

# Programmes and Policies for Tribal Development in India

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## Abstract

*The Tribal are the community which over the years socially isolated, economically and educationally deprived, politically exploited and detached class of development of modern society. In present context the need to more attention to focus for achieve of their holistic development. The term tribe today has different scholastic dimensions and reflections in Indian politics. The meaning of word tribe has assumed different connotations and definition in different countries as their culture. Even today the world is astonishing because even after the studies and research regarding tribal community over the years the term ‘tribe’ failed to get a universal definition till day. Tribes are conceived as first inhabitants of their land or the first human beings. But in context of India, the Indian constitution defines them as ‘Scheduled Tribes’. This constitution name differs them from the sub population of country in terms of culture, socio-economic status, language, education and life style.*

After the study and research conducted by different NGO’s they identified Tribal are, those who are having specific territorial affiliation, having structural and social similarity, interdependency in the field of economy as barter system, resilient to change, simple technology, excommunicated from other castes and tribes, having clan and lineage base identity, absence of surplus generation with simple technology, having common life style with common language, tradition and customs. The production of forest is the source of their income. Their educational status is far away from other people. They have to lead the life with absence of ownerships of land home. This fact made them to lead life under fear of evacuation by government or department of forest, every act and policy of forest which affected the life of these Tribal

Demographically, the share of Scheduled tribe population stood at 8.6% out of total population of country. More than 9 crore population living in rural India which amount to 11% population of rural India. More than 1cr population are living in urban area which amount 2.3% of total urban population of India.

Even after the 75 years of India, the problems relating education, basic amenities in tribal areas, their political participation, poverty, unemployment still remained unsolved problems. However, the country after Independence it takes several measures to improve quality of life of scheduled tribe population in India. Dr. Jawaharlal Nehru then prime minister of India emphasis for promotional and protective approach to the development of Tribal communities. In lieu of this in the year 1989 by bifurcation of department of Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry, a new ministry is setup that is Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

In the year 1989 on 11th September the parliament passed the historical law for protection of Scheduled Tribe people's rights, earlier they are subject to utter humiliation at the hands of upper strata of society in form of untouchability, discrimination in public places, denied of educational rights, assault of Tribal women's in the name of tradition or religion. This act was notified on 30th January 1990. It was further amended in 2015 in order to includes some sections of 3 of 1989 Prevention of Atrocity against the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. It became the instrument in the way of development of Scheduled tribes.

The National Forest Policy of 1988 made the tribal to take active participation to restore their inhabitation rights in the forest area because, the National Forest Policy, 1988 recommended that at least 33.33% of the total area of the country to be forested and at least 60% of the total forest must be preserved at any point of time in the tribal dominated areas. It looked forward to the active participation of the tribal in their welfare programmes.

### **The Tribal Situation in India**

The government of India since its Independence introduced numerous schemes and action plan for their socio-economic plans along with political empowerment. The constitution of India in its fourth part, article 45 and 46 article under State Directive Principles of state policy directs the state to form and implement such policies which engender the upliftment of social status, economic empowerment and educational forwardness.

In this direction the government of India to promote educational interest, Scholarship division of Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides financial affairs in form scholarships. Under this scheme every year more than 12 Lakh students are covered. According data released by Ministry of Tribal Affairs in the 2023-24 financial year it releases 308 cr fund. Post Matric Scholarship, National fellowship to provide financial assistance research students at level of universities and IITs, National Overseas scholarships under this scheme those students who are selected to pursue their education in abroad they will get the financial assistance.

### **Institutional Facilities to Brought Tribal in Civil Services**

To ensure their participation of Tribal in Indian Civil Services the government of India make the arrangement to provide free coaching for the preparation of State and Centre Civil Service competitive examinations. Both state and central government both giving the assistance to the aspirants of the civil services from the category of Scheduled Tribe are providing the free coaching in the following notified coaching centres.

<b>SL.No</b>	<b>Institution Name</b>	<b>Location</b>
1	Dikshant Education Centre	New Delhi
2	Sankalp Bhavan	Delhi
3	Jai Bhim Yojana	Delhi
4	State Foundation for Administration Carers	Mumbai Maharastra
5	Jamia Hamdard (Hamdarad University),	New Delhi
6	All India Coaching for Civil Services	Chennai
7	Sardar Patel Institute of Public Administration	Ahmedbad Gujarat
8	Utkal Pragati Foundation	Himachal Pradesh

Apart from this, government also takes the step to provide free coaching for Bank and other state government services. This initiative of the both state and central government have enlarged

the scope to enter. This efforts of governments made 241 candidates to become as IAS, 168 as IPS and 150 as IFS officers who belongs to Scheduled tribe community.

