CHAPTER - I
INTRODUCTION

The scheduled castes constitute 19.18 percent of the total population of Tamil Nadu in 1991. From time immemorial Scheduled Castes have been neglected, oppressed and suppressed by both Brahmins and Non-Brahmin.

The Scheduled castes are treated as untouchables and are forced to live in isolation, utter poverty, illiteracy, poor health conditions, ignorance and serfdom. They have been suffering from various handicaps due to the social structure based on caste hierarchy and remained backward and fell victims to various social, evils. They are victims of violence and riots. Their women folk have been subjected to sexual harassment. (Madan, 1999: 400-03).

The Scheduled castes are mainly settled in rural areas and are dependent on the upper caste for their livelihood. They are engaged mostly in low paid manual occupations and also work as bonded labourers. They have been doing dirty jobs, seasonable work and most of them live without livestock and even household articles.

The pitiable economic conditions lead to illiteracy, social immobility, and loss of personal freedom. Scheduled caste people are virtually denied the right to possess their own lands for cultivation and they are always in debts and being exploited by the non-scheduled castes.
The lands given to them by the Government are invariably dry and uncultivable. Among the Scheduled Castes very few possessed land. Maximum number of Scheduled castes are still engaged in traditional occupation. A high percentage of the Scheduled castes live in their own villages as uneducated and unaware of what is happening around them. Houses of the Scheduled castes are mostly thatched roofs, tiles and are invariably segregated from the habitations of the upper castes (Hasan 1996: 60-62).

Before the arrival of the missionaries, educational facilities for the Scheduled Castes were totally absent. They were deprived of the fruits of reading and writing. Hunter commission had suggested to open separate schools for the children of the oppressed people. Several factors are responsible for educational backwardness of the Scheduled castes. Firstly, the negative attitude of the high caste people. Secondly, the inability of the Government to enforce its policies strictly and effectively. Thirdly, lack of awareness amongst the members of Scheduled Castes and lastly, the difficulty to get suitable teachers who could impart education to the children of the depressed classes. (Vidyarthi 1977:104-109)

After independence, legislative measures were enacted for the removal of social in-justice, social discrimination, and removal of ban on the admission of the Scheduled Castes students to common schools. The Government therefore has taken various educational programmes to enhance the literacy rate of the low caste people (Ibid, 62-63).
Scheduled castes are not well organised to effect a striking bargain with the caste Hindus because of their economic dependence on non-scheduled caste people. (Chaurasia 1980: 70-71)

Political reservation has not played a significant role to represent their cause due to the domination and numerical strength of the non-scheduled caste in all the political parties.

The elected political leaders from the reserved constituencies were effectively co-opted and silenced. The problems of the Scheduled castes become a non-issue for the politicians, except when the election is around.

Scheduled caste political leaders and members remain essentially subordinate to the party bosses. They are not allowed to grow within the political parties. Political parties avail them as a vote bank during the election time. (Paravathamma 1989:195-95).

Some conflicting views have been expressed that the Governmental programmes have been implemented successfully, but the fruits of the benefits have not been reached them properly.

The Constitution of India prescribes protection and safeguards for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and other weaker sections.
The main safeguards are:

1. Abolition of ‘untouchability’ and forbidding of its practice in any form (Art 17).

2. Promotion of their educational and economic interests and their protection from social injustice and all forms of exploitation (Art. 46)

3. Throwing open by law of Hindu religious institutions of a public character to all classes and sections of Hindus (Art.25b)

4. Removal of any disability, liability, restriction or condition with regard to access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment or the use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of state funds or dedicated to the use of the general public (Art. 15(2))

5. Curtailment by law in the interest of any scheduled Caste, of the general rights of all citizens to move freely, settle in, and acquire property (Art 19(5))

6. The forbidding of any denials of admission to educational institutions maintained by the state or receiving aid out of state funds (Art. 29(2)).

