PREFACE

The greatest challenge the Government of India has been facing, since Independence is the proper provision of social justice to the Scheduled Tribe people by ameliorating their socio- economic condition. The tribal development planning was based on a two dimensional approach, (a) promotion of developmental programmes and schemes through planned efforts and (b) protection of the interests through constitutional, legal and administrative support. Positive discrimination has been a deliberate strategy to enable the neglected groups to develop. Notwithstanding Sixty years of continuous attention to tribal problems, exploitation of tribal’s forms a legit motif in the tribal canvas of today.

The tribal sub-plan strategy held hopes for integrated development of tribal areas. However, four decades of its implementation has not brought about any perceptible change in the life of the majority of tribal people. The tribes themselves had no access to planning and implementation for their development. The statistical and cultural data base for planning has been and continues to be weak. In particular, the state perception for planning was deficient both in micro and macro planning. This ultimately resulted in an unsatisfactory implementation of plans and programmes for the tribal people. The present study supports these views.

This study attempts an overall review of the efforts so far in the field of tribal development in the area. Which provide an account of present schemes applicable to tribes under Tribal Sub plan strategy? It examines in depth problems of tribes, to determine needs of welfare services, to estimate unmet needs, to evaluate existing schemes, to find
impact of schemes on their life, focus on lacunas of schemes and programmes. The current situation is presented here with facts and figures through focus on demographic, socio-economical, educational, health etc. welfare schemes impact on their life.