Chapter No.VII

Problems of Scheduled Tribes and Remedies Provided by the Government in Thane District.

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Chapter No. VII
Problems of Scheduled Tribes and Remedies Provided by the Government in Thane District.

Introduction:

This chapter deals with problems among the Scheduled Tribes, recommendations of different committees, Constraints in Tribal development, various Tribal Schemes implemented by the Government of India, Planning commission for the development of Scheduled Tribes, etc.

The scheduled tribes of Jawhar, Mokhada, Vikramgad, and Wada talukas were cut off from mainstream for a very long time and were still having a very primitive way of living. Even today their economic life depends upon natural forces. The scheduled tribe is surrounded by forests and hillrocks. They are sailing their lifeboat against the current. Their economic life is like a continuous hurdle race. The poverty is woven in their culture. They do not know what is better life. Their life cycle goes on, in spite of the inhospitable geographical condition.

The tribals are basically, hill and forest dwellers. They are isolates. Forest and forest produce have been their major source of livelihood in the past. Agriculture to them is recent. The land along with its topography determined the life condition of the tribals. The long term objectives of the tribal development schemes are, - to narrow the gaps between the levels of development of tribal and other areas, to improve the quality of life of the tribal communities. In fact, elimination of exploitation in all forms, speeding up of the processes of
socio-economic development, building the inner strength of the people and improving the organization capabilities.


In the report of these committees following problems are pinpointed and at the time of research researchers also found the following problems among the Scheduled Tribes.

7.2. Problems among the scheduled tribes:

A) Problems due to education-

I) Problems due to basic facilities like lack of laboratory, library and playgrounds where theoretical teaching does not fulfill the real aim of tribal education.

II) The hostels are run in poor, ill-equipped, rented houses, managed by the social welfare department. The students live in these hostels in deplorable condition.

III) The tiring distances encourage the children to play and waste time and energy. A shortage of attendance and heavy drop-outs are visible at this stage.
IV) Higher education is very costly; the tribal students face a difficulty at the time of admission, paying for regular expenditure, food, clothing, ration and other stationery.

V) The schools in rural tribal areas are primary and are mostly one teacher school, which is supposed to teach four standards.

VII) Parents are least interested in giving education to their children. Hence due to above such problems the literacy rate is very low amongst the scheduled tribes.

The following table gives information about the educational status of Tribes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Illiterate</th>
<th>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; to 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; std.</th>
<th>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; std.</th>
<th>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to 10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; std</th>
<th>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; &amp; above</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jawhar</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mokahada</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wada</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Vikramgad</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Field Survey 2006-07).

As seen from the above table, 161 members of 400 households were illiterate. Thus 40.25% of the members were illiterate. Only 17.75% had taken some (from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> std.) education. Only 18.5% had taken education up to 10<sup>th</sup> standard and very few members had taken higher education.
B) Housing problems:

Housing is one of the basic needs of every human being, which constitute the protecting base for any individual and his family. It is therefore, essential to consider style, shape, size, material used of the house. Following types of housing problems faced by the scheduled tribes.

I) Most of the houses are one-room houses or huts. They need repair in every season and they don’t get protection against the seasonal variation in temperature.

II) Monsoon is pretty difficult for them as to acquire tiles for the roof is an expensive proposition.

III) Scheduled Tribes inhabit with their cattle/farm animals and so this proves to be dangerous/risky in maintaining cleanliness and healthy environment.

IV) Near about 50% of tribal families live in one room hut, 25% tribal families live in two room huts. The medium sized huts belong to rich tribals and only one or two houses in the village/taluka places are four or more room house.

Table No. 7.2
Families benefited under housing schemes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Taluka</th>
<th>Indira awas yojana</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jawhar</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>(7.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mokahada</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>(11.75)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wada</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>(14.25)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
C) **Water problems:** Scheduled tribes don’t have the regular drinking water supply. They are inhabited of using the water, which is collected in small ditches. This proves hazardous to their health.

D) **Land and agriculture:**

I) Scheduled tribes people have a very small size of landholding. Most of the households have less than four acres of land. When the land is divided among brothers it is not recorded legally. Thus the statistics of land holdings are quite misleading.

II) There is no proper method for giving open forestland for cultivation to the tribals.

III) The agriculture is carried on the most primitive way. The agricultural implements are also very traditional. They do not use improved variety of seeds.

E) Irrigation facilities cannot develop.

