



## **DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBAL COMMUNITY THROUGH GOVERNMENT POLICY & PROGRAMMES IN INDIA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The greatest challenge that the Government of India has been facing since independence is the proper provision of social justice to the scheduled tribe people, by ameliorating their socio-economic conditions. Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and denotified tribes constitute the weakest section of India's population, from the ecological, economic and educational angles. They constitute the matrix of India's poverty. Though the tribals are the sons of the same soil and the citizens of the same country, they born and grow as the children of the nature. From the historical point of view, they have been subjected to the worst type of exploitation social. They are practically deprived of many civic facilities and isolated from modern and civilized way of living since so many centuries.*

*Tribals in India, geographically and culturally, are at widely different stages of social as well as economic development and their problems differ from area to area within their own groups. The tribesman lives not only for himself alone, but also he is an integral part of the community to which he belongs. The identity of interest between the individuals and the community is real, bearing profoundly on tribal attitudes. It makes for the emergence of essentially human qualities like comraderie, fellow feeling and social awareness. Because of these reasons, the British adopted the policy of isolation and tried to keep the tribals away from the mainstream of Indian life.*

**Key Words :** Tribal Development, Government Schemes, Government Policies, Economical & Social Development, Human Development.

## **INTRODUCTION :**

The greatest challenge that the Government of India has been facing since independence is the proper provision of social justice to the scheduled tribe people, by ameliorating their socio-economic conditions. Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and denotified tribes constitute the weakest section of India's population, from the ecological, economic and educational angles. They constitute the matrix of India's poverty. Though the tribals are the sons of the same soil and the citizens of the same country, they born and grow as the children of the nature. From the historical point of view, they have been subjected to the worst type of exploitation social. They are practically deprived of many civic facilities and isolated from modern and civilized way of living since so many centuries.

There is a deep spiritual connection between Native American people and the earth. Tribal communities are strongly committed to the restoration and protection of the natural environment, including surface and ground water resources. These rivers, lakes, streams, reservoirs, wetlands, estuaries, and coastal waters sustain fish and shellfish, provide recreational opportunities, supply drinking water, and allow ceremonial uses for many tribal communities. However, many water resources are threatened or impaired by polluted runoff, also known as nonpoint source (NPS) pollution. The goal of this handbook is to provide tribes with guidance and other information that will help them to protect and restore water resources.

Most of the villages are interconnected by roads which result decrease in inter regional disparities in all sphere of life. Food habits and material culture is changing gradually. They wear modern dresses, use cosmetics and metal ornaments .Pattern of celebration is also changed .The young educated people do not want to dance in traditional pattern. The Development programmes are not only act as the accelerating force in the changing processes. Cultural diffusion and acculturation through the interaction with other non tribal people in each sphere also bring changes in long term process.

In early days they had their traditional institution through which they made acquainted with their cultural heritage. In pre independence period Christian missionaries brought them under the impact of modern education. In post independence period several programmestaken by the govt and the centre to propagate education among the Santals. Together with these programmes reservation policy in jobs taken by the govt results changes in their socio cultural life. Santal traditional society gradually transformed to modern society.

The Scheduled Tribes (STs) according to the 1991 Census account for 67.76 millions representing 8.08 per cent of the country's population. They are spread across the country mainly in the forest and hilly regions. More than 70 per cent of the ST population is concentrated in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Gujarat. The essential characteristics of these communities are primitive traits, geographical isolation, distinctive culture, shyness of contact with communities at large and backwardness.

The founding fathers of the Indian constitution were aware of their problems. Therefore, they made special provisions for their protection and development. The main safeguards include promotion of educational and economic interests and their protection from social injustices and all forms of exploitation. The constitution protects the general rights of all Indian citizens to move freely, settle anywhere and acquire property. It also permits the States to make reservation in public services in case of inadequate representation and requiring them to consider their claims in appointments to public services. The constitution provides special representation for the STs in the Lok Sabha and State legislative assemblies till 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 (Arts, 330, 332 and 334) and enjoins the setting up of separate departments in the States and National Commission at the Centre to promote their welfare and safeguard their interests (Arts 164 and 338). Special provision for administration and control of Schedule Areas and Tribal Areas (Art. 224, Fifth and Sixth Schedules) and grant - in-aid to the States to meet the cost of such schemes of development as may be undertaken by them for promoting the welfare of the Schedule Tribes or raising the level of Schedule Areas (Art. 275 (1) are also guaranteed. Later on with a view to effectively deal with the crimes against the Scheduled Tribes two special laws, viz., Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 were enacted.

