CHAPTER-2

SPECIAL COMPONENT PLAN INPUTS
AND
PRIORITY AREA OF SCHEDULED CASTES DEVELOPMENT

Ever since India's independence, there have been continued efforts made by the State to bring about social and economic development in general and the underprivileged groups and communities in particular. Among most significant steps initiated for national development under the constitution has been the recognition of adult franchise, grant of fundamental rights and the privileges accorded to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Directive Principles of State Policy. Since most Scheduled Castes have been working on agricultural lands as labourers, tenants and share croppers the state has been making huge investments in the agricultural and rural development sector with the expectation that the investments made would also benefit the Scheduled Castes socially and economically.

It is also an expected fact that Indian agriculture as a whole has experienced substantial rise in production, particularly of food-gram crops. The break-through in agricultural production technology in the mid sixty coupled with the execution of a large number of major and minor irrigation schemes and increase in supply of modern inputs like fertilizer, pesticides etc. even to the scheduled caste farmers with 50 per cent subsidy has resulted in the increase in agricultural production. However, farming in hilly areas, which contributes significantly not only to the agricultural production
but also to the sustenance of people living in the mountain and hilly areas of the country, has not received adequate attention in the past. The main-stay of the people in these areas is agriculture and horticulture. In Himachal Pradesh 66.71 per cent population depends on agriculture and related activities. The topography being mostly hilly, and rugged the cultivation is done on terraces carved out on the hill slopes. Realizing the need for special development which can directly benefit the scheduled caste families, earmarking financial provisions from the sectoral plans in proportion to the scheduled caste population, providing institutional credit and marketing facilities and extending adequate social amenities to those below the poverty line were considered strategic operational modes so that the benefits of development reach this relegated section of the society. All these activities, obviously, required to be undertaken in an integrated manner so that each scheduled caste family receives a package of development assistance. The idea was concretized during 1979-80 and the Government for the first time formulated a Special Component Plan for the scheduled castes as part of state plan to help poor scheduled caste families through composite income generating programmes. A sum of Rs. 4.61 crore was earmarked in first-ever exercise of SCP for scheduled castes.

Before the launching of SCP, the efforts were made for the development of SCs as pace of the Five Year Plans. During the First Five Year Plan, special attention was given to securing through legislative measures and through economic and social welfare programmes a sense of equality with other. A sum of Rs. 1.6 crores was spent on the provides of educational facilities to their children (Review of First Five Year Plan, 1957).
In the second plan a Rs. sum of 20.28 crores was earmarked for the welfare of scheduled castes. This meant almost fifteen times increase in the financial provisions. Besides this a sum of Rs. 6.25 crores was allocated for centrally sponsored schemes which included (a) housing, (b) drinking water supply, (c) economic uplift, and (d) aid to voluntary organizations (Second Five Year Plan 1956).

The third plan provided about Rs. 40 cores for special programmes for this segment of India’s population. A sum of Rs. 30 crors approximately was provided in the state plans. About one-half of this amount was for education related schemes and balance was divided almost equally between (a) schemes for economic up-liftment, and (b) health, housing, and others schemes (Third Five Year Plan 1961). In the Fourth Five Year Plan provision for special programmes for the scheduled castes were intended to supplement benefits and facilities which they obtained through schemes undertaken for the community as a whole. An outlay of Rs. 66 crores was made for their development (Fourth Five Year Plan, 1966). In the Fifth Five Year Plan the major emphasis was laid on the improvement of the quality of life and speeding up the socio-economic development. In order to boost the latter, the plan outlays and philosophy emphasized on the growth of communication network. Schools, rural health centers and rural electrification with special reference to the scheduled castes.

In the Sixth Five Year Plan, the government allocated Rs. 960.30 crores. A special allocation of Rs. 600 crores was also made in addition to the already sanctioned amount for the development of scheduled castes in all walks of their lives. In the Seventh Plan the emphasis was laid on
educational development of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Prematric stipends and scholarships were given by state Governments to 190 lakh students of Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes. The economic assistance was also extended to 118.82 lakh scheduled caste families. Margin money loan was disbursed to 22.56 lakh scheduled caste families. An expenditure of Rs. 6916.92 crores was incurred on the Scheduled Castes from different schemes and Rs. 876.00 crore was spent under Special Central Assistance. In the Eight Five Year Plan an outlay of Rs. 2548 crores in the central sector, including Rs. 1125 crore as Special Central Assistance for Special Component Plan for the State Plan were provided. Subsequently, the introduction of profitable alternative crops and better marketing management resulted in improvement of the socio-economic conditions of the farmers as agriculture constitutes the main sources of livelihood for the vast majority of the scheduled castes. While the availability of agricultural land is in small proportions the productivity of agriculture is also decidedly very low. (SCP-2002-03).