F) The institutional credit facilities are almost nil over here. The administrative hurdles are too much for the illiterate tribals.

G) Due to hilly area the transport facilities have not been developed.

H) Scheduled tribe people get income from forest produce like honey, gum, leaves; wooden etc. is very little as private traders exploit them.

I) In the tribal community the number of dependents is more than the number of earning members.
I) Health problems:

 I) Health depends upon the quality of the food and as tribes suffer from poverty they cannot afford sufficient and balanced diet.

II) Tribes are working hard they do not earn enough and so they cannot get sufficient food and they take alcohol. This has an adverse effect on their health.

III) Because of mal-nutrition they become victims of T. B., malaria, typhoid and skin diseases and they are not taking health from governmental health services, they consult Bhagatas.

IV) No attention has been paid to the environmental aspects. Polluted rivers, tanks and wells are responsible for several diseases.

J) Transport: - The road facilities are inadequate and a large number of tribal villages are still unconnected with the network of existing road system.

K) Exploitation by the outside communities: - Exploitation of Scheduled Tribes by non-tribals. Like non-tribal merchants, big farmers and moneylenders etc.

L) Tribals are not fully aware of the schemes launched by the government.

M) Due to illiteracy, the impact of customs and traditions and the role of the leader / nayak, the tribes look at the schemes in a prejudiced manners.

N) Language problems.

O) Personal and social problems.

P) Lack of knowledge about the law and rights.
When the national leaders and Mahatma Gandhi give a call to the nation, the tribal leaders from many areas responded, for example, in Bihar the Tana Bhagat movement co-operated with the non-cooperation movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi and participated in the agitations like Flag Satyagraha at Nagpur. Due to this coming together the national leaders could understand the conditions and problems of the tribal population and become aware of the need of integrating the tribal people with the main stream of Indian life. Social workers such as Shri. A. V. Thakkar of the servants of Indian society started pioneering work among the tribal people and this helped in creating new attitudes and approach in the minds of national leaders towards the tribal population. Even some British Officers who had studied tribes and created a vast literature such as Dalton, Risley, Haton, Grikson, Grierson and later Dr. Elwin or missionaries such as Hislop and other helped in giving a new direction to the administration of the tribal Areas.\(^4\)\(^{13}\).

**Difficulties in better implementation of various schemes.**

For better implementation of various schemes identification of beneficiaries should be done in accordance with the stipulated guidelines. Family survey of income and assets position, beneficiaries capability and zeal to handle the schemes effectively, availability of infrastructure and marketing facilities, and above all beneficiaries social character need to be assessed carefully by efficient technical staff fully conversant with the rural development programmes. The officers handling this task should be independent and not under the control of B.D.O. who is the kingpin in the implementation process.
and is liable to be dictated by the local politicians. In no case, the people above the poverty line should be entertained.

Before allotting the scheme to the beneficiaries, the feasibility of the scheme should be judged and beneficiaries choices to choose the scheme be given top priority. Since most of the schemes are credit-oriented, the lending banks make procedural delay until and unless it is fully convinced of the credit worthiness of the beneficiaries. The participation of the bank officers in the identification process of the beneficiaries and selection of the schemes, if ensured, may expedite the implementation of the programmes through quick disbursement of loan.

Steps should be taken to purchase assets of good quality for supply to the beneficiaries at reasonable prices. The necessary assets for a scheme should be delivered in proper time. Fraudulent practices in respect of prices charged on the assets should be checked.\(^\text{12(57)}\).

After the independence period Government of India pinpointed the various problems of scheduled tribes with the help of reports from following different committees.

### 7.3. Recommendations of different committees:

1) After independence the Constituent Assembly appointed a sub-committee for the “Excluded areas and partially Excluded areas.” (Other than Assam) with Shri. A.V. Thakkar (Thakkar Bappa) as a chairman, thus demonstrating its responsibility towards the tribal people. Sardar Patel also advocated that every tribal must reach a high level. All these efforts were reflected in the constitution of India which provided different safeguards for the welfare of about 427 scheduled
tribe communities numbering 38.2 millions at the commencement of the first five year plan (as per the census of India 1971). Later planned development concentrated on tribal development starting with the first five-year plan and went on innovating new structures and models with sufficient financial outlays for tribal development.

