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India is prospering in various fields. However, the progress and development would be imbalance due to mass backwardness; and there is a danger of several problems such as anarchy.

It is mentioned in the approach paper to the ninth five year plan (1997-2000) that, "the artisans in rural area despite their rich heritage and skills, belong to the poverty group."\(^1\)

In India, the OBCs constitute about 52% of total population. It is highly heterogeneous group. Many persons among them (especially artisans, balutedäsrs, gävkämärs) live miserable life. These persons are unaware regarding several aspects; such as their problems, welfare programmes, knowhow about development and happenings around. The nature of their overall condition and variegated problems needs for adopting interdisciplinary approach and multiple strategies at various levels (at case level, at family level, at community level, on mass level etc.).

There is a need for following aspects: inculcation of education and higher ambitions for upward mobility, promotion of secular thoughts among them, and their emancipation from religious blindness and from mere interdependence. They should be made self-dependent and self-reliant to overcome the agonies and problems. Social work approach is proper in this direction.
For development of OBCs, it is not proper to adopt sanskritic values. Considering heterogeneous nature of OBCs, independent modalities and modules should be developed and implemented and reviewed time to time.

So far development of OBCs is concerned, there is a strong need of 'reservation' in various sectors at various levels (on conceptual level and implementation rigorously). It will remove their apathy regarding social, national happenings and transactions; and chances are more for development oriented changes in physical and psychological state due to education and employment.

Reference: