CHAPTER – II
Review of Literature

2.1 Introduction

This study analyses the Impact of TAHDCO Schemes and Empowerment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes beneficiaries with reference to Salem District of Tamil Nadu. The related review of literature regarding SC/ST’s socio-economic status and impact of welfare schemes are discussed in this chapter. The following significant review of literatures is discussed under the two heads namely socio-economic status of SC/ST and impact of welfare schemes which helps to give up-to-date information for this present study.

2.2 Review of Literatures Related to Socio-Economic Status of SC/ST

Bhagat (1935)\(^1\) studied and analyzed the socio-economic conditions of 600 Scheduled Castes families’ of ten districts in ‘Maharashtra’ titled “The Untouchable Classes of Maharastra’. The author has analyzed differences among the Scheduled Castes which were dominantly located in the selected area. The author has considered family size, marital status, literacy level, occupation and income as socio-economic indicators. The author has found that the percentage of literacy among ‘Mahars’ was less than the ‘Chamars’ Yet the number of persons who have passed the secondary and higher education is proportionately greater than any of the other castes of the untouchable. The study seems to be significant since it has represented the position of ‘Castes’ of Scheduled Castes before the Independence, At the same time, the study seems to be more briefly informative. Therefore, it is essential to find the position of scheduled castes in other states also to evaluate the socio-economic status of them.

Vamanrai (1941)\(^2\) studied ten districts of ‘Maharastra’ and analyzed and compared the castes of Scheduled Castes with respect to social and economic conditions. The author found that, the condition of Scheduled Castes, situated near the railway stations, is quite impressive than the other who are away in rural area. It

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denotes that the place of residence plays a vital role in terms of employment
generation and income generation of scheduled caste and scheduled tribes.
Therefore, it is important to study the place of residence of scheduled caste and
scheduled tribes and income generation and economic development of them.

Rosen (1966) conducted a study on Democracy and Economic Change in
India, the author stated that the Scheduled Castes have got seats in schools, colleges,
and professional and technical institutions and reservations of jobs through
reservations. Further, a number of Scheduled Caste members in Government
services have increased, though the number is still less than the proportions
reserved. Finally the author concluded that the scheduled castes are still, in general,
in the lowest economic position when compared to any other caste group(s). From
this study the researcher observed that Scheduled Castes people’s economic
positions were low, therefore the present study makes Scheduled Caste people’s
economic point of view through TAHDCO schemes.

Choudhary (1968) made an attempt to study the progress of secondary
education among Scheduled Caste in West Bengal. To know the status the author
analyzed the welfare programme and their awareness among the Scheduled Caste
people. The author found that there was considerable variation in the extent of
education and different Scheduled Caste communities were availed education
facilities. Further the author discovered that the welfare programmes have not
reached the Scheduled Castes uniformly.

Lynch (1969) analyzed the process of social mobility and change of Jatavas
Scheduled of Caste in Agra city of India. The author revealed that Arya Samaj
movement stimulated the Jatavas to acquire education and sanskritic symbols, rotes
and beliefs to improve their social status. A few rich Jatavs started opening cotton
mills, shoe industry. Then they started identifying themselves with upper castes to
improve their ritual status in the society. From this study the researcher observed that

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3 George Rosen, (1966), “Democracy and Economic Change in India”, University of California
Press, California.
4 Choudhary Roy B.K., (1968), “Progress of Secondary Education among Scheduled Castes and
of India”, Columbia University Press, New York, U.S.A.
entrepreneurial activities improve the status of SC, therefore, the researcher consider occupation as factor and study the occupational impact through TAHDCO schemes.

Sharma (1974)\(^6\) opined that the Scheduled Castes are suffering not only because of imposed social and cultural disabilities but perhaps much more because of the imbalances created by the emergence of structural differentiation within them which is a consequence of the policies and plans undertaken ostensibly for their uplift and welfare. The differential treatment given to the politically weaker and sometimes to the non-preponderant groups within the Scheduled Castes is a major reason for these continuing inequalities. In his study, he analyzed the factors such as enrolment, hostels and scholarships related to the education of the Scheduled Castes. He found that Scheduled Castes’ alarmingly backward condition is connected to the deprivation they suffer in relation to the higher status groups and to the differential treatment they receive from the power elites among themselves. Broadly, the distributive disparities affecting the Scheduled Castes are at three levels, namely, between the Scheduled Castes and the general population, between the various Scheduled Castes and among Scheduled Castes in a particular district or area.

Patwardhan (1974)\(^7\) analyzed the kind and degree of mobility among Scheduled Castes in an urban context. The author found that untouchables are still facing ritual, economic and social disabilities. This study indicates that the socio-economic conditions of SCs are weak, therefore the present study outlook the socio-economic development of SC and ST through TAHDCO schemes.

D’Souza (1975)\(^8\) examined social inequalities and economic development in India, the author found that the efforts made in India to uplift economic development and to reduce inequalities, while yielding small gains in economic growth have resulted in a further increase in inequalities. Knowledge about inequalities so far contributes mainly to a description of the phenomenon and very little to its explanation.

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Rao (1977)\(^9\) analyzed the Caste and Poverty through a case study of selected castes at Malikipuram village. The author stated that structural changes taken place in the economy did not help the economic development of the Scheduled Castes and they continue to be landless and poor. Changes in technology induced some degree of growth in the rural economy, but this is mainly in the tertiary sector into which Scheduled Castes have little access. From this the researcher observed that advancements have not yet received by the SC/ST, therefore the present study viewed in this angle.

Kirpal (1978)\(^10\) pointed out that the right of residence within the precincts of society is denied to the Scheduled Castes and they are treated as outcasts and untouchables for centuries at a stretch. These castes have had little contact with the world of education. Even when the British endeavoured to disseminate education among the Indian people, the Scheduled Castes were virtually denied this benefit because of the traditional prejudices of higher castes against them. The author further expressed that though educational facilities and incentives offered to the Scheduled Castes are substantial, yet the community remains educationally backward. Therefore, the present study viewed the educational impact through TAHDCO schemes.

Rayappa and Grover (1979)\(^11\) examined the problem of employment and unemployment among the weaker sections, particularly the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The authors found that the credit needs of these weaker sections are mainly to meet household subsistence expenses, which are met by the moneylenders, traders and landlord resulting in varying degrees of bondage. Another facet of poverty among these sections is the ownership of fewer assets such as agricultural land. Not only the land holdings smaller in size and inferior in quality, the ownership of other assets too appears to be quite negligible. Their study also discussed the Sixth Plan objectives and strategies for providing employment to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe. From this the researcher observed the

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government made various attempts to improve SC/ST living and working conditions. Particularly from the end of fifth plan (1979) and sixth plan period (1980-85) onwards Special Component Plan (SCP) was implemented for the benefit of SC/ST individual and family socio-economic development. The SCP strategy is implemented through state agencies i.e. Scheduled Caste Development Corporations (SCDC) like TAHDCO. Therefore, the present study focused on TAHDCO schemes and its impacts and empowerment of SC/ST.

Jain (1981)\(^\text{12}\) pointed out that the Scheduled Castes have little access to education which is the poor’s most potent weapon for self-advancement. High rate of illiteracy is existed among the Scheduled Castes women, which is one of the biggest obstacles in the race against poverty. Again, only a small proportion of those who are literate has had access to higher education and the drop-out rate for economic reasons was high. He further found that though there is an improvement in the ratio of the enrolment of the children of the Scheduled Castes in the schools, they are still significantly below the enrolment ratio of the general population. Therefore, the present study considers the impact on education through TAHDCO schemes.

Upreti and Nandini (1981)\(^\text{13}\) compared socio-economic conditions of high caste Brahmins and Untouchables and their inter-relationships. They found that somehow there is a cordial relationship between Brahmins and untouchables. Brahmins are aware of the constitutional changes but in real life there is no threat to their superiority. Thus the constitutional provisions have failed in bringing about substantial changes in rural India. The villagers are still governed by their traditional social structure of which caste is the backbone. Though change is coming from political sphere to social sphere, it is very slow. Change is at different levels in both the communities. Older generation still insists on old model of mutual relationship in which Brahmins are supreme and are respected by untouchables, while people of younger generation in both communities are aware of the change and are trying to


adjust accordingly. From this researcher observed that there is inequality existence in the society and upper castes dominant the lower castes.