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people of Himachal Pradesh. There are 8.63 lakh cultivators in Himachal Pradesh who own an operational area of about 10.10 lakh hectares. Out of which about 1.89 lakh holdings (22.36) per cent are in possession of scheduled caste farmers. The department of Agriculture has been following the strategy to enhance their farm income and improving their living standard by increasing the productivity of their land by way of disseminating the latest improved farm technology. The use of productive inputs like improved, adequate and timely supply of agricultural inputs to the scheduled castes at a subsidized
rates, so as to make their holdings significantly more income generating.

The strategy purportedly adopted to assist the scheduled caste farmers mainly consisted of:

1. Increase per unit area production of food crops and diversification of area towards high value cash crops and laid emphasis on reclamation and use of culturable waste land.

2. Promotion of cultivation of cash crops like vegetable, vegetable seeds and high value pulses besides increasing productivity of potato, ginger and adoption of green house technology for vegetable development.

3. Distribution of inputs at subsidized cost and intensification of technology for agriculture development.

4. Increase in the productivity of wheat crop under scheme of ICDP Wheat.

5. Laid down, greater emphasis on soil conservations measure on agriculture land, improve the water management of land holding and use of drip irrigation technology in water scare areas. (SCP-2002-2003.).

This is also a recognized fact that the scheduled castes have been contributing to the sustenance and growth of the agricultural production of the country and thereby contributing immensely to the national economy. Therefore, the development efforts for the scheduled castes required a central position in the national endeavour for growth with social justice. With the constitutional commitment for equity and justice to all, the benefits from all sectors of development therefore also needed to flow in equitable and just manner to all groups and communities for the reduction of socio-economic cleavages. Realizing the need for special development to directly benefit the scheduled caste families, the state has earmarked financial provisions from the sectoral plans in proportion to the scheduled caste
population in a given state. These provision therefore, to a significant extent and minimum theoretically tend to ensure institutional credit, marketing facilities and adequate social amenities to the scheduled caste families.

Table 2.1
Expenditure on Economic Services under State Plan Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Improved seeds programme.</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>56.61</td>
<td>+253.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Distribution of fertilizers</td>
<td>85.00</td>
<td>132.53</td>
<td>+55.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) High yielding varieties programmes</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>5.51</td>
<td>+10.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Plant protection</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>20.09</td>
<td>+187.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Commercial Crops</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Development of Seeds potato</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>14.73</td>
<td>+63.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Development of Vegetable</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>25.54</td>
<td>+467.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Development of Ginger</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>4.31</td>
<td>+762.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi) Development of Soya bean/sunflower pulse</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii) National oil seeds development project</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>2.57</td>
<td>-48.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii) Distribution of Agriculture in implements</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>31.21</td>
<td>+940.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix) Demonstration and propaganda</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7.64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x) Training and Extension programme</td>
<td>70.00</td>
<td>202.76</td>
<td>+189.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xi) Massive assistance to small and marginal farmers belonging to scheduled castes for increasing agriculture production</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>7.27</td>
<td>-30.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xii) SFPP maize and wheat</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiii) Technology of maize development</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiv) Crop insurance scheme</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xv) Tea cultivation</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>217.00</td>
<td>530.87</td>
<td>+144.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The department of agriculture has all along been following the strategy to enhance farm income and improving the living standard of scheduled castes by increasing the productivity of their land by way of disseminating the latest improved farm technology like mixed farming, use of productive inputs like improved seed, chemical fertilizers, plant protection measures besides arranging adequate and timely supply of agricultural inputs to the scheduled caste people at a subsidized rates. The data (Table 2.1) indicates that the expenditure outlay of the state plan on agriculture during 1989-90 and 1999-2000. The data indicate that the expenditure on improved seeds programmes increased by 253.81 per cent in 1999-2000 in comparison to 1989-90. Expenditure on the distribution of fertilizers also increased by 55.92 per cent as compared to 1989-90. The rise of expenditure on the High Yielding Variety of seeds has been very little, i.e. 10.20 per cent in the year 1999-2000. In plant protection, the expenditure rose by 187.00 per cent during the year 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90. The expenditure on the commercial crop like potato increased by 63.67 per cent. The expenditure on the development of vegetable increased by 467.55 percent. The expenditure on development of ginger increased by 762.00 per cent during the year 1999-2000 in comparison to 1989-90. However, there has been decrease in the expenditure on the National Oil Seeds development by about 48.60 per cent expenditure during years 1990-2000 as compared to 1989-90. An increase of 940.33 per cent was recorded in the expenditure on the distribution of agricultural implements during 1999-2000 in comparison to 1989-90. The expenditure on Training and Extension Programme increased by 189.00 per cent in the year 1999-
2000 as compared to 1989-90. However, the expenditure as massive assistance to small and marginal Canners belonging to scheduled castes for increasing agriculture production decreased by 30.76 per cent during 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90. The total expenditure on agriculture as a whole however registered increase of 144.64 per cent during 1999-2000 in comparison to 1989-90.