### **The Tribal Sub – Plans**

The concept of Tribal Sub-Plans was introduced under 5th year plan from 1974 to 1979 and its implementation is commenced in 17 states and 2 union territories for the first time. Later it was renamed as Scheduled Tribe Component by the ministry of Finance. It gradually extended up to 23 states at the end of 2002 9th five years' plan.

To channelize the flow of benefits for Tribal Community from central government to reduce the income gap between Tribal and other community of society

The Ministry of North –Eastern Region made mandatory to incur the expenditure on Tribal Development under Tribal Sub- Plan. This 27.18% percentage budget mandatorily used to creation of infrastructure, supply of water, power, projects for promoting tourism. At the secondary level ensure the education and health sector in the region is the intension of Tribal Sub –plan in the North –East Region.

Except North –East states this scheme made to applicable where the population is below the 60% of Scheduled Tribes.

### **National Scheduled Tribes Finance Development and Corporation**

For economic development of Tribal, it was set up under ministry of Tribal Affairs as government company with following objectives.

1. To upgrade the skills and process used by the Scheduled tribes by providing institutional training.
2. Identify the economic activities of STs for income generate and to ensure self –employment.
3. Monitor the state and UTs Tribe Finance and Development Corporations and other developmental agencies engaged in the economic development of tribe communities.
4. Monitor the schemes implemented by NSTFDC.

### **Functions of NSTFDC**

1. Creation of awareness among the Scheduled Tribes about the NSTFDC concessional schemes.
2. Assistance for skill development and capacity building.
3. Assistance in getting market linkage for Tribal production.

### **Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana**

In the financial year 2002-2003 under National Scheduled Tribe Finance Development Corporation this scheme is launched to provide up to 5 Lakh term loan to establish their small scale industrial units with 90% subsidies at 4% rate of interest for scheduled tribe women. This scheme proved very effective to enhance the Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurships with opportunity of employability among women.

### **Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Naya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN)**

Honourable Prime Minister Sri. Narendra Modi in 2023-24, it introduces new term PVTs Particularly Vulnerable Groups, with intension to provide essential amenities such as pakka housing (secure housing), clean drinking water, sanitation improved access, to education, health and nutrition, as well as enhanced road and telecom connectivity and sustainable live hood opportunities. To achieve this target government decides to reserve the fund 15000cr every year for next three years, under Development Action Plan for the Scheduled Tribes (DAPST) to implement this mission.

### **Central Universities and Institutions for Tribal**

There are two central universities which are established by the central government for the promotion of higher education among Scheduled Tribe community. The government of India by exercising its different for educational empowerment of tribal it established various higher educational institution in different part of country basis on their population and need.

1. Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantaka.
2. Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh, Vizianagram. These two universities are established under Central University Act 2007 and 2008 respectively.

Recently third university for tribal also approved to establish in Telangana State as Samakka Sarakka Central Tribal University. (Indira Gandhi National Tribal University Archived from 2nd sept,2011 Retrieved 29 August 2011).

### **The Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS)**

It is the higher education institute established in the year of 1993 under 1956 UGC Act, initially it started as a tribal residential school in 2007 the institution was awarded a university status. It is decided that the another branch of this institute to be started in West Bengal. It plays a crucial role in providing higher education opportunity by offering undergraduate and post graduate and research degrees such as Ph.D and M.phil in all streams with free cost of accommodation and food speciality. ("About Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar" KISS-n-Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences. Retrieved 16 November 2021).

### **Irrigation Facilities for Scheduled Tribe Farmers**

The government of India implementing a uniform subsidy pattern of 50% under Micro Irrigation System for a hectare or 60,000 thousand for a hectare. Out of which the farmers belong to scheduled tribe entitled to an additional subsidy of 25% under this scheme or 90,000 thousand per hectare. In Telangana state all ST farmers are eligible to avail 100% subsidy under Micro Irrigation Project, etc.,

The state governments also have the provision to implement their own subsidy schemes to scheduled tribe farmers to convert their land as irrigated land for ex in Karnataka Ganga Kalyan Yojana is implemented for this purpose.

Apart from this the central government in 2021 launched the programme that is Irrigation in Tribal Areas to assess of adequacy of irrigation needs in the different part of country where the tribal are living in majority. Along with this scheme is designed with view to provide technical, financial and legal assistance in completion of existing irrigation projects carried out by different states.

### **Financial Assistance for Educational Empowerment Through Scholarships**

To achieve empowerment of Scheduled Tribes in the field of education both state and central governments under constitutional frame work they introduces, Pre-Matric scholarship it covers students from first standard to tenth standard, many scholars have tried to classify them based on several parameters for understanding their structure and needs, but because of diversity it is still difficult to formulate a single set of developmental programmes for all the tribes.