Ghaneshyam (1982)\textsuperscript{14} analyzed the relationship between social and economic strata and position of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in Gujarat region. The author found the relationship between social and economic strata have become complex. The economic differentiation within many Castes and Tribes has become sharper during the last thirty years. Most of the Castes are no longer homogeneous in the economic sphere. Economic stratification cuts across the caste and vice-versa, leading to a conflict, intra-class and inter-class conflicts. The author also analyzed the political and economical angle and identified there were huge economic variations based on the caste system. The author concluded that the existence of large economic inequality is closely interrelated with the caste and the land holding. Since the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have lower share in the landholding and they are forced to live with such economic injustice and the society remained with lower economic position. From this study the researcher observed that the position of SC/ST and their economic inequality may affect their socio-economic development.

Kamble (1982)\textsuperscript{15} observed that in addition to constitutional safeguards, several Legislative Measures are taken to abolish untouchability and bring them on par with other sections of Indian society by providing educational and occupationalal spheres, which constitute the biggest core of welfare schemes for the Scheduled Castes, the frame-work of Welfare Measures for them is continuously being enlarged to a tone for the painful deeds of the past who have for centuries suffered the worst kind of inhuman treatment nowhere found in the world.

Kumar (1983)\textsuperscript{16} revealed that the argument that education introduces bourgeois values among the oppressed, and thereby curbs their potential for radical expression, is based on the impact of education on an extremely small minority perceived from the point of view of non-SC/ST educators; and both the tone and the

substance of the claim show a wrong choice. In a society where bourgeois values have high prestige, the acceptance of such values by a few members of oppressed groups can hardly be seen as a sign of regression, unless we insist on ignoring the point of view from which the oppressed would look at their own successful brethren. What we should be worried about is not the fate of this tiny minority, but that of the vast numbers of SC and ST children who stop going to school long before the carrot of a middle class job can appear before them, and whose brief and demeaning educational experience merely proves to them that they are what they were alleged to be. The experience of education, under prevailing curricular norms, serves to assist SC and ST children to internalize the symbols of 'backward' behaviour.

Uma (1984)\textsuperscript{17} conducted a study on the progress of the Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh. The author stated that the policy of protective discrimination was intended to reduce the vast inequalities between the Scheduled Castes and other strata of Indian society. Its express purpose was to enable the Scheduled Castes to educate themselves and seek secular employment so that they may be free of their traditional shackles. But agriculture and employment are the two major sectors in which the Scheduled Castes are at present engaged. The policy of protective discrimination has been practiced with regard to employment, whereas there are obvious difficulties in operating with a clear cut policy in agriculture. The author suggested that the kind of determined effort witnessed in the employment sector has not been forthcoming in agriculture. From this the researcher observed, occupation is a difficult factor among the SC/ST people. Therefore the present study considers the impacts on occupation through TAHDCO schemes.

Sharma (1986)\textsuperscript{18} compared the historical situation of the Scheduled Castes with present situation. The author rightly pointed out that the socio-economic position of the Scheduled Castes in Contemporary India is much weak, there is high economic inequality existing which is determined by the Caste System. Scheduled Castes were engaged with low paid activities, the low payment made by existed dominant castes. The author also pointed out that there has been high concentration


of socially back warded castes among the tenant cultivation and these activities, ultimately, determine the socio-economic position of the Scheduled Castes. Finally the author concluded that Scheduled Castes people are living with lower position compared to the non-Scheduled Castes and their present situation was witnessed the socio-economic injustice due to the Caste Hierarchy forces. Definitely the author’s work is appreciable since various issues are discussed. After the author’s study period, Both Central and State Governments implements various schemes for the socio-economic development of these weaker section particularly financial assistance through Special Component Plan.

Bose and Bhadoria (1988)\(^1\) conducted a study in Midnapore district about their pattern of distribution among caste groups, economic sectors and six classes among agriculture and three each in industry and business sectors. In their study, they found that a large proportion of SC, ST and Muslim landless workers have to work as wage labour on the fields owned by ‘Caste Hindus’ big and medium land owners. The Caste Hindus are the most privileged, while the SCs are the most deprived group. There are large number of workers belonging to SC, ST and minorities, who have to sell their labour power for wage to the ‘owners’ who often happen to be Caste Hindus. Social, religious as well as economic discriminations prevail in the caste groups. From this the researcher observed that SC/ST status depends with their works and earnings.

Murthy and Rathnaiah (1988)\(^2\) examined the socio-economic status of two Scheduled Caste Groups (Mala and Madigas) in Andhra Pradesh. The authors found Mala and Madiga were treated as untouchables by the upper caste of Hindus, they were also socially, educationally, economically and politically backward and generally they were allowed to live on the outskirts of the main village. It is very clear from this study that Scheduled Caste people are suffering from untouchable practices everywhere. Hence, it is essential to find the ways for culminating untouchability practices through empowerment practices.


Selvanathan (1989)\textsuperscript{21} examined the socio-economic position of the Scheduled Castes in Tamil Nadu. He identified that the Scheduled Castes have least share in the total landholding size while comparing with non Scheduled Castes and found inequality existing in rural areas and more powerful in socio-economic point of view than SC/ST. Therefore SC/STs are living with lower standard of living. It ultimately affects on Socio-economic Position of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The author also identified the increasing trend of incidence of loss of land among Scheduled Castes and the cropping pattern, irrigation, output and annual income with respect to the agricultural land. Further the author argued that the landholding position is lower among the Scheduled Castes and other important determinants like cropping pattern, irrigation, and output also become weak. He finally concluded that the Scheduled Castes are living with lower socio-economic position than non-Scheduled Castes. The literacy rates, income earning capacities are closely related with the landholding position.

Benjamin (1991)\textsuperscript{22} expressed that main problem of the Scheduled Castes is their very low status based on untouchability which suited the requirements of older politics and ideology of Hindu society operated in the name of religion. He found that most Scheduled Caste students gave up their studies due to lack of financial support from their poor parents. But some arts students pursue their higher studies in spite of financial problems by working part time to support themselves. But science students do not seem to pursue their studies in this manner. This would indicate that finance is not only the constraint. There seem to be many more constraints, particularly when it comes to studying science which would provide them access to better paid and higher status jobs. But the social system as well as cultural constraints seems to stand in their way.

Nagi and Singh (1996)\textsuperscript{23} analyzed the reproductive health status of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Women. They found that the literacy level of Scheduled Caste/ Tribe population is quite low as compared to other groups. This

may be so as these groups are living in the remote/hilly areas or in the outskirts of the villages/cities where the educational and other facilities are not properly available. The socio-economic condition of these groups is also found to be poor. All these conditions attribute to the poor health status of these groups of people. Over and above the health status of women of these groups is also very poor.

Gaikwad (1998)\textsuperscript{24} analyzed the political life of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar besides analyzing his role and efforts to strengthen and broaden the social base of Indian nationalism. He concluded that the Indian national struggle of the first half of this century was not merely a struggle to wrest political power from foreign rule but also a struggle to play the foundation of modern India by purging society of outmoded social institutions, practices, believes and attitudes. Ambedkar’s struggle constituted a part of the internal struggle of a nation in the making, one of the divergent and sometimes conflicting currents all of which helped to secure ‘freedom’ from external and internal oppression and enslavement. Without Ambedkar’s opposition to mainstream nationalism, the process of internal consolidation of the nation would not have been carried out sufficiently enough to strengthen and broaden the social base of Indian constitution.

Sankaran (1998)\textsuperscript{25} analyzed the development of different groups/castes among the Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh. He also analyzed the movements going on between mala and madiga communities in the State regarding categorization of the Scheduled Castes to breakdown the total reservation available for the Scheduled Castes as a whole into proportionate allotment to different groups among the Scheduled Castes particularly between malas and madigas. Madigas are in favour of categorization, while malas are against categorization of Scheduled Castes. Mala and madiga are the dominant communities within the Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh, followed by relli and adi Andhra. He stated that the madigas are somewhat more backward and are lagging behind compared to the malas in terms of the space occupied in the services and in higher education and in terms of other socio-economic indicators. However, both malas and madigas are bound together by their common sufferings.