Table 2.2

Expenditure on Horticulture Under State Plan Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Control of endemic pests and diseases.</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>89.98</td>
<td>+1185.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Training of farmers</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>2.31</td>
<td>199.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Development of food production</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12.40</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Development of Mashroom</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td>6.19</td>
<td>+177.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Integrated Horticulture Development project</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi) Development of floriculture</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii) Horticulture Information</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>-97.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii) Horticulture farms and nursery</td>
<td>17.91</td>
<td>53.61</td>
<td>+199.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix) Drip irrigation scheme</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x) Assistance to small and marginal farmers (special subsidy)</td>
<td>18.70</td>
<td>15.56</td>
<td>-16.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xi) Development of olive and other fruits</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xii) Development of bee keeping</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.78</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiii) Horticulture extension programme</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xiv) Fruit processing utilization</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6.36</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xv) Development of walnut</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xvi) Organization gardening</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>48.80</td>
<td>192.16</td>
<td>+293.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Horticulture appears to be the most relevant programme for the upliftment of socio-economic conditions of the scheduled castes. The majority of scheduled castes farmers have very small land holdings. Activities like mushroom growing, bee keeping, floriculture, etc. provide them additional source of income. These avocations have very low gestation period and provide potentiality of self employment to unemployed rural scheduled caste youths. Horticultural development programme has the potential for the socio-economic upliftment of scheduled caste population in rural areas of the state by involving them on large scale in this avocation by providing liberal incentives.

The (Table 2.2) indicates scheme-wise break-up of expenditure during 1989-90 and 1999-2000. It shows the expenditure on control of endemic pests and diseases has increased by about 1185.43 per cent during the year of 1999-2000 as compared to last ten years. The expenditure on the training of farmers also increased by 99.14 per cent. The expenditure on development of mushrooms has increased by 177.58 percent. However, there is decrease in expenditure on horticulture information. It has decreased by 97.98 percent. But expenditure on horticulture farms and nurseries has increased by 199.73 percent. Although there is decrease in some of the horticultural schemes, but total horticulture expenditure has increased by 293.77 per cent during 1999-2000 in comparison to 1989-90.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Education and training</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>+87.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Cont. of expenditure on veterinary dispensary, Veterinary hospitals, CVD &amp; poly clinic</td>
<td>52.18</td>
<td>596.13</td>
<td>+1042.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Content of expenditure on scheduled castes special projects for breeding facilities for cattle and buffalo, semen bank, liquid nitrogen plant and slaughter houses</td>
<td>14.87</td>
<td>43.15</td>
<td>+190.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Poultry development</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Mass dripping and drenching</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii) Fodder extension programming and purchase of fodder seeds</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii) Angoras rabbit development programme</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>67.85</td>
<td>646.78</td>
<td>+853.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Animal husbandry has been envisaged as an integral part of system of diversified agriculture development process under this the utility of livestock
rearing hardly needs any emphasis since it contributes significantly to meet the requirements of animal power and also provides rich nutritious food in the shape of milk, meat and eggs. Sheep and goats are the main sources of wool for woolen garments to provide protection against cold climate. Livestock rearing is also helpful in generating the employment particularly for the unemployed rural youths. In Himachal Pradesh, scheduled castes families in a significant are involved in rearing livestock and for making it more profitable. The Animal Husbandry Department has laid emphasis on the provision of infrastructure and support for scheduled castes families. As such schemes having direct bearing on the economic upliftment of the target group families have been included in the Special Component Plan for scheduled castes.