7. State to make reservation for the backward classes in public services in case of inadequate representation and requiring the state to consider the claims of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in making appointments to public services (Arts: 16 and 335)

9. The setting up of Tribal Advisory Councils and separate departments in the states and appointment of a special officer at the centre to promote their welfare and safeguard their interests (Arts. 164 and 338 and Fifth Schedule) special provision for the administration and control of scheduled and tribal areas (Art.244 and Fifth and Sixth Schedules); and

10. Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour (Art.23). (Saksena 1987, 77-80)

There are a number of laws, which provide safeguards for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. Some of these are from the various constitutional provisions, like, The Protection of Civil Rights Act 1955, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (prevention of Atrocity) act 1989, the Bonded Labour system (Abolition) act 1976, the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation )Act 1986. Rules and Regulations in force in different states to prevent alienation of land belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In some states such provision exists in the Land Revenue Code. Acts in different states for restoration of alienated land to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in force. The forest Conservation Act 1980. (National Commission for Scheduled Castes and scheduled Tribes, Historical Backward general information , New Delhi July 1993, 3-6)
Legislative Measures

According to provisions of the constitution, untouchability was abolished and its practice in any form forbidden. Thus under Article 252 Hindu religious institutions of a public character were thrown open to all section. The untouchability offences Act, 1955 was enacted. This Act was amended by the untouchability (offences) Amendment and Miscellaneous provisions Act 1976. It has been renamed as "protection of civil rights Act" 1955.

Government Welfare Programmes

Various welfare and development programmes have been launched by the Government for the upliftment of the Scheduled Castes, under which financial assistance is given to scheduled castes for improving their condition. In Indie, the first systematic attempt for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes started with the introduction of Montague reforms of 1919. After independence Government of India has taken remedial steps to improve the conditions of the Scheduled Castes and the Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution provided various measures for the welfare of this section of the Indian population.

For the development of Scheduled Castes a three pronged strategy has been evolved and Implemented, viz., (a) development measures for their educational and economic advancement,(b) projective measures through protection of civil rights act or constitutional safeguards, arid (c) positive discrimination in matters of employment and other facilities.
Among the development programmes, the main focuses are on the strategy of welfare and advisory agencies, such as ministry/ Department, Commission parliamentary committee voluntary organisations, planning commissions, five year plans. Annual plan, Centre, State Governments and Union territories taking up viable income generating projects, like National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and development corporation and state Scheduled Castes Development Corporation which provides financial assistance through financial institutions for the economic development of Sc Communities.

Five Year Plans

With the above aims and objectives, the planners provided separate outlays and programmes for the Scheduled Castes. In respect of outlays, Education, Economic upliftment, housing and health were the three broad groups coming under the plans.

Education was given top priority in all the plans except 'the First Five Year Plan. During the sixth five year plan period for the welfare of SCs a special strategy was developed like special component plan, and special central assistance etc., (Bose 1984: 322-23).
1. Central Programmes

The most important programmes are undertaken by the ministry of social justice and empowerment to remove the poverty among Scheduled Castes people such as 1. Post-matric scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, during 1998-1999 central assistance of Rs.368.79 crore was released and more than lakhs of students were benefited. 2. Premetric-scholarship for the children of those engaged in unclean occupations, during 1998-99 the central assistance of 2 crores was released 21.48 of students were benefited 3.Book banks for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes students studying in medical and Engineering colleges during 1998-99,326,348

### Table 1.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Outlay</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Plan</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>7.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Plan</td>
<td>28.80</td>
<td>27.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Plan</td>
<td>40.14</td>
<td>37.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Plan</td>
<td>83.45</td>
<td>79.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Plan</td>
<td>146.00</td>
<td>220.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth Plan</td>
<td>4854.00</td>
<td>4128.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh Plan</td>
<td>7905.80</td>
<td>4133.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth Plan</td>
<td>9084.44</td>
<td>1242.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninth Plan</td>
<td>10962.14</td>
<td>2126.15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Welfare Department, Government of India, p.205
students were benefited. 4. Girls Hostels for Scheduled Castes, during 1993-99 Rs.2.25 Crore was released and maximum students were benefited. 5. Coaching and allied schemes for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe, during 1998-99 Rs.2.15 Crore and more than 1000 students were benefited. 6. National Overseas Scholarships totally 574 students were availed by the scheme. 7. Liberation And Rehabilitation of Scavengers, during 1998-99, 90.70 Crores was released. 8. Research Training Assistance to Co-operatives during 1998-99 more than 7.2 lakhs persons were benefited. 9. Rahat Yojana, under this housing scheme the poor got immediate relief.

Rural Development Programmes and schemes were formulated and directed towards the poor in the country, they are: a) National Social Assistance Programmes (NSAP), b) National Programmes of Nutritional support to Primary Education (NPNSPE), c) Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY), d) Rural Group Life Insurance Schemes etc. (RGLIS) (Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, General group). (Dubey 1993, 58-59).

