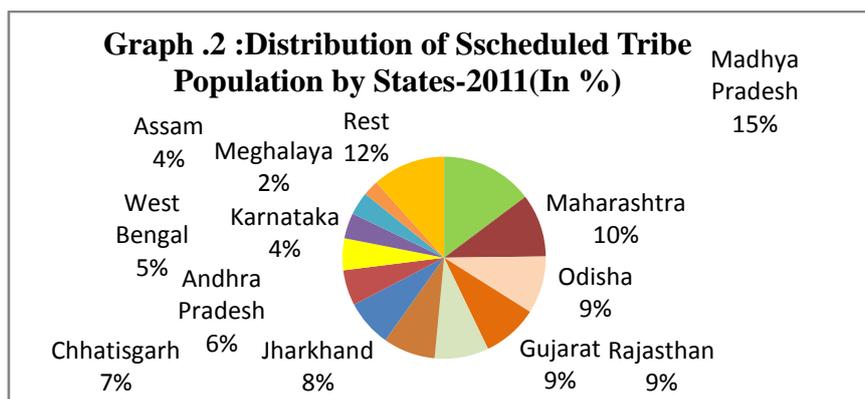
Census Year	Total Population (in millions)	Scheduled Tribes Population (in millions)	Proportion of STs Population
1961	439.2	30.1	6.9
1971	547.9	38.0	6.9
1981 #	665.3	51.6	7.8
1991 @	838.6	67.8	8.1
2001 \$	1028.6	84.3	8.2
2011	1210.8	104.3	8.6

Excludes Assam in 1981 @ Excludes Jammu & Kashmir in 1991
\$ The figures exclude Mao- Maram, Paomata and Purul sub divisions of Senapati district of Manipur, census 2001.

Source: Statistical Profile of Scheduled Tribes in India, 2013



The STs inhabit two distinct geographical areas. The Central India and the Northern Eastern Area, More than half of the scheduled tribe population is concentrated in Central India, i.e., Madhya Pradesh (14.69%), Chhattisgarh (7.5%), Jharkhand (8.29%), Andhra Pradesh (5.7%), Maharashtra (10.08%), Odisha (9.2%), Gujarat (8.55%) and Rajasthan (8.86 %). The other distinct area is the North East (Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Sikkim, and Arunchal Pradesh). (Illustrated in **Graph- 2**.)



Source: Presentation "Scheduled Tribes in India, Census 2011" by Registrar General of India, May 2013



Scheduled Areas

The Scheduled tribes mostly live in continuous areas unlike other communities. It is, therefore much simpler to have an area approach for development activities as well as regulatory provisions to protect their interests. In order to protect the interests of scheduled tribes with regard to land and other social issues various provisions have been enshrined in the fifth schedule and the sixth schedule of the constitution.

The fifth Schedule under Article 244(1) of the Constitution contains provisions regarding administration of Scheduled Areas other than in Northeast India. The provisions of Section 6 of Part C of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution. At present, scheduled areas have been declared in the state of Andhra Pradesh (including Telangana), Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan. **(Annual Report, 2017-18)**

1. Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)

The welfare of STs has continued to depend on small outlays under the backward classes sector and not on general sector outlays. The administrative structure in tribal areas lacks simplicity. It is beyond the comprehension of the tribals and therefore it does not evoke any response from them. Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) strategy was adopted in Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-75) for accelerated development of tribal people. The areas with 50% or more tribal population are incorporated under Tribal Sub Plan. This is mainly because of their traditional life styles, remoteness of habitations, dispersed population and displacement. It envisages channelizing the flow of outlays and benefits from all sectors of development to ST population. Tribal Sub- Plan fund are dedicated source of fund for tribal development.

There are 32 Central Ministries and Departments having Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) funds / now called as Scheduled Tribe Component catering to specific tribal development in various sectors through 273 different schemes. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) is 100% grant from Government of India (Since 1977-78). It is charged to Consolidated Fund of India and is an additive to state plan funds and efforts for Tribal Development. This grant is utilized for economic development of ITDP, ITDA, MADA, Clusters, and PVTGs and dispersed tribal population. Tribal Sub-Plans are formulated, covering 63% or more of the tribal population covers 23 States: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The approach was not applied to four tribal majority states of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Nagaland and two Union Territories of Lakshadweep, Dadra, and Nagar Haveli as their entire plans are directed towards the development and welfare of the tribal population.

The Tribal Sub- Plan emphasized area development with focus on improving the quality of life of the tribal communities the main objectives are elimination of exploitation in all forms, enhanced quality of life by providing basic amenities in tribal areas, substantial reduction in poverty and unemployment, creation of productive assets and income generating opportunities enhanced capacity to avail opportunities, gain rights and entitlements and improved facilities at par with other areas, and human resource development by enhancing their access to education and health services. **(Ramaiah P., 1999)**



The main components of the tribal sub plan strategy are-

1. Integrated Tribal Development Projects
2. Integrated Tribal Development Agencies
3. Modified Areas Development Approach
4. Clusters
5. Primitive Tribal Groups Projects
6. Dispersed Tribal Development Project

1.1 Integrated Tribal Development Project / Agencies

During Fifth Five Year Plan Government of India, institutional and administrative measures such as integrated Tribal Development Agency/ ITDA/ Integrated Tribal Development Project for effective implementation and delivery of services in tribal concentration areas. At present there are 194 ITDA/ ITDPs in the country including the States/ Union Territories. It is an area of size of one or more Development Blocks in which Scheduled Tribes population is 50% or more of total population of such Blocks. Complete development block/ panchayat sammiti is the minimum constituent unit of an ITDP. There can be more than one ITDP in a District. Area of an ITDP may even consist of Blocks of more than one District. In such cases ITDP will normally be named after it has headquarter location or district where its headquarter is located. In certain states like West Bengal, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu are concentration of Tribal population is not in contiguous belts, a flexible approach was adopted in delineating ITDP/ ITDAs areas. ITDA is concerned authority with jurisdiction for administration of tribal development projects/ Agencies. **(Panigrahi DK.)**

1.2 Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) Pockets

During Sixth Five Year Plan Period, Modified Area Development Approach was adopted to cover smaller areas with total population of 10,000 and Scheduled Tribes (ST) concentration of 50% or more in such areas. The minimum constituent unit of a MADA Pocket shall be the village and it should be named after the village having highest percentage of ST population among the villages covering more than one revenue villages in the MADA areas. Presently 259 MADA pockets are working. These pockets carved out in nine states, namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. There is no MADA pockets constituted in Union Territory. **(Ghurye GS)**

1.3 Clusters

During Seventh Five Year Plan onward, Clusters were identified to cover smaller areas of tribal concentration with minimum total population of about 5000 and Scheduled Tribes concentration of 50% or more. At presently, 82 clusters have been identified in seven TSP States. The minimum constituent unit of a Cluster shall be a village and it should be named after the village having highest percentage of ST population in the Cluster. **(Annual Report, 2017-18)**. All the state wise lists are illustrated in **Table: 2**.



Table: 2 State wise list of ITDP / ITDA, MADA Pockets, Clusters are given below:

S.No.	State / UT	Number of		
		ITDPs / ITDAs	MADA Pockets	Cluster
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	41	17
2.	Assam	19	-	-
3.	Bihar	-	7	-
4.	Chhattisgarh#	19	9	2
5.	Gujarat#	9	1	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh#	5	2	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-
8.	Jharkhand#	14	34	7
9.	Karnataka	5	-	-
10.	Kerala	7	-	-
11.	Madhya Pradesh	31	30	6
12.	Maharashtra	16	44	24
13.	Manipur	5	-	-
14.	Odisha#	22	46	14
15.	Rajasthan	5	44	11
16.	Sikkim	4	-	-
17.	Tamil Nadu \$	9	-	-
18.	Telangana	3	-	-
19.	Tripura *	-	-	-
20.	Uttar Pradesh	1	-	-
21.	Uttarakhand	-	-	-
22.	West Bengal \$	12	-	1
	Union Territory			-
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	-	-
24.	Daman & Diu	1	-	-
	Total	193	259	82

