PREFACE
The problem, welfare and development are the three distinct wings found centering around the tribal population in India. India has the largest tribal population in the world and Andhra Pradesh State has more than fifty lakhs the largest tribal concentration in Southern India constituting 6.59 percent of the total population of the country. The Tribes of Andhra Pradesh present a fascinating diversity with its variegated socio-cultural traditions, plurality of occupations and diverse linguistic heritage. The concept of tribal development emerged since the beginning of the plan period in India. The Government of India has been trying to ameliorate the tribals with the main stream through social change. Social change is a multi-faceted and continuous process. There are many factors which are responsible for the changing situation of tribals. Imparting education to the tribals can be taken as one of the most vital forces in social change in tribals. It also believed by many that through a gradual spread of education amongst the tribal people they can be brought more easily to the horizon of effective development.

The Indian Constitution has clearly laid down in its Directive Principles of State Policy that the State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may be a social order in which justice – social, economic and political shall inform to all institutions of
national life. The Government of India has rightly responded to the provisions laid down in the Indian Constitution and made it a policy to develop tribals in all spheres of their life like, social, economic, political, cultural and so on. Assessing the real implications of Education as a vital social force, the government has been taking several measures to accelerate the process of educational development in all districts bringing into its fold the tribals. These measures included reservation of jobs, political participation through reservation of seats, special facilities in the field of education in terms of running of tribal welfare hostels for elementary, high school and college going children, awarding of scholarships, fellowships etc.

Anantapur district is one of the most backward areas of Rayalaseema region in Anantapur district. This district has a total tribal population of 127161. The District administration also realised the need and importance of development of tribal population in all facets of their life and highest importance was given to promotion of education among them. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has extended its wing of tribal welfare administration to this district by creating an office for District Tribal Welfare under the stewardship of one District Tribal Welfare Officer. The Tribal Welfare Officer is responsible to look after all the educational needs of the tribal people in all the 63 mandals of the District. The programmes under this sector envisage provision of incentives to students by way of free boarding and free lodging by establishing...
Tribal Welfare Hostels both for boys and girls along with the package of incentives like supply of text books, note books, dresses, pocket money etc. It is also proposed to continue efforts of government to improve access of tribal children to schools, measures for retaining them in the schools and reduce their dropout rate. Particular attention is being paid for providing greater access to girl children and also for encouraging education among them.

To enable the objectives of tribal education, their enrolment in schools, their continuity in schools and to remedy their economic inability to bear the cost of the education and their maintenance, there are as many as 18 tribal welfare hostels started in the district. Of which 11 hostels earmarked for boys and 7 hostels for girls spread over in selected tribal concentrated mandals in the district. The government is releasing budget to the tribal welfare hostels every year and the District Tribal Welfare Officer is made responsible for effective running of the hostels with the assistance of wardens to each hostel.

PROBLEM:

The development of tribals in general and tribal children in particular in respect of their social development through education is possible through efficient and effective management of the tribal welfare hostels established by the government under administrative control of District Tribal Welfare Officer. Timely release of funds, supply of text books and note books in
time, adequate and nutritious meal, healthy residence and shelter, congenial environment for regular study, health and hygiene, regular and consistent guardianship of the wardens and their regular supervision on the students discipline all will go a long way for the growth and development of tribal children in their welfare hostels. But there has been a serious criticism at all levels and from all quarters that the tribal welfare hostels in Anantapur district are not run effectively and properly upto the expected satisfaction of the society.

**SCOPE OF THE STUDY:**

Hence an attempt is made in this dissertation to study the organisation and working of tribal welfare hostels in Anantapur district in general and in three selected hostels in particular in the light of the funds released to the hostels, the facilities provided to them in the hostels, the regular maintenance of the hostels and so on.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:**

The objectives of the present study are SIX fold in chapter. They are -

1. to trace out the history of Tribes in India and Andhra Pradesh and to explain the constitutional safeguards provided to Scheduled Tribes in India.

2. to analyse the social structures of tribals in India and to evaluate the socio-cultural profile of tribals in Andhra Pradesh.
3. to describe various educational programmes implemented for Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh.

4. to evaluate the organisation and working of tribal welfare hostels in Anantapur district.

5. to test the perceptions of the inmates of the hostels with regard to the functioning of their hostels.

6. to appraise the problems of the inmates of the hostels and to offer suggestions for effective functioning of tribal welfare hostels in Anantapur district.

METHODOLOGY:

The present study is based on both primary and secondary data. The primary data was collected from the primary records available in the offices of District Tribal Welfare Officer, and hostel wardens. Attempts were made to analyse the data available with reference to working of Tribal Welfare Hostels in the district. To gain an insight into the working and performance of the hostels personal visits were conducted to make on the spot study of various aspects of the management of the hostels. A well structured questionnaire was prepared and administered to the inmates of three selected hostels selected on the basis of purposive random sampling. Interviews were also conducted with District Tribal Welfare Officer and other wardens about the problems encountered by them in managing the hostels.
Secondary data was collected from the Annual Performance Reports and Performance Budget of Government of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh State Administration Reports, Students School Records, District Statistical Reports, various Government Orders issued by Government of Andhra Pradesh from time to time in respect of Tribal Welfare. Further various books, journals relating to social and tribal welfare, education, organisation and management and other related books were consulted. Data was also collected from Director & Commissioner, Tribal Welfare, Tribal Culture & Research Institute, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, State Central Library, Hyderabad and various other University and College Libraries in the State. Finally national and regional newspapers, brochures and pamphlets released by the Department of Tribal Welfare from time to time were also made use.

PLAN OF ANALYSIS:

The present dissertation has been organised into Six Chapters.

Chapter – I Introduction

Chapter – II Tribals in India

Chapter – III Education of Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh

Chapter – IV Organisation and working of Tribal Welfare Hostels in Anantapur District

Chapter – V Perception of Boarders in Tribal Welfare Hostels in Anantapur District

Chapter – VI Summary and Conclusions