### **CONCEPTUAL BACKGROUND :**

The term development is used in wider sense. The purpose of development programmes is to create more opportunity to all the people for better life. Development process involves improvement in the quality of life of weaker section. In a democratic country no community will remain outside of the main stream. But it is a pity thing that because of some reasons the tribal people are still remain far behind the development programmes and also neglected by the ruler and the people of other caste. In the pre British period the tribal people couldn't taste the fruits of the development and get very little facilities provided by the royalty because they live in the remote and inaccessible areas. For this they couldn't interact easily with other people in spite of they are co-existed with other people since

the dawn of Indian civilization as the history of India reveals. This is due to the untouchability by the Hindu people of higher castes. After that during the British period the ruler want to segregate the tribal people from the main stream and as result of this tribal people who live in remotest area not so benefited by the development programme taken by the ruler. Their policy 'leave them alone' cause poor or less development of the tribal community people and they allowed to stay in their own world and for this the world outside their domain was unknown to them. Poor and inaccessible communication and less interest of the ruler and the king about them the development programmes taken for them were not so effective and enough in eradication of their poor life pattern. To fulfil the policy of the British ruler to segregate the tribal people from the main stream for the administration. The British ruler invited the Christian missionaries for welfare of them and to converted them into Christianity by which they can run administration smoothly. They took development programmes in villages and towns as construction of roads and communication , schools, hospitals for their own interest. So these measure failed to improved the socio-economic condition of the tribal community.

After independence govt thought that the tribal community have to be involve in all the matters of the country they should be integrated with the main stream. This approach of integration is the brain child of Jawaharlal Nehru. This policy of integration consists of two types of measure as i)the protection of interest of the tribal people through legal administration; and ii)to implement the development programmes to improve their standard of living. The constitution of India initiated the tribal development programmes by incorporating important provision. The Santals in this district is mostly rural, illiterate and hard working. The change in socio cultural status is also changing based on the development of infra structural facilities. Most of the villages are interconnected by roads which result decrease in inter regional disparities in all sphere of life. Food habits and material culture is changing gradually. They wear modern dresses, use cosmetics and metal ornaments .Pattern of celebration is also changed. The young educated people do not want to dance in traditional pattern.

The Development programmes are not only act as the accelerating force in the changing processes. Cultural diffusion and acculturation through the interaction with other non tribal people in each spheres also bring changes in long term process .The Santals called themselves' HorHapon' or sons of Man. In early days they had their traditional institution through which they made acquainted with their cultural heritage. In pre independence period Christian missionaries brought them under the impact of modern education. In post independence period several programmes taken by the govt and the centre to propagate

education among the Santals. Together with these programmes reservation policy in jobs taken by the govt results changes in their socio cultural life .Santal traditional society gradually transformed to modern society.

### **OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH STUDY :**

The present research study is based on the following objectives in view :

1. To study the conceptual background of Tribal Community in India.
2. To study the Tribal population and economical position of Tribal Community in India.
3. To study the Government Policies and Programmes for Tribal Development in India.

### **HYPOTHESIS OF THE RESEARCH STUDY :**

The main hypothesis of the said research study is as under :

- H-1** Day by day, the economical and social position of the Tribal are improving through government policies and programs.
- H-2** There are some limitations in implementing the government schemes for Tribal development.

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:**

The present research study uses the most recent available published secondary data. To achieve the above stated objectives, the secondary data was used. The secondary data that are mainly used are published in annual reports of various banks and survey reports of leading business magazines. The secondary data was also used from various reference books related to Tribal Development, Government Schemes, Government Policies, Economical & Social Development, Human Development, Marketing, Banking, Finance, Commerce, Management etc. For the said research study the secondary data is also collected from the various National and International Research Journals which are related to Commerce, Management, Marketing and Tribal Development.

For the said research study the data pertaining to the above objectives was collected and reviewed the literature on the topic concerned. The literature was thus collected by visiting various libraries. The Secondary data is also collected from various websites.

### **TRIBAL POPULATION IN INDIA :**

There are approximately two hundred million tribal people in the entire globe, which means, about 4% of the global population. They are found in many regions of the world and

majority of them are the poorest amongst poor. According to 1981 census, the population of Scheduled Tribes in the country was 5.16 crores, consisting about 7.76% of total Indian population, which means one tribesman for every 13 Indians.