Source: Government of India, Annual Report 2017-18

2. Tribal Development Strategy and Programme

The welfare of tribals became the central concern of the Government, which started taking special interest in the development of these people. So that they can be integrated with the main stream of Indian population. The policy of the Government towards the tribals was evolved after a careful consideration of two divergent approaches. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs continued to implementing various schemes / programmes aimed at welfare and development of scheduled tribes.



2.1 Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana

In order to achieve comprehensive development of tribals and with a view to ensure that funds and resources available under Tribal Sub-Plan and other sources are utilized with outcome-based approach towards holistic development of tribal people by affecting appropriate convergence, Government of India launched an approach namely, "Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana" during 2014-15. Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana focuses on 14 thematic areas which are qualitative and sustainable employment quality education & higher education, accelerated economic development of tribal areas, health, housing, safe drinking water and many more. **(Annual Report, 2017-18)**

2.2. Grants in Aids under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution

The Constitution of India under the first Provision Article 275 (1) of the constitution provides for assured special financial assistance for promoting the welfare of scheduled tribes and for raising the level of administration of the scheduled areas to that the rest of the state. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs releases grants to 27 States and four tribal majority states to meet the cost of such projects for tribal majority states to meet the cost of such projects for tribal development as may be undertaken by the State Government. With the approved of government of India, for raising the level of administration of the Scheduled Areas therein to that of the rest of the State Funds are now being releases against specific infrastructure projects like roads, bridges, solar electrification, construction of school, hostel building, irrigation facilities etc. Grants under Article 275 (1) of the constitution have been earmarked for minor irrigation schemes on Scheduled Tribes Land. **(Nishakar Panda, 2006)**

2.3. Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)

Eklavya Model Residential School with the capacity of 480 students in each school are setup in the States / UTs under the programme funded under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India on the pattern of Rajkiya Pratibha quality middle and high level education to scheduled tribe students in remote areas, not only to enable them to avail of reservation in high and professional educational courses and get jobs in government and public and private sectors, but also to have access to the best opportunities in education at par with the non ST populations. **(Annual Report 2013-14)**

3. Major Schemes and Programmes for Promotion of Education

Education is one of the means of the development, which transfer society from backward to develop one. The nation's culture, socio-economic progress is based on educational status of the citizen. Education is one of the primary agents of transformation towards development. There are some programmes for the promotion of education among tribal community:

(Annual Report 2013-14)

3.2. Girls Hostels for Scheduled tribes

The Scheme of Girls Hostels, which started in the Third Five Year Plan, is a useful instrument of spreading education among scheduled tribe girls, whose literacy still stands at 18.19 percent as per 1991 census as against the general female literacy of 29.23 percent. Under the scheme, central assistance is given to States/ Union Territories for construction of new hostel building is equally shared between the Centre and the State in ratio of 50:50. In case of Union Territories, the Central Government bears the entire cost of the building. **(Annual Report 2013-14)**



3.3. Boys Hostels for STs

The objectives, items and conditions as well as the pattern of assistance of this scheme are same as that of the scheme for Girls Hostels. Central Government of India operates the scheme since 1989-90. **(Annual Report 2013-14)**

3.4. Up Gradation of Merit of STs Students

The above mentioned three components namely "Ashram School", Boys and Girls Hostels and Vocational Training are being discontinued from 2018-19 since interventions are now considered by a project appraisal committee (PAC) for funding SCA to TSS/ Grants under Article 275 (1) of the constitution or by state Governments from their own funds for tribal development.

3.5. Scheme of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Area

The objective of the scheme is to provide residential schools for STs in an environment conducive to learning to increase the literacy rate among the tribal students and to bring them at par with other population of the country.