Abdul Aziz et. al., (2000) made an attempt to address how much of social and educational mobility among the Scheduled Castes is due to state intervention and how much on account of their own effort. They found that Scheduled Caste households which lived on a hand to mouth basis on the eve of independence and throughout a major part of three decades after independence have begun to see better days from the eighties. State intervention has been there to improve their social and economic conditions. Though this was somewhat significant in respect of housing and lighting, in other respects such as work opportunities, skill formation, capital assistance, awareness creation about availability of income-earning opportunities, the role of State was not significant enough. In this regard, it is the own effort of the respondents and to some extent, the peer group helps that has gone a long way to contribute to the property of the SC households under study. In the process of development of the village economy, enabling environments are created, even the Scheduled Castes can benefit and come up on their own effort with little direct support from the state.

Sakshi Human Rights Watch (2000) identified that education did not eradicate untouchability. Violations of Dalit Human Rights are different from other crimes. In India, like gender bias and discrimination against women, caste bias and caste-based violence are deeply embedded in the social structure and manifested in most human interactions. Changes in extreme visible practices of “untouchability” also signal the increasing assertiveness of the Dalit communities. These trends signal a crucial time – a possible turning point - in our nation’s history. Looking at the various ways in which police typically respond to cases of Dalit atrocities, it seems that the attitude of a large number of police is apathy at the least and blatant prejudice at worst. Motivation among police to implement and promote the use of the SC/ST Act is largely lacking. In identifying possible factors contributing to the police apathy and prejudice, one should consider the following: “The majority of the police and revenue officials in Andhra Pradesh, as in other states in India, are from dominant caste backgrounds”. Police are not sensitised to

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take seriously atrocities and discrimination against Dalits. Typically they perceive
the Dalits as having provoked the dominant castes by not conforming to their will
and wishes. They do not see atrocities and discrimination against Dalits as crimes.
They are under continuous pressure from the elected representatives and local
politicians of the same dominant caste as the perpetrators of the atrocity.

Banerjee (2001)28 analyzed the discrimination that exists within the castes.
She stated that caste-induced oppression has been as agonizing to a large mass of
Indians. The dalits themselves are as hopelessly divided along a hierarchical order,
among a variety of castes and sub-castes, as the caste Hindus. Such traditionally
ordained divisions among the dalits are reviving conflicts which often take violent
forms. This was widespread from Haryana or Uttar Pradesh in the north to Tamil
Nadu and Andhra Pradesh in the south to Bihar and West Bengal in the east, where
dalits belonging to one case taking umbrage at someone from another dalit caste
marrying into their community. She suggested that it is urgent for the younger
generation of dalit and adivasi intellectuals and social activists to put their own
house in order and rid their society of internal discrimination and oppression.

Chandra and Pradhan (2001)29 assessed the current overall situation with
regard to commission of offences against persons belonging to the scheduled castes
and scheduled tribes by non-scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and pointed out the
differences in the nature and background of the atrocities from one social ambience to
another. In their study they found that though the Protection of Civil Rights Act and
the Prevention of Atrocities Act are provided with strong teeth, they suffer due to
failure of proper enforcement. They found that there is no specific reason for arising
of atrocities than that of the dalit’s assertion of self-respect. Many of the atrocity cases
arise from agricultural wage issues, with dalit agricultural labourers demanding, not
the statutory minimum wages themselves low by objective standards but something
between them and their prevalent wages. Some of the atrocities are related to lack of
provision of essential facilities or access to dalits localities. Another cause of atrocities
was disputes and conflicts arising from land. The disputes on land related to land

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reforms, allotment of house sites and cultivable lands, irrigation rights and land alienation. Further, the youth those have no work, sit in public places and street corners and make caustic comments against the passers by or drag them into a controversy often resulting in fisticuffs and consequent group atrocities. They suggested several measures to mitigate atrocities on scheduled castes.

Wankhede (2001)\textsuperscript{30} made a study on educational inequalities among Scheduled Castes in Maharashtra State. He stated that particular Scheduled Caste(s) in each State and region are dominating the educational opportunities. Mahars of Maharashtra, jatavas of Uttar Pradesh, addharmis of Punjab, malas and madigas of Andhra Pradesh, pulayas of Kerala, etc. are some examples to this phenomenon. He found that despite a century old struggle for social and political reform and independence, literacy levels remain discouragingly low among substantial sections of the scheduled castes in Maharashtra. However, the rise in literacy rates has been marked by variations within the scheduled castes as borne out by census reports from 1961 onwards. The variations are based on levels of development, the migrancy factor and willingness to take on newer occupations, as well as traditions of hierarchy that continue to persist in the social system.

Jodhka (2002)\textsuperscript{31} investigated the prevailing caste relations and the practice of untouchability in rural Punjab specifically on the process of change and experienced in the wake of the success of green revolution technology. The author evolved the SCs of Punjab, untouchability in rural Punjab, social ecology of the village, unclean occupations, entry into upper caste houses, untouchability and drinking water sources, dalits and religious places, untouchability in Hindu religious institutions, provision of service, untouchability in daily social and economic life, dalits’ access to village streets and dalits and police, education, pancayats. Finally this study concluded that historically a considerable amount of regional variations exists among different groups of castes in the society even though the changes experienced in almost all sphere of life. Therefore, it is necessary to study about the welfare schemes and its impacts.

Rao (2002)\textsuperscript{32} observed that constitutional provisions and safeguards, dalit representation in higher education institutes and in the workforce remains largely minimal. He suggested that State initiated programmes and policies apart, it is also essential to instill respect for diversity and greater understanding of the disadvantaged. He analyzed how to bring diversity in education as discussed in the Bhopal conference. There is a need to reform educational provisions for dalits as it is the foundation upon which the edifice of social status and dignity is built. The Bhopal Conference called for implementation of diversity in admission in the educational institutions across the country irrespective of the type of management or stream of education. Particularly, it raises the issue of providing market oriented vocational and technical education to the scheduled castes and also that the issue of reservations should be applied to all institutions, public as well as private from primary to professional level. Another demand put forward is that the English medium schools must also implement the policy of diversity in admissions. It is clearly shows that education gives status and dignity to SC/ST. Therefore, education empowerment is essential to improve the SC/ST status.

Rabindra Kumar (2002)\textsuperscript{33} stated that most of social and economic indicators among scheduled castes have shown a trend of slow progress in rural as compared with urban areas and a tendency of maintaining the gap between the rich and the poor. He found from his study that though the practice of untouchability among the Scheduled Castes and between the Scheduled Castes and the non-SCs has been abolished legally but it continued to be a practice as observed by the respondents at social occasions. There is such a wide cultural gap is existing even today between these castes, particularly the Scheduled Castes and the non-SCs. The Scheduled Castes in general are forbidden even today to touch and use the utensils of the non-scheduled castes or caste Hindus. Majority of them are landless. Majority of the Scheduled Castes have taken loan from traditional sources, i.e., the farmer, landlord and businessmen. Those castes who are in government job and have money to give bribe to authority, have taken loan from government sources. The


occupational mobility and diversification of occupation are quite negligible among the Scheduled Castes in spite of various developmental programmes for their upliftment. These programmes have not improved their economic status. Majority of the respondents are aware of programmes for their development but they are not aware of the procedures of obtaining these schemes.

Naidu (2004)\textsuperscript{34} identified that majority of the Scheduled Castes samples are illiterates and among the literates, majority have minimal educational attainment. It is further found that throughout all the three generations of the Scheduled Castes, illiteracy is high. However, the illiteracy over generations has come down, more so in case of fourth generation, the children of the respondents. Regarding educational mobility, it is found that the immobility is more pronounced than mobility. Of the immobile, majority is illiterates throughout. In case of the mobility, a substantial majority have shown upward mobility in all the cases. Except in the case of mobility between father and respondent generations, the downward mobility is very insignificant. He concluded that the status of the Scheduled Castes of his sample area is changing positively due to mutually complementary supportive forces like urbanization, economic development and progressive legislation.