State Progysasmes

Tamil Nadu Government has been implementing several programmes for the promotion of Social, Educational and Economic interest of those classes of the Society. The following are the major areas identified by the state Government: i) Education, uneconomic development, iii) Housing and provision of infra-structural facilities and iv) special measures.
1. Education is the basic necessity for the development of a society. Growth and Development are an integral part of an educationally advanced society. Therefore, it is necessary to promote education among the Scheduled Castes community and Scheduled Tribes. Realising this, education of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is given lot of importance. Because of these efforts, the level of literacy among Schedules Castes and has registered a considerable growth. (Adi Dravidar Welfare Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, 1998-99: 12).

For educating the Adi Dravidar or Sc Children 1253 schools (1017) Adi Dravidar Schools, 236 Tribal Schools) are being run by Adi Dravidar Welfare department. Present strength of all Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare school is 22,90,81. (Adi Dravidar Welfare Department Government of Tamil Nadu April 1998-99: 12)
New Buildings/additional class rooms with all facilities are constructed in a phased manner. A some of Rs. 143.99 lakhs has been provided for the year 1998-99.

Special coaching programmes for students in Standard X and XII who are of average and below average standard are identified and special attention is given for their better performance.

Special coaching is given to all the X and XII standard students, with a view to enable their better performance in the Public Examination, during 1998-99 Xth std. 59 person and XII std 61% were benefited. (Ibid: 13-14).

Special Orientation Training of Teachers working in the Adi-Dravidar and Tribal Welfare schools in all subjects by using modern method of teaching and techniques.

Hostel facilities are being provided to students who study in schools, colleges and Industrial Training Institutes. Every year new hostels are opened based on the need and financial resources available, during 1998-99 Rs. 143.40 lakhs was released and more than 1.5 Lakhs students were benefited.

Under the existing scheme of medical check up of the children studying in Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools and Hostels, Governments were paid an honorarium of Rs.100 per month during 1998-99. More than lakhs students were benefited. Out of
this scheme. (Ibid: 14-17). With a view to preventing school dropouts, especially in the higher classes among Scheduled Castes Girl students and to increase the enrolment in the schools, incentives in the form of cash were given to three Headmasters who enrolled and retained the largest number of Adi Dravidar girl students during 1998-99. (Ibid: 17-25).

Other programs are chief Minister's Merit Award, Scholarships and Concessions, Free Supply of text books, Free Supply of Note Books, Prematric Scholarships and Post matric, Scholarship Scheme, State Special Scholarship, Free Education, Loan Scholarships, Special Assistance to Law Graduates, Book Banks, Additional stipend to ITI students, etc., (Ibid, 72-76)

II. Economic Development:

Table No 1.3
Economic development for Scheduled Castes between 1989-99

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pair of plough pulse</th>
<th>Agricultural (Rs. in lakhs)</th>
<th>Cooperative societies (Rs. in lakhs)</th>
<th>Small Scale Industry (Rs. in Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>16.41</td>
<td>56.36</td>
<td>132.828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>46.66</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>6.500000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-92</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>600.00</td>
<td>32.50</td>
<td>1.51000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-93</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>12.99</td>
<td>51.50</td>
<td>6.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>15.46</td>
<td>65.10</td>
<td>14.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>21.20</td>
<td>76.10</td>
<td>1.490000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>689</td>
<td>115.46</td>
<td>51.50</td>
<td>16.50000</td>
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<td>1996-97</td>
<td>793</td>
<td>139.69</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>8.78000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>169.15</td>
<td>81.80</td>
<td>11.32000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>35.45</td>
<td>81.50</td>
<td>1.32000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Policy Note State Administrative report, Government of Tamil Nadu.
With a view to improve the living conditions of the SCs the Tamil Nadu Government has taken several programmes like Adi-Dravidar Milk Producers Cooperative Societies, Petty Trade Loan, Cottage Industries Training Centres, Training Cum Production Centres, Subsidy to Technically Trained Persons, Training for Employment, Pre-Examination Training Centres for A.S (Indian Administrative Service), I.P.S (Indian Police Service), training Programmes with Special Central Assistance Funds, Special Coaching for Recruitment of Scheduled Castes for various public and private sector etc (Performance budget 1998-99: 27-36)