The most important finding by the sub-committee accepted by the Constituent Assembly was to establish the principle that the new democratic state had a responsibility for the welfare of the Tribal people and the development of Tribal Areas, however remote and inaccessible they might be.4(13)

2. Special multipurpose Tribal Blocks Committee:

Special multipurpose Tribal Blocks Committee appointed in May, 1959 under the Chairmanship of Verrier Elwin, for evaluation of Tribal Development Blocks work. The patterns of Tribal Development Blocks, during the third plan period, was largely based on the recommendations made by this committee. Among other things it had recommended adoption of a flexible approach towards schematic allocations, introduction of Panchayat Raj and management of land and forests in the interest of the tribes who inhabit forest areas.

The committee released that the benefits of development did not reach uniformly all sections among the tribes. The primitive tribal communities remained beyond the pale of development administration. Land alienation, exploitation by private money-lenders, cheating and fraud in the process of sale of agricultural and minor forest produce continued unabated among the backward and weaker among the weak
tribals. The economic base of the tribal communities gradually weakened with the emergence of a forest policy, which aimed at maximization of forest revenue through commercial management of forests.\textsuperscript{4(10)}.

3. Shilu Ao committee:

Review of the tribal development programme was taken up by a study team. Set-up by the planning commission under the chairmanship of Shilu Ao, which submitted its report in 1969. The findings of this team had made it clear that it was necessary to about a flexible policy for tribal development. The main observation of this team regarding the tribal development Blocks was that all though the achievement under the programme had generally fallen short of expectations, the programme had helped, “to bring about a psychological change in the outlook of the tribals.”

Some of the main drawbacks pointed out by the Shilu Ao Team were: -

a) The Tribal Development Blocks failed to get any significant support from the general development programmes including the Community Development (CD) programmes.

b) The schemes formulated for these blocks were not adopted to a felt needs of the specific areas.

c) The benefits had mostly accrued to the more advanced among the tribals.

d) The Tribal Development Block was too small a geographical entity for co-ordinated planning. Programmes like education at secondary and higher levels, soil conservation and other programmes relating to infrastructural development cut across
block, district or even state boundaries and could not be financed out of the meagre allocation for the tribal development blocks.

The team suggested that the programme for the tribal development should be based on an, “area approach” and should be financed out of the general planned supplemented in suitable cases by a special allocation for tribals.$^{(35)}$

4). **Shri. D. M. Sukhatankar committee:**

In order to understand and improve the methodology for preparing Tribal Sub – Plan and its implementation and to focus the role of tribal development department in this processes, the state Government appointed a committee under the chairmanship of Shri. D. M. Sukhatankar in January 1991, a member of Board and former chief secretary of the state, whose report of June 1992 has been accepted.

The committee found that the planning department left it to the individual department as per their own discretion and priorities to decide about the schemes under Tribal Development Project (TSP). The departments giving priority to area development, implemented large development projects such as in irrigation and electricity using TSP money. As a result, the budget provisions under the TSP were exhausted without making any impact on tribal development and the lives of tribal people.

Therefore the committee recommended: -

a) The tribal development department to act as the planning department for tribal development and to put the major budget at the level of district plans.

b) 75% of the budget be provided for the development of tribals in ITDP project area and 25% for tribals out side the project area.
c) The major portion of TSP outlays should go to local schemes i.e. which directly benefit the tribals, e.g. schemes like major irrigation, soil and water conservation, rural water supply, link roads, maternal and child health etc. They need to be given high priority in allocation of funds.\(^6\)\(^{10}\)

**5) Centrally Empowered Committee (CEC):**

Centrally Empowered Committee, headed by the Mr. P. V. Jaikrishnanan comprised of five officials of Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF). Without any representation of tribals. The recommendation of CEC is that:

a) Further regularization of encroachment shall not take place except for those eligible for regularization as per 1990 circulars.

b) Any concerned State Government shall be at liberty to provide suitable rehabilitation package to the encroachment, particularly to the tribals.\(^15\)\(^{75}\)

In the scheme of constitutional provisions wide the fifth scheme, an important rule was assigned to the Tribal Advisory Councils constituted in various states having scheduled area. As commented by the Commissioner for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in the annual reports as well as by the commission appointed under Article 339 under the chairmanship of U. N. Dhebar which submitted its report in 1961 the performance of these councils in formulation, execution and evaluation of legislation relating to tribals was far from satisfactory. The Tribal Research Institutes in various states are blissfully unaware that they have anything to do with legislation concerning the tribal people\(^5\)\(^{33}\).
The Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission (1961, Chairman Shri. U. N. Dhebar) in context of Tribal Welfare and development observed that, “The constitution arranged for the provisions of resources and provided institutional apparatus. We feel that so far as the basic framework of the constitution is concerned it cannot be considered inadequate. Some of the safeguards for the tribals in the constitutions were originally only for ten years. In fixing this period, the constitution had envisaged an effective follow – up programmes which could have obviated the need for their continuance. This hope has not materialized and the period has been extended, but we are of the opinion that this has not been due to any deficiency in the constitution itself. It is the result of deficiency in performance.” 8(2).