Thorat and Lee (2005)\textsuperscript{35} examined the patterns of exclusion and caste discrimination that afflict government’s mid day meal scheme and public distribution systems measuring such aspects of physical access, participatory empowerment and community level access. In their study they analyzed the role of the Andhra Pradesh state government to engage with civil society in initiatives to implement its programmes, combined with sustained mass action by people’s movements and dalit NGOs. Their study suggest that the government can decrease the incidence of discrimination, improves access and begin to make the right to food a reality for dalits on a par with other communities by fostering dalit participatory empowerment in terms of operation and ownership of the programmes. Therefore, to do so, the government has to establish Public Distribution shops at Dalit colonies and seek partnerships with dalit women’s groups and community to jointly

\textsuperscript{34} Naidu R.V.K., op.cit., p.1-323.
implement and monitor the programmes so that the problem of discrimination is tackled.

George (2006)\textsuperscript{36} stated that untouchability and daily routine forms of caste discrimination are still practised in India. Dalits continue to face the wrath of the caste lords and are denied of human dignity and their rights including a just share in the resources like land, water, mines, aqua resources, etc. The owners of the land are today landless; that is Dalits. Historically they were one of the long persecuted humanities betrayed of rights over land and any form of resources. Even after duly getting elected, the Dalits are not getting the power and status they deserve. They are made to sit outside the Panchayat offices, on the floor while the traditional village headmen occupy the chairs. Even when upper caste groups are committing atrocities against the Dalits, the latter do not have a supportive redress mechanism.

Ghosh (2006)\textsuperscript{37} stated that the roots of discrimination in India go so deep that social and economic disparities are deeply intertwined, although in increasingly complex ways. The reaction of the media, along with the response of others in privileged provisions, throws a lot of light on the undercurrents of social discrimination that are still so pervasive amongst us. He further expressed that still we need reservations for different groups in higher education, not because they are the perfect instruments to rectify long – standing discrimination, but because they are the most workable method to move in this direction. The nature of Indian society ensures that without such measures, social discrimination and exclusion will only persist and be strengthened.

Rajiv Bhatt et al., (2006)\textsuperscript{38} identified that Dalit leadership faces a credibility crisis in the absence of a radical political vision. The 2005 Annual Report of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs states that a crime against Scheduled Caste (S.C.) communities is committed every 20 minutes in the country. It records that 26,127 cases of atrocities against S.C

communities were reported last year. Atrocities against Dalits range from verbal abuse to rape and forcing them to consume human excreta and urine; from denial of access to public amenities such as drinking water, roads, bus stops, markets and temples to denial of civil rights; from physical harm to social boycotts. Police personnel often play a role in the violence against Dalits; custodial rape and violence are among the most frequent forms of assault on the community. All sorts of things invite attacks on Dalits: alleged “disobedience” of village elders, refusal to perform ‘duties’ such as conveying information about deaths, or a Dalit boy falling in love with a caste-Hindu girl.

Tharoor (2006)\(^\text{39}\) stated that despite constitutional protections and provisions, inequalities persist between the upper castes and the former untouchables. Affirmative action benefited a minority of Dalits who were in a position to take advantage of it. Independent India has witnessed the creation of privileged sections within formerly underprivileged groups, as the sons and daughters of rich and influential Scheduled Caste leaders got ahead on the strength of their caste affiliation.

Thorat (2006)\(^\text{40}\) stated that the lower castes, particularly the SCs were debarred from undertaking any business activity on account of the notions of purity and pollution besides debarred from agriculture land. Adoption of measures for reservations to the lower castes in the public and private spheres in India will largely depend on the nature of discrimination and the degree of deprivation faced by them. He suggested that it is necessary to recognize the exclusionary and discriminatory character of our society and economy, a creation largely of differences arising from caste, ethnicity, religion and other group identities. But to design appropriate remedial policies, an understanding of contemporary forms of discrimination in multiple spheres and their consequences is very necessary. Policies adopted by other countries, such as Malaysia and South Africa, as a way of correcting centuries of historical discrimination could also serve as pointers. Further, he has suggested that there is a need to set up an “Equal Opportunity Commission/Office” and bring under its purview all reservation policies related to


women, the SCs, the STs, the OBCs, religious minorities, and the physically challenged under one umbrella organization. The main objective of this Commission should be (a) to build up a database on socio-economic profile of these groups; (b) to develop policies for each of the groups and sub-groups; (c) to monitor the implementation of the reservation policy and other policies; and (d) to advise the government on a regular basis.

Biradar and Jayasheela (2007)\textsuperscript{41} opined that educational status in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is significantly lower as compared to others. Although the rate of literacy increased significantly, a greater illiteracy continued to exist in respect of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes as compared to that of non-SCs/STs. The educational status among social groups is found to be highly unequal in India, even after more than five decades of developmental struggle. The educational status in respect of SCs/STs vis-à-vis non-SCs/STs is far from satisfactory. In spite of several programmes implemented towards provision of compulsory education, especially for SCs/STs, the illiteracy rates continue to be quite significant among them. This unequal distribution of education among social groups has an adverse impact on the society such as unequal access to better job options, meager earnings, incidence of poverty, health hazards and thereby resulting in powerlessness.

Singh (2007)\textsuperscript{42} made a study on the land use pattern as well as distribution pattern of land and livestock among the different socio-economic groups, viz., general caste, scheduled caste and scheduled tribe households on the different size of holdings in the rural areas. His study found that the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe households are left with less percentage of cultivated and higher percentage of uncultivated land as compared to the general caste households mainly due to the fact that the land allotted to them by the government is either a part of steep hills full of trees, bushes and stones or a part of river which remains under water for half of the year and covered by stones and sand during the next half of the year which is not suitable for cultivation and is inferior.


Jadhav (2008)\textsuperscript{43} analyzed the socio-economic position of the Mahar, Mang and the Chambhar castes of Scheduled Castes in rural area with special reference to Kolhapur District. The author presented the results in two parts namely social position and economic position. The author considered location of village, basic amenities such as education, medical facilities, drinking water facilities, post office, market, communication and transport, road, power in the villages, population, caste composition and land use pattern to analyze the social position of Scheduled Casts. To analyze the economic conditions of Scheduled Casts the author considered land holding, share in land holding, land- man ratio, cropping pattern, irrigation, occupational position, and income position. They identified the socio-economic position of three castes of Scheduled Castes, Aamong Mahar caste significantly dominant to the Mang and the Chambhar. The socio-economic position of these three castes more is less same. The author concluded that the Scheduled Castes have a strong impact of traditional caste system and the caste system determines the social position of Scheduled Castes even in the contemporary period and they ranked as lower position. Therefore, it is essential to find the socio economic status of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Rajnish Kumar et al., (2009)\textsuperscript{44} found that even within the slums, which are often taken to represent a homogeneous lot, variations across social groups in terms of certain important indicators like education, occupation and incomes are evident. The vulnerability conceptualized in terms of several socio-economic and demographic indicators exists among most of the social categories despite variations in the relative size of deprivation. Further, they found that probability of experiencing well-being beyond a threshold limit turns out to be lower for the socially backward classes than the others. They opined that in the deprived areas, particularly in the urban space where vulnerability has political lineages as well, caste-based schemes hold the possibility of igniting caste-war or communal tensions instead of smoothing the contours of inequalities.

Singh (2009) concluded that the major factor responsible for the deprivation of poverty among the scheduled caste people is their improvident habits, thriftlessness and mismanagement, besides, their circumstances. He suggested that their conditions can be improved through inculcating in them individualistic and moralistic values of self-denial, temperance, forethought, thrift, sobriety and self-reliance. These values will help them in proper utilisation of the various developmental schemes, which, in turn lead to the stability/improvement in their lives. All these studies stated that Scheduled Castes are backward due to their illiteracy, low income, landlessness, poverty, etc. In spite of affirmative action, the status of these castes has not improved to the desired level.