III. Housing :

Table No – 1.4

Housing and Other Schemes for the development of SCs between 1989-99

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Housing Amount Spent (Rs. in Crores)</th>
<th>No. of House sites Issued</th>
<th>House Constructed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>78,756</td>
<td>10,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>12,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-92</td>
<td>7.60</td>
<td>47,000</td>
<td>13,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-93</td>
<td>15.60</td>
<td>48,748</td>
<td>14,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>16.25</td>
<td>66,165</td>
<td>33,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>12.25</td>
<td>81,537</td>
<td>33,423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>41.41</td>
<td>1,62,124</td>
<td>64,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>46.05</td>
<td>85,309</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>17.05</td>
<td>80,806</td>
<td>48,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>20.15</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>60,415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The scheme of providing of House sites to the Houseless Adi Dravidar is implemented as an on going scheme with the intention of helping the poor Adi Dravidars who do not own a house site of their own. The TamilNadu Government also provides specific housing programmes for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes vis. a Provision of House Sites for Adi Dravidars, B. Samathuvapurain, C. Drinking Water Wells, d. Public Health (Pathways and Burial Grounds), Community Halls, f. Assistance for funeral rites etc.

**IV. Special Measures:**

**Table 1.5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Financial (Rs. In crores)</th>
<th>Physical (in lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Achievement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>206.23</td>
<td>215.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>242.18</td>
<td>251.27</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991-92</td>
<td>265.76</td>
<td>280.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-93</td>
<td>293.08</td>
<td>300.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>333.61</td>
<td>333.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>523.06</td>
<td>130.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>618.25</td>
<td>483.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>632.39</td>
<td>408.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>752.23</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>805.40</td>
<td>456.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Performance Budget, Government of Tamil Nadu 1998-99, P.50
Tamil Nadu has been implementing the special component plan of government of India since 1980-81 with the following objectives: 1. To assist Scheduled Caste families to cross above the poverty line and 2. To provide basic amenities and facilities in their habitations, b. Special Central Assistance: This fund, on sanction by Government of Tamil Nadu and is released through Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing Development Corporation for taking up economic development programmes (opcit, 45-47).

The report of the commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1967-1968 mentioned that to increase the intake of Scheduled Castes in services the following special measures have been taken by the Government viz., (a) Maximum age limit for Scheduled Castes for direct recruitment to service was increased by 5 years, (b) The fees prescribed for admission to an examination or for application to any post was reduced for one fourth for Scheduled Castes and (c) When a relaxation of the general standard was necessary to accommodate scheduled in Castes certain posts for which they could not apply otherwise this was also to be done. (Singh : 1996, 43-44)

Recently Tamil Nadu Government has constituted a high power committee to check the Reservation Norms implemented in various department as per the policy.
Social And Political Organisations Of Scheduled Castes

The schedules caste wanted to build up organisational strength to fight for their rights. They started organisation at the state level. Harijan Sevak Sangh, Adi-Dravidar, Mahajana Sabha, Dravida Kazaham, Devendra Kula Mahajana Sabha, Arunthathiya Mahajana Sabha, Ambedkar Makkal Iyakkam came into existence for protecting and promoting the interests of scheduled castes. Also a unit of the republican party of India is functioning in Tamil Nadu. The Dalit Panther of India (DPI) and the Bhahujan Samaj Party (BSP) have unit in Tamil Nadu.

Recently, Puthiya Tamilagam (New Tamil Nadu) emerged as a scheduled caste political party to bring about socio-political change and to bring them into the political mainstream. The above mentioned social organisations and political parties are articulating the demands of SCs in Tamil Nadu.

Organisation Structure And Agencies At National Level for Administering Development:

Certain serious measures were taken for the upliftment of Scheduled Caste. These can be broadly grouped as (i) appointments of commission/committee's and creation of department/ ministry in the Union government and (ii) Creation of specified institutional structures for handling issues relating to the welfare of Scheduled Castes.
In January 1953 the president of India appointed a backward classes commission under the chairmanship of Kaka Saheb Kalelker, which submitted its report in March 1955. A committee headed by Smt. Renuka Ray, in 1958, submitted its report in 1959. A Committee to enquire into the scavengers conditions was constituted, with N.R. Malakani as the chairman which submitted its report in the year 1960. A study group on the welfare of the Weaker sections of the village Community was constituted in the same year under the Chairmanship of Jai Prakash Narayan.