After the achievement of independence, Prime Minister of India Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru touched the tribal psyche for their advancement along with preservation of their identity. In this context Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru once remarked about tribals saying, “They posses a variety of culture and are in many ways certainly not backward. There is no point in trying to make them second rate copy of ourselves.’’

Schemes for welfare, education, communication, and medical relief were no doubt essential but one must always remember, however, that, we do not mean to interfere with their way of life but want to help them to live in. The tribal people should be helped to grow according to their genius a tradition. It would be worthwhile to refer to Nehru’s Panch Sheel for tribes and their development and integration. This includes the following five principles:

The Nehru’s Panch Sheel:
1. **Non-imposition**—People should develop along the lines of their own genius and we should avoid imposing anything on them. We should try to encourage in every way their own traditional arts and culture.

2. **Respect of Tribal customs**—This respect applies particularly to their customs about land ownership, allocation for use of forest resources within their jurisdiction.

3. **Development of Tribal Youth**—We should try to train and build up a team of their own people to do the work of administration and development. Some technical personnel from outside will, no doubt, be needed, especially in the beginning. But we should avoid introducing too many outsiders into tribal territory.

4. **Simplicity of Administration**—Proliferation of bureaucracy should be avoided. The voluntary agencies or suitable local organs should be involved to carry out the developmental tasks.

5. **Emphasis on human growth**—We should judge results, not only by Statistics or the amount of money spent, but by the quality of human character that is evolved.^{10(9,10)}

**Recent Initiatives of the Ministry:**

The ministry of tribal affairs has taken up the following initiatives for more focused attention on tribal welfare and development.

1. **Direction to states for adoption of Maharashtra pattern of planning and devolution of funds earmarked for Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) areas.**

In Maharashtra the funds earmarked for TSP are placed with Tribal Development Department of State Government, which releases funds to different line departments for execution of developmental works.
under TSP. This process ensures better utilization of TSP funds for tribal areas.

2. Introduction of a new central sector scheme exclusively for development of the most underdeveloped group among the tribes, the primitive tribal groups.

3. Promotion of more Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO’s) in the field of tribal development.

4. Enforcement of strict monitoring mechanism in performance of NGO’s through the officers of the ministry and also by involvement of State Government machinery to identify the non-performing NGO’s and wedding them out.

5. Identifying Non-Governmental Organizations, which have, and all India character and known for their self less service. Such identified NGO’s be known as Established Voluntary Agencies (EVA).

6. Setting up a National Institute of research and Training in Tribal Affairs (NITA) as an apex body of state level Tribal Research Institutes.

7. Revision of schemes rising of cost heads to realistic and workable limits.

8. Enlistment of more work programmes / activities mostly on income generation and skill development to the list of projects for Grants-in-aid to NGO’s and also making provisions for cent per cent project cost as Grants-in most deserving cases.

9. Enhancement of rates of fellowships, scholarships and Grants for supporting projects, seminars and publications.⁹

These recommendations are pinpointed and remedies provided by the Government:
7.4. Constraints in Tribal Development:

There are innumerable constraints responsible for lower pace of tribal development process than desired. Some of the major constraints are:

(i) **Destruction of forests:** - The forests are not only the source of livelihood for tribals but there exists an intricate relationship between tribals and forests in forest ecosystems. The depleting forest resources are threatening imminent food security for a good portion of the tribal population.

(ii) **Lack of awareness:** - There exists lack of awareness among tribal population about various developmental programmes launched by Government of India and States, resulting in their exploitation.

(iii) **Protection of Tribal Rights and Concessions:** - The Tribals have been given numerous rights and concessions under various status of central as well as State Governments but they remain deprived of the benefits arising out of such statutory provisions due to their ignorance and apathy of in forcing agencies.  

Following schemes are implemented for upliftment of scheduled tribes.