Data in Table 2.3 reveal that scheme-wise expenditure on animal husbandry education and training under state plan has increased by 87.50 per cent during 1999-2000 in comparison to 1989-90. The expenditure on the cost of Veterinary Dispensary, Veterinary Hospital and Poly clinic has also increased by 1042.45 per cent during this year. There is also 190.18 per cent increase in the expenditure on scheduled caste special projects for breeding facility for cattle and buffalo, semen bank, liquid nitrogen plant and slaughter house. In this way total Animal Husbandry expenditure has also increased by 853.25 per cent during recent years as compared to last ten years. It is observable from the data that government is increasing expenditure outlays on different schemes for the upliftment of the scheduled castes.
Table 2.4

Expenditure on Fisheries under State Plan Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fisheries</th>
<th>1989-90 Rs. in Lakh</th>
<th>1999-2000 Rs. in Lakh</th>
<th>% ± Growth rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Indian Fisheries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Management &amp; Development of river fish</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>+ 1990.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Management &amp; Development of trout fisheries</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>3.97</td>
<td>+1426.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Processing preservation and marking</td>
<td>2.87</td>
<td>22.61</td>
<td>+687.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Extension and training</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6.97</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Management &amp; Development of pond fisheries</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>4.61</td>
<td>+229.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Management of Development of reservoir fisheries</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>40.16</td>
<td>+703.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The schemes proposed under fisheries sector relate to provision of subsidy to the scheduled caste beneficiaries, strengthening of infrastructure, creation of additional water bodies for fish culture, and extension and awareness programmes. The weaker section constitutes an important segment of fisheries sector a number of welfare schemes hence, therefore, been initiated by the Fisheries Department which provide direct assistance to scheduled castes interested in this business, strengthening of infrastructure and imparting training to them. The main thrust of these schemes is to
generate jobs for weaker sections. In order to implement programme under this sector provision of the expenditure outlays of Rs. 40.16 lakh during 1999-2000 was made. It is evident from the data (Table 2.4) that the expenditure on Indian fisheries management and development of river fish has been higher in 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90. In the same way, the expenditure has also increased on the management and development of trout fish, processing, preservation, marketing and management and the development of fishery ponds. The data thus show that the total expenditure has increased by 703.00 per cent during 1999-2000 since 1989-90.

Table 2.5
Expenditure on Forest under State Plan Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Quick growing species</td>
<td>21.29</td>
<td>117.17</td>
<td>+450.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Economic plantation</td>
<td>20.28</td>
<td>119.08</td>
<td>+487.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Fuel wood and fodder project</td>
<td>9.96</td>
<td>58.74</td>
<td>+489.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Social forestry programme</td>
<td>256.10</td>
<td>127.94</td>
<td>-50.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) World Bank integrated water shed development project (Kandi area)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>110.06</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi) Other a forestation scheme</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>117.54</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii) Sanjhi Van yojna</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>220.69</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>307.73</td>
<td>871.22</td>
<td>+183.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The forests occupy an important place in the economy of Himachal Pradesh. In the process of progressive economic development it is envisaged to step up substantially the optimum use of the available resources. The state Forest Policy formulated in September, 1980 envisaged to bring at least 50 per cent of the total geographical area under forest by the year 2000 A.D. The development of forest in the state was expected to provide employment opportunities to the poor local inhabitants particularly the scheduled castes. The forestry development programme under the SCP is to raise the plantations through forestry and social forestry schemes. Under the forestry sector, an outlay of Rs. 4450.00 lakh was approved for the 9th Five year Plan (1997-2002). The data (Table 2.5) indicate that the expenditure under forest sector for the Fuel wood and fodder project has increased by 489.76 per cent during 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90. The expenditure has also increased on economic plantation and quick growing species e.f. 487.18 and 450.35 per cent respectively. The expenditure decrease is only seen in social forestry programme during 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90. But total expenditure has increased by 183.11 per cent on forest during 1999-2000 in comparison to 1989-90.

Integrated Rural Development Programme was started in the year 1978-79 in the state covering only 29 blocks. On 2nd October, 1980, it was extended to all the 69 blocks on 50:50 sharing basis between centre and state. The main objective of this programme was to raise the standard of families living below poverty line by providing them financial help in the form of loan from financial institutions and subsidy from the government to
acquire productive and income generating assets and to create substantial additional employment opportunities for them.

**Table 2.6**

**Expenditure on Rural Development under State Plan Schemes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Special programme for rural development</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Integrated Rural Energy Programme, Swarajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojna</td>
<td>116.00</td>
<td>50.66</td>
<td>-56.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Urja Integrated Rural Energy Programme, (Him Urja)</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>+500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Rural employment</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Special employment programme</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Jawahar Rojgar Yojna, Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojna</td>
<td>81.00</td>
<td>96.27</td>
<td>+18.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Employment assurance scheme</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>159.63</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Land reform</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Supporting services</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Community Development</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Panchanyats</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>250.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>203.00</td>
<td>586.56</td>
<td>+188.94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During 9th Five Year Plan, efforts were made to diversify the activities from primary sector to secondary and tertiary sectors. The group approach was encouraged to ensure higher investment on viable projects which could accrue higher income to the target group beneficiaries. Scheduled caste coverage under the programme was to be achieved as per the norms of the government of India. For the implementation of this programme during 9th Five Year Plan Rs. 675.00 lakh was earmarked in the state plan which was to be utilized for providing benefits to scheduled caste families.