In 1960, a Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes commission presided over by U.N. Dhebar (1960-61) was setup. Another significant development which could be directly of relevance to the backward classes was the creation of department of social security through the Presidential order in 1964. A committee under the chairmanship of L.Elaiyaperuraal was appointed in April 1965 to study the various aspects of untouchability, problem of economic upliftment of Scheduled Castes and their education. (Sukula 1993: 9-11). In 1974, the Central Coordination Committee was constituted under the chairmanship of the minister for Home Affairs consisting of representatives from various Central Ministers and their Planning Commission.
The second backward classes commission was appointed in January 1979, under the chairmanship of B.P. Mandel. This commission submitted its report in December 1980. In August 1979, the status of Department of Social Welfare was elevated to an independent Ministry. A high power Panel on minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections was setup in 1979 by the Government of India, under the Chairmanship of Gopal Singh.

MINISTRY DEPARTMENT - UNION LEVEL:

Chart No. 1.1
Administrative Structure At the National Level

Minister
  Secretary
    Joint Secretary

D.S(M)  D.I(R)(S)  D.S(T.S)  D.S(A&PCR)  D.I(RS)  D.I(R&M&CVO)  D.S(GR)
  U.S(SS)
    US(R)  U.S(R.N)  U.S(D.D)
      R.D.(R.L)  A.D(M)  A.D(P.C.P)  D.(MON)
        R.O(VAC)
          D.O  D.O

S.O  S.O.R.L. cell  MON  S.O  S.O
(S.C.D-V(S) SCD-I  Sch cell  S.O.cell  SCD-VI  SCD
At the Union Level there is a separate Ministry of Social Justice and empowerment to carry out the development of the Scheduled Castes. There is a separate wing headed by joint secretary, three directors, four Deputy directors and six under secretaries, desk section officers and supporting staff who are working for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes.

The ministry has the consultative committee of the members of the parliament which review the policies, programmes and also gave advice to the ministry on the matters relating to general welfare for the development of the Scs. In the cabinet secretariat a secretary has been appointed to over see the welfare work for SCs in various Ministries of the union Government. (Social Justice and empowerment 1999 : 14).

There is a Parliamentary committee which takes care of the interests of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe. This committee was first constituted on 19th December 1968. A major development was the establishment of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes through the Government of India resolution in 1978. (Commission handbook, Government of India 1997: 12) (India Year Book 1994, 224) Commission on Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, was established in the year 1979.
Powers of the Commission to act as a Civil Court - while investigating any matter referred to in sub clause (a) or inquiring into any complaint referred to in sub-clause (b) of the clause (5) of Article 338 of the Constitution the Commission shall have the powers of a Civil Court. (Ibid, 12-14) Presently there are 16 State directors under the Commission located in different State and Union Territories of India. The directors are sending annual report to commission regarding the conditions of the Scs in India. Commission's Report Clause (d) of Section 5 of Article 338 provides "to the President, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards" and clause (e) provides "to make in such reports, recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or any State for the effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes".

Watioaal Scheduled Caste ami SeBaedluled Tribes Fimasace aadi Development Corporation [MSCSTFDC]

Government of India has setup this corporation under the Article 338 in February, 1989 with a view to enhance the per capita assistance to Scheduled Caste families so as to ensure optimal return from the investments made for the economic development of those target groups (Economic and Political weekly, VolXX.No.3 August 1999: 43-45)
A description of administrature structure at the state level is given below. At the state level there exist three units. They are the Secretariat, Directorate and Collectorate. The minister for Adi-Dravidar welfare is in charge of this department. The first unit of the state is secretariat. This unit consists of secretary and eight Deputy Secretaries under secretary and other supporting staffs who undertake various welfare schemes and programs in order to promote the socio economic interests of The Adi-dravidars in the state.

There is a consultative committee of the legislatures which look after the welfare of Scheduled Castes at the state level and advises the state Governments regarding there upliftment measures that need to be taken for the welfare of Scheduled Castes in the state. The members of the Committee are selected from Legislative Assembly.

**ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION AT THE DIRECTORATE LEVEL**

**Chart 1.3**

- Director
  - Joint Director (Tribal Welfare)
  - Joint Director (General)
  - Joint Director (Education)
  - Financial Adviser & Chief Accounts Officer
    - Deputy Director
    - Accounts Officer
  - Personal Assistant and Directorate
  - Sociologist Economist
  - Assistant Director Education

**Source:** Performance Budget 1998-99 "Adi -Draavidar and Tribal Welfare Department Government of Tamil Nadu April 1998 P.6

The Director of Adi-Draavidar and Tribal welfare is the second unit of the administrative structure in the state, with a view, to promote the Socio- economic interests of Adi-Draavidars and Tribal people in the State. A separate department of Adi-Dravidans.
and Tribal welfare was formed in the year 1949. The main activity of the Department are formulation and implementation of welfare programmes for those people keeping in view the commitment of the nation for the progress of social educational and economic interest of those classes of society, mentioned in the directive principles of the state policy.