7.5. Various Tribal Schemes implemented by the Government of India.

A) *Agricultural and Allied Services* : 

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In Maharashtra, nearly 85% of the Tribal population is engaged in Agriculture. Out of this 40% are farmers and 45% are agricultural labourers. Although, most of the tribal families depend on agriculture for their main source of income and occupation. Low technology and low input resources characterize tribal agriculture and therefore the nature of agricultural productivity of various crops in the tribal areas is not high. Moreover irrigation facilities in the tribal area are also extremely limited.

Hence the total outlay has been provided for the agriculture and allied services i.e. Rs. 339.59 lakh for the year 2001-02. It is increased by 109.07 % in the year 2003-04. The total outlay for the year is Rs.371.38 lakh. And in the year 2005-06 out-lay for TSP Rs.284.34 lakh it is decreased by 76.56%.

B) Rural Development:

In the rural development programme greater emphasis has been laid on poverty alleviation. The object of poverty alleviation is achieved by providing gainful employment on work of durable community assets in rural areas, which improve the quality of village life. The largest groups for the benefit of this programme are mainly the people below poverty line. In Maharashtra about 88% of tribal population is below poverty line and therefore, the tribals are one of the principal beneficiaries under this programme.

Under the rural development programme following various schemes are classified i.e. Integrated Rural Development Programme, Drought prone Area programme, Jawhar Rojgar Yojana, Assured employment programme, Ideal village scheme, Employment Guarantee
Scheme, Land Reforms and Community Development Programme, Suwarnjayanti Gram Swayam Rojgar Yojana, Sampurna Grammin Rojgar Yojana, Indira Awas Yojana, Adarsha Gram Yojana etc.

Rural Development scheme implemented by Government of Maharashtra in Tribal areas forest establishing large number of micro enterprises in the rural areas. The principal aim of the employment guarantee scheme is to provide gainful and productive employment to the people in rural areas only productive works are permitted under the scheme. From April 1989 Indira Awas Yojana was being implemented in the state as a sub - scheme of Jawhar Rojgar Yojana. Under Indira Awas Yojana the houses are being constructed for people who are below poverty line.

Hygiene is one of the aspects, which is completely neglected particularly in rural areas. Due to lack of sanitation, several water borne diseases become rampant particularly during the monsoon season. Sanitation and hygiene are there fore of prime importance for the well being of the tribal / rural population. An out lay for TSP – Thane of Rs. 87.00 lakh for IRDP has been kept aside in 2001-02, it is increased Rs.93.00 and Rs. 95.70 lakh in 2003-04 and 2005-06 respectively.

C) Irrigation and Flood Control:

The main occupation of the tribals in the state is agriculture. Despite this the irrigation facilities existing in tribal areas continue to be inadequate. The tribals mainly reside in hilly areas and the irrigation projects mainly lie in plain areas. Therefore major benefits of there projects predominantly go to non-tribal landholders. The flow
of benefits from the major and medium irrigation projects to the tribals are usually negligible on account of the above reasons.

In Thane District an out-lay of Rs. 505.52 lakh has been kept for this purpose under Tribal Sub-Plan in 2005-06. The following table shows an outlay for irrigation and flood control in Thane district under TSP plan for different years.

D) **Power Development:**

Power is vital infrastructural service, which affects the performance of all-important sectors. The rural electrification programme consists of village / pada / hamlets electrifications. The programme of village electrification has been completed; the same is now being extended to electrification of hamlets (wadis / pada’s)

For the work of electrification of hamlets, energisation of agricultural pump sets and release of domestic connections has been proposed for which a total outlay for the year 2001-02, 2003-04 and 2005-06 of Rs.300.00 lakh, Rs.201.00 lakh and 505.47 lakh respectively has been provided in TSP of Thane District.

E) **Industry and Minerals:**

Agriculture as a labour intensive agro based industry deserves special attention in the tribal sub plan. It is an effective instrument for poverty alleviation and is also recognized today as one of the highly remunerative agro based industries in the state.

Under this head seed money assistance to educated unemployed scheme was introduced in the year 1972-73 as centrally sponsored scheme and continues as a state plan scheme since 1976-77. This
scheme is intended to encourage educated unemployment persons to take up self-employment.

F) **Transport:**

Communication is an important and essential facility in the tribal areas for speedy development of the tribal people. Due to lack of proper road communications, the tribal people cannot avail of essential services such as health center, road communication provides educational facilities, wage employment, inward movement of essential commodities and outward movements of local produce and increase in awareness etc.