From the data (Table 2.6) it is observed that the expenditure on Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) under Himurja, banner and special employment scheme has increased about 500.00 per cent and 18.85 per cent respectively. The decrease is only in the expenditure on IRDP programme in the year 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90. But the total expenditure as a whole increased on rural development by 188.94 per cent between 1999-2000 and 1989-90.

Education plays a predominant role in the human resources development. A sum of Rs. 12160.00 lakh for 9th Five Year Plan period (1997 -2002) was earmarked under education sector. A sum of Rs. 3810.00 lakh for the 9th Five Year Plan was meant for primary education while 8350.00 lakh was meant for middle and onwards up to higher education. An amount of Rs. 200.00 lakh was for providing free text books to the scheduled caste students in primary classes. The state government has also decided to provide free education to all girls students studying up to Matric standard. Besides, all the scheduled caste girls are given scholarships and uniforms.
Table 2.7

Expenditure Primary Education and Allied Services under State Plan Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education and allied services</th>
<th>Primary education</th>
<th>1989-90 Rs. In lakh</th>
<th>1999-2000 Rs. In Lakh</th>
<th>% ±3 Growth rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Cost of expenditure on PSSS/opening of new schools</td>
<td>25.72</td>
<td>1017.16</td>
<td>+3854.74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Drinking water facilities to the PSS (PTWCS)</td>
<td>12.25</td>
<td>55.34</td>
<td>+351.75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Volunteer teachers</td>
<td>36.75</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Free text books</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) SBVSY</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>89.72</strong></td>
<td><strong>1222.50</strong></td>
<td><strong>+1262.57</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Therefore, from the plan-wise allocations it is obvious that the state government has been increasing expenditure on education every year. The data (Table 2.7) further reveal that in total primary education the expenditure increase had been about 1262.57 per cent in the year 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90. The percentage increase in the expenditure on primary schools, opening of new schools, and drinking water facility to the primary schools has been 3854.74 per cent and 351.75 per cent respectively.

The expenditure on middle standard school education has also increased during 1999-2000 by about 442.81 per cent as compared to 1989-90. Due to higher expenditure increase improvement of School Infrastructure, provision of additional teachers for middle schools, opening of new educational blocks, upgrading of primary schools and opening of middle schools has taken place to some extent.
Table 2.8
Expenditure under Higher Education State Plan Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General and University Education</th>
<th>Middle Education</th>
<th>1989-90 Rs. in lakh</th>
<th>1999-2000 Rs. in lakh</th>
<th>%± Growth rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i)</td>
<td>Upgrading of PSS/Opening of Midale schools</td>
<td>109.86</td>
<td>542.00</td>
<td>+393.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii)</td>
<td>Part time water carriers + MSS</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>7.80</td>
<td>+173.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii)</td>
<td>Additional teachers for MSS</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>25.60</td>
<td>+412.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv)</td>
<td>Opening of educational blocks</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>6.40</td>
<td>+396.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v)</td>
<td>Volunteer teachers in MSS</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9.90</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi)</td>
<td>Construction of buildings</td>
<td>6.46</td>
<td>8.70</td>
<td>+34.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii)</td>
<td>Improvement of school infrastructure</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>20.50</td>
<td>+530.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii)</td>
<td>Scholarships to SC girls</td>
<td>39.49</td>
<td>87.00</td>
<td>+120.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a)</td>
<td>Free text books</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix)</td>
<td>10th FCA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a)</td>
<td>Drinking water facility</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b)</td>
<td>Toilet for girls</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>168.20</td>
<td>913.00</td>
<td>+442.81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The expenditure has been 530.77 percent, 412.00 percent, 396.12 percent and 393.35 percent respectively during 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90. The data (Table 2.8) therefore indicate that expenditure has increased in every field of middle education including expenditure on scholarship to scheduled caste girls and part time water carrier for middle schools.
Table 2.9