To cover the students after the passing of 10th class to promote graduation and research degrees, they also introduce the post –matric scholarships by both governments.

## **Scheduled Tribe Development under Constitutional Provision**

The Constitution has granted the following provisions under 6th Scheduled for development of tribal areas such as establishment of Councils at district and regional level to manage administration as autonomous body at districts and regions respectively, by electing its members through adult franchise system. These councils are empowered to manage forest, land and resources, regulation of the practice of shifting cultivation, appointment or succession of tribal-chiefs, inheritance of property, control of money-lending and trading, and procession of marriage and social customs.

## **Reservation of Seats for Political Empowerment**

The 332 Article of Constitution allowed the reservation in seats of the State Legislative and Parliament (Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha) and also Assemblies for the Schedules Castes and Tribes (except in the tribal areas of Assam).

## **Reservation in Local Self Bodies**

The constitution through the 73rd and 74th Amendment under Article 243D and 243T it provides the reservation not less than 1/3 seats or proportion to their population in the seats of Rural local bodies (Villagre Panchayt, Taluk Panchayat and Zilla Panchayat) under article 243D and under 243 T in the seats of Urban local bodies.

## **Creation of The Ministry of Tribal Affairs**

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs was set up in 1999 after the bifurcation of the Ministry of Social Empowerment and Justice, with the objective of a focused approach for the integrated development of the Scheduled Tribes, in a planned and coordinated manner. Its major responsibilities include: policy, planning and coordination of the programmes for the development of the Schedules Tribes. The subjects allocated to the Ministry under the Government of India Allocation of Business Rules of 1961.

The Ministry of Tribal affairs focuses on the following issues related to Scheduled Tribes in India

1. Social security and insurance for the STs.
2. Tribal welfare planning, project formulation, research, evaluation, statistics and training
3. Promotion and development of voluntary efforts on tribal welfare
4. Educational empowerment through Scholarships to the students of ST community.
5. ST development under the aegis of the Central Ministries or Departments, State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.
6. Regulations framed by the Governors of States for Scheduled Areas.
7. Commission to report on the administration of Scheduled Areas and issue of directions regarding the drawing up and execution of schemes essential for the welfare of the STs of any State.
8. Establishment of National Commission of STs
9. Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (excluding administration of criminal justice in regard to offences in so are as they relate to STs)

The Ministry under the multi-pronged strategy for tribes includes: promotion of education among the tribes, provision of hostels for ST Girls and Boys to reduce dropouts from schools, arrangement of Vocational Training for the ST youth to increase employability, introduction of the scheme of “Pre-Matric Scholarship” and “Post-Matric Scholarship” for the needy ST students, arrangement of health facilities, upliftment of ST women, promotion of inclusive growth of tribals for improving

their socio-economic status, development of infrastructure, improving their livelihood and housing, provision of electricity, irrigation, and market development, protection of legal rights of STs and protection and promotion of tribal culture and heritage.

### **The Tribal Research and Cultural Institute**

This institute was established under Tribal Welfare Department in the year 1970 at New Delhi as per the decision taken by government of India. The objective of this institute is providing more focused approach on the integrated socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes

For the development of Tribal it conducts the following activities.

1. Research Studies
2. Publications regarding their situation in departs of India.
3. Documentation of activities initiated by NGOs and Tribal Affairs Ministry.

### **Conservation-cum-Development (CCD) Plans**

Under this plan 17 state government and union territories are allowed to prepare their own plans for Tribal Community. With intension to identify particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in 17 the States and the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for five years, based on pre-agricultural level of technology, low levels of literacy, decline or stagnant population of 17 state tribal communities. This enables certain authority in preparing an in-built mechanism to monitor at various levels the movement of funds which allocated for various development purpose.

It becomes the exclusive development of the PTGs, which have been identified as 75 in number in states and 1 UT of India, a Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for exclusive development of the PTGs was started in 1998-99. The major activities under it includes housing, land distribution and development, agricultural development, cattle development, construction of link roads, social security through Janshree Beema Yojana etc. have been started.

### **Conclusion**

Even after the sincere efforts from state and central level the socio-economic situation and level is far away from the forward classes of the society. The identification real beneficiaries the process to assess their entitlements in forms of their development schemes is still lagging behind.

The Scheduled Tribe Commission at National Level should try to becoming an implementing authority rather than advisory board. The proper utilisation fund should focuses on educational empowerment and engenderment of employability to the tribal.

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