An outlay for Thane district for the year 2001-02, 2003-04, 2005-06 of Rs. 686.37 lakh, Rs.1066.51 lakh and Rs. 978.40 lakh respectively.

G) **General Economic Services:**

The MLA’s local development programme is being implemented in the state since 1984-85. This programme includes small works of local development such as small road works, missing licks, small bridges, primary school rooms, samaj mandir etc.

Forest tourism place a vital role in bringing people close to nature and creating love among them for forests and wild life. Looking to the close relation between tribals and forests, the district, planning and development councils have proposed a total outlay for tourism. For Thane district proposed outlay of Rs. 6.82 lakh for 2005-06.
H) Social and Community Services:

In the national policy of education, 1986, it has been recognized education as an area, in which tribals are undoubtedly far behind the rest of population. Tribal students taking education in other schools and get the benefit of free education, supply of text books, uniforms, stipends and attendance allowance (for Girls) etc. For the spread of education following schemes are implemented in the tribal areas

- To opening balwadis in zilla parishad primary school.
- Book banks in primary school.
- Special facilities to the students I to IV.
- Attendance allowance to girls.
- Opening and development of non-government secondary schools.
- Development of higher secondary education.
- Adult education programme.
- Quality improvement of English teaching in tribal areas.

The state Government has implemented “total literacy campaign” in all district of the state. An outlay of Rs. 0.05 lakh for this schemes provided by TSP in Thane district in the year 2005-06. Sub-sector wise outlay for Thane district given below.

Education plays a pivotal role in the process of social economic development of any nation. It aids in promote and developing human resources of the nation. The national education policy stresses the universalizing of education under the goal, ‘education for all’.

After independence government of India were started various schemes to bring the illiterate and economically backward tribals in to
the main stream of national life. The purpose of implementation of these schemes to educate the illiterate tribals and create awareness among them about their rights so that they would able to develop on their own.

I) Navsanjeevan Yojana:

Nav Sanjeevan Yojana being implemented in the Tribal sub-plan area, additional tribal sub-plan area. Mini mada pockets and in the mada pockets. This yojana aims at integrated and co-ordinated implementation and strengthening of various drinking water health facilities etc. to the tribals. Following schemes have been include in the Nav Sanjeevan Yojana.

1) Employment Programme:
   • Employment Guarantee Scheme.
   • Jawahar Rojgar Yojana.
   • Assured Employment Scheme.

2) Health Services:
   • Providing primary health care services.
   • Providing pure and clean drinking water.

3) Nutrition Programme:
   • Integrated Child Development Scheme.
   • School feeding programme.

4) Supply of Food grains:
   • Distribution of food grains through fair price shops.
   • Revamped public distribution system.
Door delivery system.

5) Consumption Loan Scheme.
6) Grain Bank Scheme.

J) Individual beneficiary Schemes:

Eradication of poverty, removal of disparity in income and upliftment of the living standards of the society form part of the twenty-point programme. Items 11-b of this programme deals with the welfare of scheduled tribes. There are 22 individual benefit schemes implemented under the programme. During the year 1998-99 as against the target of 1,25,000 beneficiaries, the achievement was 1,62,395. During the year 1999-2000 as against the target of 1,40,000 beneficiaries the achievement was 1,48,326. Keeping in view this achievement, the target for the year 2000-2001 has been fixed at 1,45,000 beneficiaries.

Some of the major individual beneficiary schemes are as follows:

a) Nucleus budget scheme:

The tribal sub plan is formulated taking into consideration the various schemes approved by the government. In order to provide for local variations and specific needs which cannot be met from regular schemes, a special scheme ‘Nucleus Budget’ is being implemented since 1981-82 under the scheme the project officers of the ITDP’s are improved to formulate and implement (if necessary through other department), schemes of local importance. The selling for financial
assistance under this scheme is Rs. 10,000 per family. The schemes and Nucleus Budget are categorized into four groups

i) Income generation schemes like minor irrigation, increase in agricultural production and land living. The grant – in – aid given to the beneficiary is 50% for normal tribals and 80% to primitive tribals. In respect of schemes costing below Rs.2000 full amount is given as subsidy to all tribals.

ii) Training schemes for unemployed tribals, like – pre-recruitment training, training in radio repairing, wiring, carpentry etc.

iii) Welfare scheme for women and children.

iv) Human research development schemes related to sports tribal arts and tribal culture.

b) Supply of electric pumps and oil engines:

The tribal cultivators are provided with electric pumps and oil engines. A tribal cultivator who has a minimum 0.6 hectares and maximum 6.4 hectares cultivable land is eligible to benefit from this scheme. However for them to be eligible three should be sufficient quantity of water at least for six months during the year, either for all or other sources for irrigating their land. Moreover for getting an electric pump, there should be an electric line passing near by.
Beneficiary from Oil engine scheme.