Thorat and Sadana (2009) concluded that age old restrictions on access to capital by certain socially groups continue to reflect themselves in the scheduled caste and scheduled tribes owning far few private enterprises than warranted by their share in the population in both rural and urban India. Recent nationwide data also reveal that when they do run business establishments these are mainly household enterprises organised around family labour. Poverty rates among the enterprises of the socially disadvantaged groups are also much higher than among the other castes. They opined that discrimination faced by low caste persons in various markets in accessing the inputs and services and also in sale of certain goods and services restricts and discourages the ownership of enterprise by the SCs.

Torri (2009) investigated the conditions that enable community entrepreneurial activities and alleviate poverty and promote local development through a case study of community based southern India enterprise named Gram Moologai Limited (GMCL) which supplies medicinal herbs to Indian Pharmaceutical enterprises. The author discussed the entrepreneurship process made

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among the group or community of cultivators and gathers of medical plants across 80 villages in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and coordinating process made by GMCL. The author’s results demonstrate the entrepreneurial have taken with the expectation of gain and enhancing the local needs of the rural livelihoods under conditions of adversity. Finally, the author concludes that the Community Based Enterprise (CBE) approach is a model for the development of local communities who are under adversity and uncertainty conditions. It is observed from this study that community based enterprises enhance the capacity building and empowerment of lower castes like SC/ST.

2.3 Review of Literatures Related to Impact of Welfare Schemes

Rao (1964)⁴⁸ studied the impact of welfare plans on education and economic development. The author concluded that the welfare plans intended to enable Scheduled Caste beneficiaries to take better advantage of the schemes and they were attained several developments like education, employment and socio-economic. The special measures for educational and economic development from welfare plans are more effective since it is necessary to study in the present situation.

Chaudhuri (1970)⁴⁹ analyzed the educational progress in West Bengal. He revealed that the degree of school registration among the Scheduled Castes was determined largely by the nature of occupation of parents. The author concluded that the occupation of Scheduled Caste students’ parent occupations in villages were associated with agricultural labour, therefore they were more backward in school registration than the other occupations. In India majority of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people belong to agricultural labour. So, their earnings also were very low, since the SC/ST literacy rates were low. Therefore, the Government of India implemented various income generating schemes through Scheduled Caste Development Corporations (SCDCs) which are functioning as State government agencies. So, this present research focuses the impact of TAHDCO schemes on various factors like education, occupation, income etc.,

Andre (1971)\textsuperscript{50} examined the process of modernization of social life being gradually detached from the traditional structure. The study focused “The Caste, Class and Power: Changing Pattern of Stratification in Tanjore Village”. The author identified the process of modernization is a complex one and it is activated by variety of social, economic and political forces. Further the author found that, the non-Scheduled Caste tenants are economically more powerful than the small landowners like Scheduled Caste people. It shows that there is a large economic inequality based on the caste system and land holding size. Since TAHDCO provides land purchase scheme and land development scheme for increasing the land holding size people belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. Therefore, it is essential to study the size holding and economic development of weaker section of the society.

Chitnis (1972)\textsuperscript{51} stated that programmes for the betterment of the status of the Scheduled Castes have concentrated heavily on their education. Laws against untouchability and against discrimination by caste and the reservation of admission in educational institutions and in employment are, between them, expected to clear the ground for the equality of the Scheduled Castes. More specifically, education has been viewed as the instrument through which members of the Scheduled Castes can be equipped for a social structure in which status is determined, not by ascription but by individual achievement and worth. While the purpose behind the generous provision of educational facilities for the Scheduled Castes is clear and well-reasoned, the approach is naive in its assumptions, viz, (a) that the facilities provided would be optimally and equitably used; (b) that given the opportunity for school and college education, members of the Scheduled Castes would measure up on par with those who are backed by a tradition of formal education; and, (c) that the policy of reservations would best serve the attainment of equality for the Scheduled Castes. He found that these assumptions are unrealistic and educational programmes based on them have led to the perpetuation of old inequalities and the creation of some new ones.


Sunanda Patwardhan (1973)\(^{52}\) made an attempt to understand and analyzed the nature of change that has taken place among the Scheduled Castes of Maharashtra. Occupation, education and sanskiritisation are as significant variables for analyzing upward mobility. The author concluded that with the spread of education and increasing urbanization, many persons from the Scheduled Castes are now entering the ranks of middle classes and some are even aspiring to reach higher-up and the consumption patterns were advanced while compare with upper castes. Hence, the impact of welfare schemes should be a measurable one.

Kulkarni (1974)\(^{53}\) analyzed the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, 1971-72 and 1972-73, New Delhi, Government of India. It is found that there are considerable variation in the extent of literacy among the different communities of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes themselves. It indicated that welfare programmes creates positive impact among the SC/ST. Therefore, the present study focuses the various impacts of TAHDCO schemes and empowerment of SC/ST.

Brahme (1975)\(^{54}\) examined the impact of various schemes implemented for the social, educational and economic improvement of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who were at the lowest rung of the socio-economic ladder, during the planning era in India i.e. 1950 to 1975. The author found that there was inequality and living with contradictions, have not been squarely faced then the inequalities rose on the basis of social and economic structure of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Further, the author identified SCs continue to work largely as agricultural labourers, with inadequate work and low wages or cultivate some inferior piece of land, without complementary inputs. The author concluded that only, a few received some education, a few have gained from the schemes and have reached some position of social, political or economic importance, but such number is infinitesimal. Finally the author suggested that the present approach of concessions and special schemes can hardly deliver more than what it contains. It is


time that in 1975 one tries to take a fresh look at the problem and see the downtrodden classes get a rightful place in the socio-political-economic structure.

Kumari (1976)\(^{55}\) made an empirical study on the impact of the various welfare programmes implemented for backward class communities with special reference to the Scheduled Castes. The author identified and pointed out that the welfare programmes have notable to make a great impact among Scheduled Caste. Finally, the author concluded that the social barriers imposed by the upper caste on them affected both their motivation and ability to achieve the desired objectives. Since the present study analyze the impact of TAHDCO schemes in present situation.

Singh (1977)\(^{56}\) conducted a study on effects of package of social sector schemes and programmes i.e. Twenty Point Programme (TPP) which consists 20 points and 66 times being administrated by various ministries of the Government of India on the economic condition of the Harijans that includes poverty, employment, education, housing, health, agriculture, environment protection, drinking water energy to rural area and welfare of the weaker section of the society etc. The author observed that the Harijan’s social condition continued to be as dismal as ever and much publicized 20-point programme too failed to improve even their economic conditions. The author surveyed 179 villages, out of 179, not a single one was free from one of the other of the common disabilities suffered by Scheduled Castes. Equal rights are a far cry. In most of the villages, Harijans are not allowed to draw water from public wells. Further, barbers’ services are not available to Harijans. Harijans of the only a few villages had utilized washermen’s services. It was further found that very few low castes Harijans find a place in the village panchayats. Majority of the panchayat members belong to Harijans sit a little away from the cotton matting in the panchayat office. This study indicates the Scheduled Caste people’s poor socio-economic conditions and TPP did not create much effects among the SCs. Therefore, the present study has similar approach on TAHDCO schemes and its impact.

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Malik (1979)\textsuperscript{57} investigated the relative impacts of changing educational and occupational levels on the life-pattern of the Scheduled Castes by highlighting the effectiveness of developmental measures taken so far. The author found that the developmental measures have aided social mobility among the Scheduled Castes to some extent. Still a large majority of the Scheduled Castes are not able to benefit to the fullest extent from these developmental measures due to loopholes in the implementation mechanism. The present study considers the authors opinion on TAHDCO schemes.

Paravathamamma (1984)\textsuperscript{58} conducted a socio-economic survey about Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. The author observed that the economic progress, attained by the Scheduled Castes during 1950-70 was worsened because their land holding size, employment status, occupational pattern, income level, savings habit etc. Therefore, the author’s observation was taken to measure the impact of welfare schemes on economic indicators and used some factors like occupation, income, education, asset buildings capacity etc., to this present study.

Nirupama (1989)\textsuperscript{59} made an empirical attempt to study the Socio-Economic changes among Scheduled Caste in Lucknow city located in Uttar Pradesh State. The author selected 200 samples among Scheduled Caste candidates employed in Government services. The author considered four major occupational categories, i.e. Class I, II, III and IV and analyzed their social background, socio-political interests, attitude towards education, attitude towards occupation, integration and isolation etc. Finally the author concluded that the socio-economic condition of Scheduled Castes was poor but the placement of Scheduled Castes in urban occupation is an important agent of social change among them. Therefore an exclusive study can be conducted to find the impact of socio-economic, political, cultural and educational background and social change of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people.