Expenditure on Secondary Education under State Plan Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Upgrading of MSS to HSS/Construction of expenditure on HSS</td>
<td>94.84</td>
<td>640.60</td>
<td>+575.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Upgrading of HSS to SSS</td>
<td>71.83</td>
<td>568.60</td>
<td>+691.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Free hostel</td>
<td>4.75</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>+131.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Volunteer teachers for HSS</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Additional teachers for high schools</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>47.50</td>
<td>+137.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi) Expenditure on launching classes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii) Additional teachers for SSSS</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5.30</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii) Improvement of schools infrastructure</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>54.60</td>
<td>+2439.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix) Incentive, (a) Scholarship</td>
<td>9.50</td>
<td>54.00</td>
<td>+468.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Free text books</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>124.00</td>
<td>+247.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Dr. Ambedkar Meghav Chatra briti Yojna</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x) Construction of buildings</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>203.57</td>
<td>1700.00</td>
<td>+735.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In order to promote secondary education an outlay of Rs. 5021.76 lakh for 9th Five Year Plan was proposed to meet the expenditure of High schools, Senior Secondary Schools, free hostel, volunteer teachers and scholarship to scheduled caste girls, free text books to scheduled caste students, school infrastructure and completion of the on going construction of school buildings. From (Table 2.9) it is observed that expenditure in this respect has been higher as compared to last ten years. The expenditure increase during 1999-2000 period has been by 735.09 per cent o the total secondary education as compared to 1989-90. There is no decrease in
expenditure under different schemes meant for secondary education. The data further show indicate the expenditure increase by 247.00 per cent on free text books and 2439.53 per cent increase on improvement of school infrastructure as compared to last ten years.

**Table 2.10**

**Expenditure on University and Higher Education under State Plan Schemes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University and Higher, Education</th>
<th>1989-90 Rs. In Lakh</th>
<th>1999-2000 Rs. In Lakh</th>
<th>%±</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Opening of colleges</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>117.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Construction of buildings</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Education Scholarship for SC students</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction of hostels for SC students at REC Hamirpur</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth services and sports</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>34.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>195.57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In addition to the secondary education a sum sum of Rs. 326.00 lakh for 9th Five Year Plan was earmarked to meet out the expenditure of colleges running under special component plan. Approximately Rs. 100.00 lakh was meant for the construction of buildings for the colleges. Youth are cared for and their energies are sublimated to healthy and productive pursuits so as to strive toward excellence in all spheres of individuals and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher level of endeavour and achievement. Under the plan Rs. 110.00 lakh was spent on youth service. The data (Table 2.10) indicate that the expenditure for the year 1999-2000 was for the opening of colleges, technical education scholarship for scheduled caste students and youth services and sports is Rs.195.57 lakh.
### Table 2.11

**Expenditure on Health: Allopathy System under State Plan Schemes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health: Allopathy</th>
<th>1989-90 Rs. in lakh</th>
<th>1999-2000 Rs. in lakh</th>
<th>%± Growth rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Construction of expenditure on PHC and Sub-centres buildings with staff quarters</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td>+5900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Opening of sub-centres</td>
<td>10.75</td>
<td>56.00</td>
<td>+420.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Multi purpose workers scheme</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>90.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Opening of PHCs</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>170.00</td>
<td>+933.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) National programme for construction of buildings</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>740.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi) National malaria ercelicatium programme</td>
<td>12.87</td>
<td>63.00</td>
<td>+381.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii) T.B. control programme</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>21.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii) C/o civil hospitals/civil dispensaries, staff quarters</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix) Opening of community health centre</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>+111.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x) Conversation of ruler hospitals into CHC</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayurveda</td>
<td>8.17</td>
<td>215.78</td>
<td>+2541.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>55.17</td>
<td>805.78</td>
<td>+1360.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The delivery of adequate health care to the people irrespective of caste and creed is the basic task before the nation. The situation in respect of many diseases reflects that the number of the people becoming victims have been rising. The health delivery system in rural areas is inadequate and inefficient. The burden of health has become more enormous with environmental degradation and its impact on physical life of the people. Health is also very important component for the success of family planning programme and therefore deserves special attention.
Indian systems of medicine, along with Allopathy and Homoeopathy play a very vital role in the health care in Himachal Pradesh. Because of variety of climatic conditions, this state has traditionally been a rich repository of medicinal plants used in various systems of medicine. Large areas of the state are still inaccessible and the availability of doctors of the modern systems of medicine has been scarce. About 67 Ayurveda health centers are functioning in scheduled caste concentrated villages. The number of which is likely to reach 90 by the end of 9th Five Year Plan.