Those having no such facility can get the benefit of oil engines. The cumulative performance under this scheme is as follows.

### Table No. 7.3
Supply of electric pumps and oil engines in Thane District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Sanctioned pumps</th>
<th>Installed pumps</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Electric pumps</td>
<td>1973-1999</td>
<td>43,476</td>
<td>38,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Oil engines</td>
<td>1976-1999</td>
<td>13,712</td>
<td>10,873</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: - Tribal Sub-Plan-2000-01).

c) Replacement of thatched roofs with Mangalore tiles / GI sheets:

The problems of housing is acute among the tribals in the state even though some tribal families own houses, there are covered by thatched roofs, which do not give them proper protection from rain, cyclones etc. Under this scheme, assistance of Rs.4,000 is given to each tribal family below the poverty line for replacement of thatched
roofs by Mangalore tiles. For this scheme for the year 2000-01 an outlay of Rs.13.44 lakh has been provided.

d) Backward class co-operative housing scheme:

This scheme is very useful for providing shelter to the poor tribal families. An outlay of Rs. 13.44 lakh has been provided for the year 2000-01 for this scheme.

K) Shabari Tribal Finance and Development Corporation:

It was found that TDC, which is preoccupied with its marketing activities, was not able to pay adequate attending to the task of helping tribals to start self-employment. The government has therefore set-up in December 1998 a separate Shabari Tribal Finance and Development Corporation for the scheduled tribes for assisting them to start their own business by providing financial assistance through subsidy, seed capital loan etc.

Shabari Tribal Finance and Development implement the following schemes:

- Shabri Fund Scheme.
- NFDC.
- Entrepreneurial Training Programme.
- Term Loan Scheme.
- Strengthening of Women etc.

Shabari Tribal Finance and Development Corporations head office is in Nashik and branch at Jawhar. Jawhar branch of this corporation beings started from Jan.2000 and up to 30th Sept.2006 there are 137 beneficiaries under the various schemes.
The following table shows that scheme wise beneficiaries and amount spent to them.

**Table No. 7.4**  
Shabari Tribal Finance and Development Corporation Ltd.  
Jawhar Branch in Thane District.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Total amount of loan paid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Shabari Fund</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>12,93,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>NFDE</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>95,34,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Strengthening of women</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>17,65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Term loan scheme (Nationalized bank)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1,36,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>1,27,28,949</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source :- Field Survey 2006-07).

**Maharashtra State Co-operative Tribal Development Corporation Ltd.:**

Maharashtra state co-operative tribal development corporation ltd. is a promotional institution, which is working as a ‘service organization’. Main purpose of this corporation is to work as effective implementing agency to extend the welfare programmes of the state government to the tribals. This corporation is established in the year 1972. These corporations have been adopted following two major objectives:

i) To act as an effective agency to prevent economic exploitation of tribal farmers and labourers.

ii) To promote the economic development of tribals by implementing the direct assistance schemes. There schemes are as follows.-
iii) Monopoly procurement scheme-
   a. Procurement of agricultural produce commodities.
   b. Self of agricultural produce commodities.
   c. Procurement of minor forest produce.
   d. Self of minor forest produce.

iv) Supplies to government Ashram Schools.

v) Primary centers.

vi) Doorstep delivery.

vii) Special Action Programme.

viii) **Nav Sanjeevan Yojana.**

   Consumption finance scheme: - The consumption finance scheme is being implemented in TSP areas since 1978 provides for the consumption requirements of the needy tribal families during lean employment season of very monsoon.

   **Table No. 7.5**

   **The year wise disbursement of (consumption) finance to Adivasis.**

   (Rs. in lakh)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Loan disbursed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1992-93</td>
<td>1,03,027</td>
<td>399.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>50,773</td>
<td>211.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>42.07</td>
<td>168.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>51.96</td>
<td>240.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>94.24</td>
<td>202.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>45.76</td>
<td>567.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The future programmes of this corporation is to procure Moha flowers, gum, karanga seed etc. minor forest produces which are collected by them and the household cooking gas distribution scheme is also being implemented by the corporation.