- The Post Matric Scholarship Schemes
- National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Higher Studies Abroad
- National Fellowship for Higher Education of ST Students
- Pre-Matric Scholarship for needy Scheduled Tribe Student Studying in classes IX and X
- National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)

4. Schemes of Vocational Training in Tribal Areas

The main aim of the scheme is to develop the skills of the ST youth for a variety of jobs as well as self-employment and to improve their socio-economic condition by enhancing their income. The three components namely 'Ashram Schools,' 'Boys and Girls Hostels' and 'Vocational Training' are being discontinued from 2018-19 since such interventions are now considered by a Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) for funding under SCA to TSS / Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution or by State Governments from their own funds for tribal development.

4.1 The Post- Matric Scholarship Scheme (PMS)

The scheme has been revised w.e.f. 1/7/2010 with some modification. The scheme is open to all St Students whose parents annual income is Rs 2.50 lakh or less, w.e.f. 1.4.2013 and the scholarships are awarded through Government of the State/ Union Territory where he /she is domiciled.

The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe Students studying at post-matriculation or post secondary level to enable them to complete their education. The scholarship covers the whole duration of the course, is paid on an annual basis, and is subject to the satisfactory performance of the student and good conduct.

4.2 Book Bank

Many Scheduled Tribe Students selected in professional courses find it difficult to continue their education for want of book on their subjects, as these are often expensive. In order to reduce the dropout rate of ST Students from professional institutes/ universities, funds are provided for purchase of books under this scheme. The scheme is open to all ST Student's pursuing medical (including Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy), engineering, agriculture, veterinary,



polytechnic law, chartered accountancy, business management, bioscience subjects, who are receiving Post- Matric Scholarships.

4.3 National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Higher Studies Abroad

This scheme provide financial assistance to students selected for pursuing higher studies abroad for Post Graduation, PhD and Post- Doctoral research programmes. Ministry has revised some of its provisions to make it more beneficial for ST students in terms of increasing their employability and for their socio-economic development. The Ministry has revised the scheme of National Overseas scholarship (NOS) for ST candidates for implementation from the year 2017-18 onwards. 17 Scheduled Tribe candidates and 3 candidates belonging to PVTGs can be awarded the scholarship annually for pursing Post graduate, Doctoral and Post Doctoral level courses abroad.

5. National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students

I. National Fellowship for ST Students

National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students for removing layers resulting in time lag and to facilitate proper control over the implementation and monitoring of the two Central Sector scholarship schemes for ST Students, viz. National Fellowship and Top Class Education, the Ministry has merged these two schemes into a single Central Sector Scheme called National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students. Scheme provide fellowships in the form of financial assistance to students belonging to the Scheduled Tribes to pursue higher studies such as M.Phil and PhD. The scheme has been started from the year 2005-06.

II. Scholarship Scheme (Top Class Education) for Scheduled Tribe Students

The objective of the scheme is to encourage meritorious ST students for pursuing studies at degree and post degree level in any of the selected list of institutes, in which the scholarship scheme would be operatives. The scheme has been started from 2007-08. The scheme is 100% funded by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the funds are released directly into Bank account of the beneficiary/ institutions. Around 1055 students in 100 institutions have been awarded the Top Class Education Scholarship until 31 December 2017.

6. Pre-Matric Scholarship for Needy Scheduled Tribe Students Studying in Classes IX and X

The scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST Students is implemented through State Governments and UT Administration which receives 100% Central Assistance from Government of India for expenditures under the scheme, over and above their committed liability. The objectives of the Scheme are to-

- (i) Support parents of ST Students for education of their wards. Studying in Classes IX and X so that the incidence of dropout, especially in transition from the elementary to secondary and during secondary stages of education, is minimized, and
 - (ii) Improve participation of ST students in classes IX and X of pre-matric stage, so that they perform well and have a better chance of progressing to Post- Matric stages of education.
- (Sujata K.)**