Reddy and Kaliappan (1989)\textsuperscript{60} pointed the changes that have been taking place in the form of sanskritization, westernization, industrialization and modernization in Indian rural communities, the impacts of these changes on the low and lower middle castes, namely, backward and Scheduled Castes, are not significant. They further noted that higher castes have been benefited by all these processes as they have got ample resources at their disposal to have an ascendancy over the others even in the changing circumstances. They found that in view of low income, landlessness, illiteracy, no or less exposure to media and lack of political contact along with low caste status, low status castes find it difficult to get access to local power politics. In terms of social reality also the low status castes would be less interested in taking part in local political activities as they lack facilitating components.

Nacharaiah (1990)\textsuperscript{61} analyzed the economic development of the Scheduled Castes since independence with reference to access to land, occupational distribution, access to education and incidence of poverty. The author opined based on secondary data that there was cognizable improvement in the development of the Scheduled Castes, it is however not substantial as the community remained as agricultural labourer. Further, author found that the caste-based social hierarchy could influence the pattern of distribution of land, access to education and employment opportunities.

Balakrishnan (1993)\textsuperscript{62} made a study on the development of Scheduled Castes by comparing the Scheduled Caste Hindus and the Christians of Scheduled Caste origin. He conducted his study in the two States of India, namely, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. He found that the late nineteenth century witnessed unprecedented mass conversions to Christianity among the depressed classes of Hindu society in order to seek freedom from an oppressive status quo and a new status commensurate with their superior resources. The phenomenon was a form of protest against an


inequitable Hindu social order in which the depressed castes languished at the bottom of the socio-economic spectrum. He further found that Christians of Scheduled Castes origin in Kerala were somewhat better off than Scheduled Caste Hindus. However, there are overwhelming similarities of conditions among the Scheduled Caste Hindus and Christians of Scheduled Caste origin. It is further found that Scheduled Caste Hindus are somewhat better represented in the superior occupational categories compared to Christians of Scheduled Caste origin in Tamil Nadu. It is also found that both the Scheduled Caste Hindus and the Christians of Scheduled Caste origin are mostly agricultural labourers.

Chanana (1993)\(^{63}\) focused on the growth of higher education within the framework of treatment and supportive measures for the benefit of different social groups, namely, the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, minorities and women. She found that educational policy fails to achieve equity among the social groups. Further, in the multi-cultural and multi-ethnic Indian society, the parameters of gender, caste, class and region are crucial in determining access to higher education. Further, she observed that educational policies and programmes are unable to encompass the complex social reality within a single framework and are therefore unable to bridge the gap between policy and practice.

The Kerala Institute for Research, Training and Development Studies of SCs and STs (KIRTADS) (1993-94)\(^{64}\) in its evaluation report, KSDC for SCs and STs Schemes analyzed the components of the schemes and programmes and their suitability and feasibility. This case study remarked that the KSDC for SCs and STs Programmes for the SCs and STs Population provided only a favorable set of pre-conditions for the economic upliftment of the backward groups.

Chaubey (1994)\(^{65}\) conducted a micro level study on the impact of integrated rural development programme on rural life. In this study the author analyzed the trend in disbursement of subsidies to the weaker sections, measured the socio-


economic impact of IRDP, examined the knowledge and attitudes towards the practice taken up under IRDP and also examined the influence of institutional and technical constraints operating in the execution of IRDP. The author considered three groups of variable such as independent, dependent and intervening. Independent variable consists age, education, land holding, social participation, caste, occupation, family type, economic enterprises and assistance of loaning and subsidy. Dependent variables consist of knowledge, attitude, level of income, kind and extent of employment and asset formation. Intervening variables contents contact with officials and non-officials, mass-media, exposure, past experience, decision making ability, family liabilities, and effective operationalization of IRDP programme. The author indentified the trend of distribution of loans and subsidies followed a similar trend and did not show any association with availability of resources and ability of entrepreneur. The guide line in fixation of targets and achievements has been found to be inconsistent sector vise, category vise as well as area wise. Then, the author measured the socio-economic and behavioural impact of IRDP which reveals that participation of Scheduled Casts and Scheduled Tribes has been increased in almost all economic activities, caste did not play its role in the preference of an enterprise except in the crop production, self employment increased significantly, level of income also increased, ideal labour days reduced, additional income generated and making good decision for asset formation. The author finally concluded that The IRDP has been able to push up the families above the poverty line and hope for better future and low level participation toward IRDP and IRDP did not improve much from the previous level. From this study the researcher identified various variables for the present study.

Rao and Babu (1994)⁶⁶ identified that there is a lot of misutilization in the funds earmarked for the upliftment of the socially and economically backward people through a number of plans and schemes being implemented both by the centre and state directly through various agencies and corporations. They suggested that SC/ST Corporation should take up schemes for implementation in the rural area. The thrust on urban area should be brought down as there is a wide scale of

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misutilisation of funds in the urban area. In case SC/ST Corporation wants to implement schemes in city areas, it is essential that beneficiaries properly identified. They should be the permanent residents of some localities within the city. Along with that, proper follow up is required.

Manickavel (1995)\textsuperscript{67} evaluated the impact of TAHDCO’s schemes for socio-economic betterment of individual beneficiaries. The author considered Margin Money Programme, Urban Development Schemes and Petty Trade Loan Schemes which opened for individuals. The author analyzed the income before and after availing loan, existence of private debt and change in asset building through TAHDCO schemes. The results showed that the programme is not completely devoid of benefits but needs to redress shortcomings. Finally, the author concluded that TAHDCO schemes enhanced the economic status of the beneficiaries to rise above the poverty line, the average monthly income of the beneficiaries shows an increasing trend, existence of private debt indicates a diminishing trend and incase of beneficiaries’ asset holding position there is no significant improvement after availed loans under the TAHDCO schemes. From this the researcher identified that the TAHDCO schemes have brought some cheer among the SC/ST people. Therefore, it is essential to analyze the impact of TAHDCO schemes and empowerment process of SC/ST in the present trend.

Sharma (1996)\textsuperscript{68} examined the social mobility among the Scheduled Castes in Rajasthan. He found that there existed more or less variations in the development among sub-castes of Scheduled Castes. Educational achievements among the SCs are marginal. The efforts that have made since independence have resulted in changes in the traditional occupations of the Scheduled Castes. But this change process is not uniform for different groups of the Scheduled Castes. As for political power, the Scheduled Castes have certainly shared with the local as well as state and national leadership in proportion to their numerical strength in the village society. They are facing problems of untouchability, unemployment, housing, general backwardness, indebtedness, etc.


Kirpal and Gupta (1999)\textsuperscript{69} investigated the impact of reservations on the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students admitted to the Indian Institutes of Technology. They found that majority of the students at IIT had felt discrimination due to their low caste status and as such the general students try to avoid their friendship with SCs/STs. In their study, they cited the quotation of an IIT student, who secured highest Credit Point Index (CPI) in the IIT in the branch of Computer Science and Engineering. The student suggests his junior students that don’t be in bunches with reserved students and being with them doesn’t improve your standard. Even when general students (belong to upper castes), don’t lose confidence or get demoralized. It shows the treatment of SC/ST and their position in higher education institutions.

Jodhka (2000)\textsuperscript{70} observed that the economic development experienced in the region during the post independence period has brought many changes in the manner in which caste works in the Punjab today. The new agrarian technology led to the disintegration of the traditional structures of patronage and loyalty. The process of development during the last five decades has created avenues of employment in urban, semi-urban and rural areas that are caste free in nature. The occupational diversification of the Scheduled Castes of Punjab has been quite significant, at least in some parts of the State. However, majority of them still lives in conditions of deprivation.

Mandale (2000)\textsuperscript{71} studied the Development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and their status in India. The author concentrated on the literacy level, income level and health status among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe. The author identified that there were several socio-economic disabilities like low education, poor income earnings, poor health status and poor standard of living which made them poor. Finally the author concluded that SC/STs are unable to improve themselves as expected. In this situation it is most essential to conduct a study exclusively for finding the policies and strategies to be followed for improving the status of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe people.