This department has state level Directorate, District level and Local level machinery which undertake the programmes like Education, Employment, Economic advancement, Health, Housing and other Schemes and (SCASCP) for the development of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes as a whole of Tamil Nadu. (Madan, 1993, 404)

At the Directorate level Director and three or more Joint Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors, Financial Advisors, Charted accounts officer, research officer, Sociologist Economist personal Assistant are incharge of overall administration and implementation of the programme schemes meant for the development of Scheduled Castes. (Performance Budget 1998: 6-7)

Scheduled Caste BeveiopSaiesat Cosrpojr&tiosa [SCBC]

In the state the corporation is envisaged as an interface between the scheduled caste families and financial institutions in respect of bankable schemes for economic development. The corporation provides money, loan assistance to these families thereby helping to increase the flow of funds from financial institutions to scheduled caste families (Social welfare Vol XXXXIII, No.4, 9).
ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL

Chart 1.4

Dept. of Adi Dravidar Welfare
Tribal Welfare / Social Welfare

Other Departments

Rural Development Department
Scheduled Caste Development Corporation

District Collector
District Adi Dravidar Welfare Officer

District Welfare
District Extension Officer

Technical Dept

Extension Officer
Extension Officer

Adi Dravidar

Agriculture

District Project Officer

Block Development Officer

Extension Officer Panchayat
Animal Husbandary

District Rural Development
Panchayat (Village)

Extension Officer Integrated
Rural Development Programme

The proper implementation of the programme takes place at the district level. A set of executive functionaries at district level Adi dravidar welfare officers at the district Adi dravidar welfare department and Taluk, block and village have been posted for the welfare of Scheduled Castes.

The District is an important third unit of the administration in the state level. The Planning, decision making and implementation of programme in the district level will be able to achieve these objectives with of the institutional support and infrastructure facilities designed for the inter Organisational linkages and operated for the welfare and development of Scheduled Castes. At this level the work is taken up by the Chairmanship of the collector who is assisted by the developmental senior officers like Adi dravidar officers District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) headed by project officers who is assisted by a number of officers who are dealing with specific subjects regarding to the welfare of scheduled caste at the district level (Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act 1994-95 Government of Tamil Nadu : 29-30)

Organisationa and Administration at the Block Level

The work relating to the development and welfare of Scheduled Caste is totally dealt with at the sub-divisional level. The district officials execute their functions through the Block. At the Block level the Block. Development Officer (BDO) is a permanent executive and holds the over all incharge of
development of the Block pertaining to the welfare of Scheduled Castes. The Block development officer is generally assisted by Additional Block Development Officer (ABDO) and extension officer for Adi-dravidar welfare which the extension officer has the overall charge of the development of the scheduled castes. The extension officer assisted by manager/assistants who control a particular area or extensively in a group of villages.

**Organisation and Administration at the Village Level**

At the gross root level i.e. Village level worker (VLW) or Grama Nala Paniyalar are responsible for these functions. He/She is expected to guide and assist and implement the programmes relating to Scheduled Castes development in addition to other responsibilities given to them.
Conclusion

In the preceding sections the researcher has made an attempt to portray the historical reasons for the backwardness of the scheduled castes in India in general and in the state of Tamil Nadu in particular. Attempts have also been made to identify the different constitutional and legislative measures that have been initiated by the Government of India and the State of Tamil Nadu for the wholistic development of these deprived and marginalised sections of the Indian population. Several schemes have been launched for the economic, educational and social upliftment of the scheduled castes. The administrative structure at the National, State, District and block level have been described. The Government of India has appointed committees and commissions periodically the review of the welfare programmes launched by the Government. Eventhough the Government is committed to the overall development of these sections of the population and the Government have been spending a lot of money for the same, the condition of the majority of the scheduled castes remains as it was in pre-Independent days. Why the marginalisation and exclusion of the SCs continue to be unabated. A serious attempt has been made in the succeeding pages to findout an answer to the question raised above. Since scheduled caste development is an area, where several scholars worked, the next chapter will present a brief review of the existing literature on the subject.
References:

31. Sarvesara Nair (1998) : “Social welfare an overview in India” Social welfare Vol 43 No. 4