From the data (Table 2.11) it is observed that after each successive Five Year Plan the expenditure outlays have been increasing for various schemes falling under the health department. The total expenditure on health on the whole has increased by 1360.54 per cent over the last ten years. Expenditure on PHC, Sub-centres building with staff quarters, Ayurveda has increased by 5900.00 per cent and 2541.13 per cent respectively as compared to last ten years.

| Table 2.12 |
| Expenditure on Housing under State Plan Schemes |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A) Housing</th>
<th>1989-90 Rs. In lakh</th>
<th>1999-2000 Rs. In lakh</th>
<th>%± Growth rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Loan under LIGH scheme</td>
<td>6.85</td>
<td>34.60</td>
<td>+405.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Loan under MIGH Scheme</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Legc coverable loan written off</td>
<td>17.15</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B) Rural housing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Gandhi Kutir Yojna</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>662.82</td>
<td>+5925.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Indira Awaas Yojna</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>109.12</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>826.54</td>
<td>+1966.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the important problems faced by the scheduled castes is that housing. Traditionally they were located outside the village and town. This was attributed to the defiling occupations carried out by them. The segregation of the scheduled castes in the field of accommodation, occupation, education and matters of social intercourse created a yawning gap between the scheduled castes and swarna. Viewing this in proper perspective and also the utterly unsatisfactory conditions of some poor swarna the government decided to undertake housing plan. The problem of money for scheduled castes was a serious one. For improving their position, the scheduled castes needed credit from the banks. The banks particularly Bank of India and Union Bank of India are doing their job well. Under Gandhi Kutir Yojna government gives assistance to the tune of Rs. 15800/- and 16500/- to the scheduled castes. Indira Awaas Yojna is another centrally sponsored scheme under which an assistance of Rs. 22,000/- per families is given to families falling Below Poverty Line. The government of India has decided to give financial assistance for the conversion/up-gradation of kutcha houses into semi pucca houses besides the construction of new houses to the Below Poverty Line scheduled caste families. (SCP-2002-02).

It is observed (Table 2.12) that under various housing schemes government gives loan. To benefit the large number there is a Low Income Group Housing Scheme. Under this scheme the expenditure outlays amount has increased by 405.11 per cent during the year 1999-2000 in comparison to 1989-90. The expenditure outlays on loan under Middle Income Group Housing Scheme increased by 300.00 per cent during the
year 1999-2000 as compared to the last ten years. Rural housing assistance under Gandhi Kutir Yojna has increased 5925 64 per cent in the year 1999-2000. It is therefore observable that in housing sector there is 1966 35 per cent expenditure increase in the year of 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90.

Table 2.13

Expenditure on Welfare Measures under State Plan Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Welfare Measures</th>
<th>1989-90 Rs In lakh</th>
<th>1999-2000 Rs In lakh</th>
<th>%± Growth rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Economic betterment of Scheduled castes</td>
<td>4 50</td>
<td>11 04</td>
<td>145 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Award of inter-caste marriage</td>
<td>2 70</td>
<td>22 83</td>
<td>745 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Environment improvement of Scheduled castes</td>
<td>4 19</td>
<td>44 03</td>
<td>950 83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Matching grant for Scheduled castes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Book banks</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1 05</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) PCR Act</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12 28</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Girls hostels/boys hostels</td>
<td>0 50</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Scholarship to the children of those who are engaged in unclean occupation</td>
<td>23 00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Pre-examination coaching</td>
<td>3 50</td>
<td>11 50</td>
<td>228 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi) Electrification of SC houses</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii) Publicity campaign</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4 80</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii) Technical scholarship</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2 1 80</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix) Housing subsidy</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>26 98</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x) Drinking water environment of scheduled castes beasts</td>
<td>0 84</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xi) Proficiency in short hand typing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2 14</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>86 89</td>
<td>158 45</td>
<td>82 36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Different schemes are being implemented by the welfare department for the socio-economic upliftment of scheduled castes. The expenditure
under welfare department on different schemes has increased during last one decade (1989-90 to 1999-2000) by about 82.36 per cent of the total expenditure for the welfare of scheduled castes. The highest increase in expenditure is found on environment improvement for scheduled castes which is 950.83 per cent as compared to last decade 1989-90. This is followed by 745.53 per cent expenditure increase on award for inter caste marriage. There is also 228.57 per cent expenditure increase on pre examination coaching of scheduled caste students as compared to last ten years. Lastly 145.33 per cent total expenditure has increase on the economic betterment of scheduled castes. Scheme-wise expenditure under state plan scheme is increasing due to government's new policies for the upliftment of the scheduled castes at the state as well as centre level.

Table 2.14
Expenditure on Social Welfare and Nutrition under State Plan Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Social welfare (old age widow pension)</td>
<td>18.25</td>
<td>1214.10</td>
<td>+6552.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Nutrition SNP including ICDS</td>
<td>76.92</td>
<td>485.00</td>
<td>530.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Scheduled castes development machinery</td>
<td>1057.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1152.17</td>
<td>1699.10</td>
<td>47.47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Under social welfare and nutrition scheme old age pension previous is made for of 60 years and above age. There is no age bar in case of
widows and handicapped. The expenditure under social welfare and nutrition has increased by 47.47 per cent of the total expenditure during the decade 1989-90 to 1999-2000. The expenditure increase by 6552.60 per cent on the social welfare (old age widow pension) during year 1999-2000 as compared to 1989-90 is high. Followed by 530.52 per cent expenditure is increase on Nutrition programmes as compared to last decade.