Namcharaiah (2000)\textsuperscript{72} studied the economic development of Dalits during fifty years of Independence. The author considered education, land and consumer expenditure as indicators to measure the development of Dalits. The author stated that there is no significant improvement in terms of land, education and consumer expenditure among the Scheduled Caste for a long period. Therefore, it is essential to find the measures and indicators for the development of SC/STs through various policies and schemes to make their life uplifted.

Sankaran (2000)\textsuperscript{73} examined the evolution of various provisions in the Constitution of India specifically pertaining to the safeguards for the depressed classes. He observed that welfare is rooted in the Constitution based on the values of equality, human dignity, social justice, laws and policies emanating from the Constitutional mandate. These measures are found to be inadequate though a vast ground was traversed by way of planned development inspite of the heterogeneous nature of Indian society.

Hoshiar and Malik (2001)\textsuperscript{74} studied socio-economic development of Scheduled Caste in India with reference to Haryana State. The authors examined the impact of specific socio-economic welfare programmes of the Government on the life of Scheduled Castes. To analyze the development of Scheduled Caste they considered 770 SC households from two district of Haryana. They found that the Scheduled Caste people positively benefited from the Government welfare programmes and they were enabled to improve their socio-economic conditions. Therefore, it is very essential to conduct a study about the development status of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes through welfare schemes in other states also.

KIRTADS (2001)\textsuperscript{75} (The Kerala institute for Research, Training and Development studies of SCs and STs,) in its case study, “SCs/STs and Entrepreneurial Development: A Study on KSDC for SCs/STs” evaluated the impact

\textsuperscript{75} KIRTADS (2001), “SCs/STs and Entrepreneurial Development”, KIRTADS, Kozhikode.
of the schemes being implemented by the KSDC for SC/ST communities and found that the loan schemes of KSDC under various categories had contributed positively to a section of SCs and STs to enter the mainstream of economy. Therefore, evaluation of welfare schemes is essential and helps to know the facts.

Maurya (2001)\textsuperscript{76} found that in spite of various protective, promotive and developmental measures initiated by the government for the social and economic upliftment of scheduled castes, the target groups are not able to overcome the age old deprivation of caste system. The problem of illiteracy, poverty, unemployment, malnutrition, social oppression and atrocities are still haunting the dalits in Indian society. The income generating programmes/schemes initiated under the Special Component Plan for the economic development of scheduled castes are not making desired level of impact on their socio-economic status due to various lacunae at policy and implementation level. The recent shift in policy prospective towards privatization and liberalization under the dictate of new economic policy and globalization has worsened the socio-economic status of marginalized groups in India. The participation of scheduled castes in education and more particularly in higher and professional education has gone down due to the privatization and fee hike in the academic institutions. Due to the privatization of public sectors their job opportunities are also shrinking in government services as there is no provision of reservation in private sector. He opined that unless the scheduled castes beneficiaries themselves and their development agents have comprehensive understanding, information, knowledge and skills about the different dimensions of the Special Component Plan, the benefits of income generating programme shall not accrue to them at the desired level.

Roy and Gopal (2001)\textsuperscript{77} analyzed the impact of the watershed development programme on Scheduled Castes in Punjab. They found that forest dependent dalits were not included for share in any tangible benefits of watershed development and management programme. Some of the Dalits, who had land, were benefited. Majority of the dalits were landless. The main occupation of the Dalits there was


rope making. Therefore, it is inferred that as majority of the Dalits are landless, they are not in a position to benefit from the developmental programmes like watershed management programme. They suggested that in order to ensure social equity, equal share should be given to all the Villagers including landless Dalits and artisans etc.

Noor Mohammad (2006)\(^7\) analyzed the socio-economic transformation of scheduled castes. He found that there are rural-urban variations in the educational level of the scheduled castes. The rural scheduled castes are less educated than that of urban counterpart. Various programmes and policies of rural development in general and agricultural development in particular have resulted into economic prosperity of the masses including the Scheduled Castes. Further, he found that Scheduled Castes have adopted more than one occupation.

Thorat and Senapati (2007)\(^7\) opined that that over time, there has been considerable improvement in the share of SC/ST reservation and representation in government employment and educational institutions. The reservation in legislative bodies has also ensured the SC/ST some space in the executive and decision making process. The impact of formal reservation policy in government sector and informal affirmative action policy in private sector has led to some improvement in the human development of SC/ST. However, as compared to non SC/ST population of the country, the rate of improvement has been rather slow. And as result, despite positive improvements, the disparities in human development between SC/ST and non SC/ST continue even today.

Wankhede (2008)\(^8\) opined that education is considered as an important means development of weaker sections like the Scheduled Castes in the contemporary period of globalization. However, due to their traditional socio-economic handicaps, their access to, performance and sustenance in education is hampered. The government committed itself to compensate their deprivations through various measures. The findings show that there are several weaknesses in

\(^7\) Noor Mohammad, op.cit., p.1-159.
implementing the scheme and yet it is found to be very useful for the beneficiaries. They suggested that the scheme needs to be revamped in a big way.

Deshmukh et al., (2008)\textsuperscript{81} examined the socio-economic impact of integrated rural development programme on rural development in Parbhani of Marthawada region of Maharstra. The authors’ results showed that the beneficiaries respondents availed benefits of IRDP for removing poverty. Further the authors identified employment generation was concerned, man-days per year has increased, migration reduced due to the employment generation and improvement in standard of living due to implementation of IRDP which shows the positive impact of IRDP. From this study the researcher observed that IRDP creates positive impact among that rural people. Therefore it is important to study the impact of TAHDCO schemes.

Abbasian and Bildt (2009)\textsuperscript{82} made a study on immigrant women empowerment through entrepreneurship in Sweden. The authors identified through interview, immigrant women started their business for a number of reasons such as unemployment, lack of suitable jobs and career possibilities, discrimination and forced privatization, desire for personal development, independence and freedom, or work within one’s own field of interest which was results of unemployment, long term social exclusion and low status profession with low incomes. Further the author pointed out that being empowered is important to health and well-being for immigrant women and the common dimension of empowerment is power, which influence one’s life and own choice. Finally, the authors concluded that entrepreneurship is a tool that has potential to increase the degree of empowerment and it is good way to become personally integrated into working life of immigrant women. It is observed from the study that entrepreneurial activities give an opportunity to become empowerment among weaker sections.

Shiralasheeti (2010)\(^3\) examined the level of empowerment of women through Self-Help Groups in Bijapur District. The author pointed out that empowerment is an active multidimensional process to enable women to realize their identity and power in all spheres of life. Further pointed out that empowerment provides a greater access to knowledge and resources, more autonomy in decision making, greater ability to plan lives, more control over the circumstances which influence lives, and freedom from customs, beliefs and practices. To measure the empowerment process the author considered age, family system, number of dependents, reasons for joining SHGs, purpose of loan taken, loan repayment status, monthly income, monthly expenditure, monthly savings and opinion regarding decisions on purchase and sale of fixed and current assets, domestic animals, ornaments, home appliances, cloths, construction and improvement of housing facilities, loan raising and repayment, savings and investments, education of children, commercial functions, political activities, social activities, and social justice. Finally the author concluded that to empower more and more women in social, cultural, economic, political and legal meters, for the interest of family in particular and the nation in general. It is observed from the study that empowerment is necessary to all group of weaker sections in the society. Therefore, it is essential to know the SC/ST empowerment process after availing financial assistance from TAHDCO.

Tripathy (2010)\(^4\) studied about tribal development initiatives and plannings in India: A review of intentions and achievements. The author discussed the matter relating to constitutional safeguards, plans and programmes, fund flow during 9\(^{th}\) and 10\(^{th}\) plans for the development ST’s education, demography and health and economic status. The author concluded that the planned approach followed India has been directed towards the overall development of the ST people of the country as per the provisions made in the constitution of India. The government has identified the problems and designed the ways and means to overcome the problems

through various social, economic and political initiatives. The author suggested there is a need to popularize a tribal specific participatory self governance system where the STs will choose their own destiny by managing their own resources and empowering themselves in the tribal participative and tribal managed development process.