7.6. Planning commission for the development of Scheduled Tribes:

The birth of planning commission in the year 1950. The development of the tribal communities is the main objective of the government of India. During the plan period’s government of India never undertook different economic development programmes or schemes for the upliftment of the tribals.

The following table shows that total expenditure on programmes during different plan periods.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.</th>
<th>Plan Year</th>
<th>Total budget</th>
<th>Rupees in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>75,702</td>
<td>531.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>1,53,677</td>
<td>1059.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>1,72,385</td>
<td>1166.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>37,401</td>
<td>284.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>86,682</td>
<td>680.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>2,00,000</td>
<td>6000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(NA: Not Available) [Source:- Tribal Sub-Plan 2005-06).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Total Budget (crores)</th>
<th>Annual Budget (crores)</th>
<th>Annual Percentage</th>
<th>Growth Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>I plan</td>
<td>1951-56</td>
<td>1,960.00</td>
<td>19.93</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>II plan</td>
<td>1956-61</td>
<td>4,600.00</td>
<td>49.92</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>III plan</td>
<td>1961-66</td>
<td>8,576.00</td>
<td>50.53</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Annual Plan</td>
<td>1966-69</td>
<td>6,756.00</td>
<td>32.32</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>IV plan</td>
<td>1969-74</td>
<td>15,902.00</td>
<td>75.00</td>
<td>0.47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>V plan</td>
<td>1974-79</td>
<td>37,250.00</td>
<td>1,182.00</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Annual Plan</td>
<td>1979-80</td>
<td>12,176.00</td>
<td>855.16</td>
<td>7.02</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>VI plan</td>
<td>1980-85</td>
<td>97,500.00</td>
<td>4,193.00</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>VII plan</td>
<td>1985-90</td>
<td>1,80,000.00</td>
<td>6,976.76</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>VIII plan</td>
<td>1990-95</td>
<td>3,14,576.00</td>
<td>18,311.93</td>
<td>5.82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>IX plan</td>
<td>1997-02</td>
<td>8,59,200.00</td>
<td>775.00</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Source: -Tribal development and Indian Five –Year Plans,(2004) 12(39)].

The first five-year plan commenced in 1951 with a comprehensive programme of community development. Fifty-six community development projects were started in 1951 in different parts of the country. These projects offered co-ordinated programmes for multidimensional development of rural areas. In 1953 National Extension Service Blocks were set up to provide the essential basic staff and a small amount of fund to the people so that they could start the development work essentially on the basis of self-help. The NES Blocks were subsequently converted into CDP Blocks. The CDP activities were comprehensive which included programmes for the development of-

i. Agricultural and related matters.
ii. Communications.

iii. Health and sanitation.

iv. Education.

v. Social welfare activities.

vi. Housing.

vii. Employment and training etc.\(^\text{15(9)}\).

The tribes when compared to other people are facing more problems or difficulties. For this reason the government originations are implementing various five-year plan for the welfare of tribes. The plans should be made useful for their self-development helping the scheduled tribe families to cross the poverty line to provide basic facilities to their areas.

It is important to note that the level of socio-economical status has not yet improved in comparison to the efforts done for the purpose. Governmental efforts are not bearing the fruits because there is a mismatch between the programmes and the requirements of the people. It is high time to rethink about the efforts for the improvement of socio-economic status of the tribals. It would be more beneficial, if the Governmental and other plans prepare for the tribals social and economic development in light of the tribal peoples requirement and implementation with the approach, which is best suitable for them.\(^\text{16(163)}\).

The Government of Maharashtra have been implemented / provides the above schemes in the rural tribal areas in the Thane district are beginning to show their effect upon the minds of the tribals, but the rate of progress / development is very slow. Government of Maharashtra pinpointed the problems of scheduled tribes community
and with the help of local agencies making efforts to bring out the downtrodden tribal community on par with the non-tribal community.

References:


Chapter No. VIII.

Summary, Conclusion and Suggestions.

8.1. Introduction.
8.2. Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Areas.
8.3. Characteristics of Tribes.
8.4. Concept of development.
8.5. Social and Cultural life of Scheduled Tribes.