To sum up the inputs made under Special Component Plan for the development of scheduled castes it is worthwhile to mention that under economic services which included primarily agriculture, the total financial input increased by 144.64 percent. The maximum outlays increased in area of distribution of agricultural implements, followed by development of cash crop like ginger other vegetable' improved seeds, training and extension programme, and high yielding varieties of crops. Besides, agriculture, horticulture received considerable boost, almost double than the agriculture in terms of growth in financial outlays. In Horticulture control of pest and diseases was emphasized followed by development of Horticulture farms, nursery, development of mushroom, and training of farmers. It may also be noted that assistance to small farmer in the form of special subsidy, instead of increasing has registered a decrease. Some of the other significant areas which can prove economically highly significant contributor like development of olive and other fruit, horticulture extension programme integrated horticultural projects, development for betterment of the scheduled castes and organization of gardening were all together ignored. In the animal husbandry sector the maximum emphasis was on construction of veterinary, dispensaries, hospitals, CVD and poly clinics and
scheduled castes special project like breeding facilities for cattle and buffalos, Semen Bank, etc. In this sector also development of projects that can be economically more beneficiary like angora/rabbit wool were given the least attention.

Another area emphasized for generating more income for the scheduled castes pertain to fisheries. This sector received considerable attention which in fact if more than agriculture and horticulture. Under this management and development of river trout fish and droughts fisheries were given significant attention along with processing, preservation of fish pound fisheries also found favour in the development of fishery project.

Forestry and forest products both timber as well as fruits are important economic contributors in this regard. The data has been quite revealing, particularly with regard to the development of fuel wood and fodder projects economically more viable plantation. It is however found that social forestry has been neglected, and as result of that the financial outlays came down almost by half. But at the same time the development of integrated water-shed projects in Kandi area and other forest scheme such as Sanji Van Yojna were the new dimension to the on going forest development programme. In the state plan rural development has been emphasized upon through special programmes such as Improved Combine Distribution Production, Swaran Jyanti Gram Swarozgar Yojna, Integrated Rural Energy Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojna, Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojna Employment Assurance Scheme and Panchayats.

Education in general and education of the scheduled castes have been emphasised, especially under the universalization of primary
education. It is noted that the funding to meet the cost of primary and secondary school and of opening up of new schools have increased steadily. In the school educational programme drinking water facilities have also being emphasized. In totality the financial outlay for primary education and allied services have increased during the last 10 years. Similarly middle education is being give special care by way of financial provisions. In this context the maximum resources have been provided for upgrading of primary schools and opening of middle schools and distribution of free text books/scholarship to the scheduled castes girls. Similarly it has been found that outlays for secondary education have also increased. The maximum of the allocation have been spent on the up gradation of middle schools to Higher Secondary School followed by up gradation of Higher Secondary to Senior Secondary Schools. In addition to the said special outlays have been provided for college and university education.

In the field of health with special reference to allopathic health facilities, a considerable amount is being spent. In terms of priorities construction of Primary Health Centre Sub Centre building along with staff quarters have been taken up, Civil hospitals open of Primary Health Centre multi purpose workers schemes promotion of Ayurvedic medicine etc., emphasized. This may be mentioned that health has received considerable boost in the recent time especially due to the international pressures. Apart from the above the housing is another area in which the allocation have increased manifold. This is observed that the maximum attention is paid to the rural housing particularly under Gandhi Kutir Yojna schemes and Indira Awaas Yojna schemes. In urban area the emphasis on distribution of
loan under Low Income Group Housing and Middle Income Group Housing schemes have been down. In other words housing has been a priority for the planner and policy makers with special reference to scheduled castes. This is further found that the government has taken various other welfare measures, which include significant allocation for the improvement of environment of scheduled castes, housing subsidies, technical scholarships award for inter caste marriage, and pre-examination coaching. Somehow some of the schemes such as hostel for boys and girls, scholarship for children of the people engaged in unclean occupations, drinking water etc., have been ignored in the 1999-2000 Special Component Plan. In other words welfare measures have been expanded in comparison to the previous years.

Lastly, the social welfare activities, which includes old age widow pension, nutrition etc. have been given higher priority. The financial allocations for these have increased over the last ten years. The findings suggest that over the last ten years financial allocations with regard to social economic and related activities have been increased. This increase is substantial in some of the said areas, which have been prioritized.