Anand (2011)\textsuperscript{85} made an attempt to analyze the welfare schemes introduced by Haryana Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (HSFDC) on the people belonging to the scheduled caste category and scanned the performance of HSFDC. The author used primary data to evaluate the impact of Bank tie-up schemes, National Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) collaboration schemes and National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) schemes run by corporation and secondary data to measure the performance of HSFDC. The author assessed the overall impact of various scheme of HSFDC on the economic conditions of the SC beneficiaries. The author found that income of the SC beneficiaries varies and the poverty gap was high in the low income group and moderate and low in the medium and high income groups. Further the author identified, majority of beneficiaries non-Agricultural labourers and used the assistance for specified purpose and diverted the amount in other productive activities of their own choice. The upper income groups are made regular payments and who have substantial income generating assets beside the assistance. Trade and Business sectors generated maximum employment. Finally the author concluded that majority of the beneficiaries was benefited from HSFDC schemes and only 20 per cent of SC beneficiaries could not improve their economic conditions for one reason on the other. This study shows the positive impact on income, occupation, and poverty and loan repayment of HSFDC schemes among SC beneficiaries. From this, the researcher observed that there is a scope for further research on education, spending pattern, savings habits, assets building, bank linkage, social contact, political iterations and cultural change impacts. These impact

factors may empower the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. Hence, the researcher considers to applying this study in Salem district of Tamil Nadu and think about TAHDCO schemes and Empowerment of SC/ST.

Suryawanshi (2011)\textsuperscript{36} made an attempt to determine how for the Mahatma Phul Backward Class Development Corporation in Economic Development of Backward Class in Maharashtra with Special reference to Nanded District. The author studied the socio-economic background of backward class, examined the performance of backward class beneficiaries and the problems and difficulties faced by the backward class beneficiaries, suggested the suitable measures and remedies for the development of the backward class beneficiaries, performance of Mahatma Phul Backward Class Development Corporation Ltd and the experiences of the beneficiaries in starting their units. This work is done based on primary and secondary data, 100 sample beneficiaries were randomly selected and collected data with the help of questionnaire and this primary and secondary empirical survey results have been edited, classified, and presented in tabular, diagrams and graphic forms and percentage, average and correlation analysis were made. This study limited in sample size, scope and collection of primary data. In this study the parameter like age, education occupation, caste of the beneficiaries, annual income, their income sources, family size, other earning hands, assets, monthly savings and previous year’s investment and payment of income tax are taken into consideration in presenting the profile of the beneficiaries. Finally concluded that most of the beneficiaries availed subsidy from the corporation, the mode of monthly repayment of the loan is comfortable for the beneficiaries, the majority of the beneficiaries have difficulties that delay by sanctioning loan authority less provision of Government funds, the beneficiaries suggest that the corporation should increase subsidy for the economic upliftment of the backward class and apply easy method of documentation collection and the backward class beneficiaries tend to be defaulters in paying loan installment regularly. From this study the researcher observed various parameters like profile of the beneficiaries, loan repayment besides that the researcher added

two more variables such are impact of TAHDCO schemes among the SC/ST beneficiaries and enhancement in empowerment of SC/ST.

Suryawanshi and Dhande (2012)\textsuperscript{87} conducted a research on Socio-Economic Development among Scheduled Caste in Select District of Maharashtra and assessed the performance of Mahatma Phule Backward Class Development Corporation. The authors made an effort to determine the performance MPBCDC with formulated objectives, studied the economic background of backward class beneficiaries and their views and aspirations regarding the backward class development by MPBCDC, examined the problems and difficulties faced by the backward class beneficiaries and their performance. The authors used both primary and secondary data to find the results. Primary data were collected through structured questionnaire by taking interview from 100 backward class beneficiary respondents with full explanation and importance of the study. The parameter like age, education, occupation, marital status, caste of the beneficiaries, other earning hands, monthly savings, income tax, activities selected by the beneficiaries, infrastructure provided, channels used to approach the MPBCDC, schemes selected, are taken into consideration presenting the profile of the beneficiaries. The authors found majority (48\%) of the beneficiaries age group between 30 to 40, 40 per cent were illiterate, 30 per cent were unemployed, 84 per cent were married, 60 per cent were belongs to Scheduled caste, 51 per cent didn’t have other earning hands, 42 per cent beneficiaries didn’t have monthly savings where as the average monthly savings comes to Rs.236, 96 per cent beneficiaries were not income tax payers, 49 per cent of beneficiaries have selected trading activities which included 16 per cent manufacturing, infrastructure did not provided by the MPBCDC for 45 per cent of beneficiaries, 65 percent of the beneficiaries have personally approached to the corporation to benefits and 61 per cent of the beneficiaries have selected loan subsidy schemes of the concerned corporation. Finally the author concluded that the MPBCDC schemes definitely benefited the underprivileged and the weaker section of the society in Maharashtra. From this study the researcher identified Scheduled Caste Development Corporations playing vital role in uplifting SC/STs.

Therefore, the core concepts of the study have been considered for future researches in other states also. The same has been considered by the researcher in the current study.

Suryawanshi, (2012)\textsuperscript{88} studied Socio-Economic Development of Scheduled Caste through Mahatma Phule Backward Class Development Corporation. In this study, the author made an effort to determine how far Mahatma Phule Backward Class Development Corporation had successfully worked in achieving the formulated objectives and analyzed the socio-economic background of backward class beneficiaries, examined the performance of backward class beneficiaries, views and aspirations of backward class beneficiaries regarding of backward class development through Mahatma Phule Backward Class Development Corporation Ltd and examined the problems and difficulties faced by the backward class beneficiaries. In this study, 100 samples were collected through interview schedule with the help of questionnaire contains the parameter like age, education occupation, caste of the beneficiaries, annual income, their income sources, family size, other earning hands, assets, monthly savings and previous year’s investment and payment of income tax are taken into consideration in presenting the profile of the beneficiaries. Finally concluded that majority of the beneficiaries do not have any other earning hands, non income tax payers, nearly half of the beneficiaries have selected trading activities and most of the sample beneficiaries are in favour of infrastructure and services are not provided by the corporation. From this the researcher observed that this study may apply in Tamil Nadu Adi Diravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHDCO) with outlook of impacts of TAHDCO schemes and enhancement in Empowerment of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes.

Lakshmi Iyer et al., (2013)\textsuperscript{89} studied the rapid economic growth rate of India over the last couple of decades and dalit entrepreneurs status. The authors identified that members of SCs and STs are under-represent in the ownership of enterprises, among this 90% do not access outside sources of finance both in rural and urban areas. Finally they concluded that SCs and STs have remained


considerably under-represented in the entrepreneurial sphere and political gains have not manifested themselves in greater entrepreneurial powers even in the states with very progressive policies made towards SCs and STs. Further, the patterns of SCs and STs Entrepreneurship are not strongly related to broad measures of educational attainment and access of land. Hence, it is important to study the financial assistance impact through TAHDCO schemes.

According to the above said authors’ point of view, the socio-economic status of SC/ST is significantly improved through various welfare schemes implemented by the Government time to time. Also the above said authors pointed out that the Central and State Governments’ welfare schemes create various impacts among the SC/ST people. From the above review of literature discussion the researcher identified and selected the appropriate variables to the present study. Based on the literature review the researcher identified ten predominant impact factors such as occupation, income, education, asset building, political interaction, social contact and cultural changes created through welfare schemes.

2.4 Research Gap

It is identified from the above studies that welfare schemes are creating various impacts on the ten predominant factors such as occupation, income, education, asset building, political interaction, social contact and cultural changes. Authors covered only few factors in their studies and conclude the results. Therefore, the researcher aimed to study the impact of SC/ST welfare schemes on the ten predominant factors and its influence in the six dimensions of empowerment process such as economic, education, political, social, cultural and psychological and environmental which are discussed in 3rd chapter of the present study. Therefore, the researcher considered to study the impact of TAHDCO welfare schemes and empowerment of SC/ST with reference to Salem District of Tamil Nadu.