7. Vocational Training in Tribal Areas (VTC)

The main aim of this scheme is to upgrade the skills of the tribal youth in various traditional/modern vocations depending upon their educational qualification, present economic trends and the market potential, which would enable them to gain suitable employment or enable them to become self-employed. This scheme was introduced in 1992-93 as central sector scheme and implemented through the State Governments/ Union Territories administrations, institutions or organizations set up by government as autonomous body, educational and other institutions like local bodies and cooperative societies and Non-Governmental Organizations. Vocational Training Scheme is now dropped from NGO funding and would be subsumed under the scheme of SCA to TSS.

8. Schemes for Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

There are certain groups among STs who have declining or stagnant population. Keeping in view the precarious condition of certain tribal communities and groups who are still in the primitive stages of economy and need special care both at the planning and at implementation of programme stages, 75 such groups in 18 states and one Union Territories have been identified and categorized as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). The scheme is very flexible and it enables every state to focus on any developmental activity for PVTGs for these groups 52 Special Micro Projects are being implemented. During Sixth Five Year Plan Period 20, more such projects and later on two other projects are launched. Presently and later on, two other projects are launched. Presently 93 Micro Projects are being implemented in 18 States and Union Territory including Madhya Pradesh. (**Manual of Tribal Welfare,**)

9. Conservation- Cum Development Plans

The conservation cum Development Plans (CCDP) are to be prepared by the State Governments and UTs of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for five years by adopting habitat development approach on the basis of data obtained from baseline or other surveys conducted by them and are approved by the Project Appraisal Committee of the Ministry. The state Governments / UTs Administration have been asked to ensure proportionate flow of financial resources for all PVTGs found in their state. The delivery mechanism has to be strengthened through innovative plans and procedures.

10. Tribal Research Institute (TRIs)

Tribal Research Institutes are engaged in the work of providing planning inputs to the state governments, collection of data and conducting research and evaluation studies on problems relating to the tribes living in respective states. The TRIs also conduct training, seminars and workshops for the cause of tribal development and codify customary. Most of the TRIs run tribal museum of exhibiting tribal artifacts, etc. There are at present 16 TRIs located one each in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.



11. National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)

The Government of India setup the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation on 10 April 2001 by bifurcating the National Schedule. It is an apex organization setup exclusively for economic development of Scheduled Tribes. Corporation provides financial assistance for income generation activities and marketing support assistance for economic upliftment of Scheduled Tribes. There are major schemes under Income Generating Activities, Term Loan Schemes, Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY), Micro Credit Scheme, Adivasi Shiksha Yojana.

12. Tribal Forest Dwellers Empowerment Scheme

The objective of the scheme is to generate awareness provide training to beneficiaries, give NSTFD's concessional financial assistance, assist in market linkage etc. to the Scheduled Tribes forest dwellers vested land rights under Forest Rights Act, 2006. Under the scheme, NSTFDC provides loan upto 90% for schemes costing up to Rs.1 lakh at concessional interest rate of 6% payable by the beneficiaries.

13. Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of Indian Limited (TRIFED) -

The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of Indian Limited is a multi-state cooperative society. It was setup in 1987 under the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 (now the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act 2002). TRIFED is functioning both as a service provider and as market developer for tribal products. As a capacity builder, it also imports training to ST Artisans Minor Forest Produce (MRP) gatherers.

Conclusions

Tribal development means upliftment of the tribal community, which is at different stages of socio-economic and cultural realms of growth. It implies social and economic development of the tribal people through phased manner, time-bound integrated area development, and other programmes suiting the genius and the economic situation of the people, ensuring progressive elimination of all forms of exploitation and ensuring a move towards the goal of equality and social justice. The tribal development policies are aimed to protect and initiate the all-round development of tribes to stay in the society by mingling with others. Hence, the tribal have been given special attention for their upliftment by special designed policies, plan-wise allocations, sup-plan wise allocation, forest policy and Nehru's Panchasheel etc.



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