Among tribes, there are so many communities. The major identified tribes in country number about the 428 scheduled tribes in India though the total number of tribal communities are reported to be 642 and several of them have become extinct or merged with other communities as the tendency for fusion and fission among tribal population is a continuous process. Thus, if the sub-tribes and state tribes will be taken into consideration, the number will be many more. These 428 communities speaking 106 different languages have been so far notified as the scheduled tribes in 19 states and 6 union territories. They have their own socio-cultural and economic milieu. In fact, the largest concentration of tribal people, anywhere in the world and except perhaps Africa is in India. About 50% of the tribal population of the country is concentrated in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar and Orissa. Besides, there is a sizeable tribal population in Maharastra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

### **Socio-Economic Background of Tribal Population in India :**

1.	Total tribal population	15 -16 Crores
2.	Workers among Tribal population a) Main workers b) Marginal workers c) Non-workers <b>Total</b>	43.10% 7.61% 49.29% <b>100.00</b>
3.	Literacy 1) General Literacy in the country 2) Literacy among ST people	36.23% 16.35%
4.	Classification of Tribal Population 1. Male population (in lakh) 2. Female population (do) <b>Total</b> 3. Rural population 4. Urban population <b>Total</b>	Total Percentage 260.39 50.43 255.90 49.57 <b>516.29 100.00</b> 93.80% 6.20% <b>100.00</b>
5.	Land Holdings of Tribal population 1) Marginal and small holdings 2) Semi-medium 3) Medium 4) Large Holdings <b>Total</b>	62.42% 20.59% 13.58% 3.41% <b>100.00</b>

## **NATURE AND THE SCOPE OF THE TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT :**

Tribals in India, geographically and culturally, are at widely different stages of social as well as economic development and their problems differ from area to area within their own groups. The tribesman lives not only for himself alone, but also he is an integral part of the community to which he belongs. The identity of interest between the individuals and the community is real, bearing profoundly on tribal attitudes. It makes for the emergence of essentially human qualities like comradeship, fellow feeling and social awareness. Because of these reasons, the British adopted the policy of isolation and tried to keep the tribals away from the mainstream of Indian life. The Scheduled District Act of 1874 had kept most of these areas administratively separate. The same situation was allowed to continue under the Government of India Act of 1919 and 1935. However, after independence, this policy was abandoned and a new policy of tribal development and integration was initiated.

## **SCHMES FOR TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA :**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Schmes for Tribal Development in India</b>
1	DBT Scheme for Post Matric Scholarship, TOP Class Education, Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship
2	R-M : Research Training: Operational Guidelines for the scheme "Grants-in-Aid to TRIs"
3	R-M : Scheme of Centres of Excellence.
4	SG : Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)
5	EDU - PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP (Class IX and X) w.e.f. 01-07-2012 : { NEW }
6	NGO: Schemes of Strengthening education among Scheduled Tribes Girls in a low literacy Districts
7	EDU: Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hostels for ST boys and ST Girls
8	EDU: Upgradation of Merit of ST Students
9	EDU: Post Matric Scholarship (PMS) for ST students
10	EDU : Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas
11	EDU: Top Class Education for ST Students
12	EDU: Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students
13	SG: Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India
14	SG: Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP)

15	EDU: National Overseas Scholarships for Scheduled Tribe Students
16	NGO:Scheme of Coaching for Scheduled Tribes
17	EDU:Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas
18	CP-R: Scheme of Grants-in-Aid to STDCCs for MFP Operations
19	CP-R: Scheme of Marketing Development of Tribal Products/Produce
20	CP-R: Scheme of Investment in TRIFED
21	NGO: Scheme of Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs)
22	NGO:Scheme of Grant in Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for welfare of STs

(Source : <http://tribal.nic.in/Content/schemes.aspx>)

### **THE TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES :**

A review of the tribal situation would indicate that the strategy for development would require an intensive approach to the tribal problems in terms of their geographic and demographic concentration, if the faster development of the community is to take place. The community development efforts in the tribal areas were therefore, taken up for supplementation by starting a few special multipurpose tribal development projects covering a few blocks in 1954.

A number of commissions and committees were appointed in the recent past to look in to the problems of developments in the tribal areas in the country and they have recommended a number of measures to remove the socio-economic imbalances and also to break down their old psychological barrier, which existed in the tribal areas. The important commission and committees appointed so far are:

1. The Social Welfare Team of the Committee on plan projects 1959.
2. The Verrier Elwin Committee on Tribal Development.
3. The Committee on Tribal Economy in Forest Areas -1967
4. The Schedules Areas and Scheduled Tribal Commission (Dhebar Committee 1961)
5. The Special working Group on Cooperatives for Backward Classes - 1961 (Shri M.D. Bhargava as its Chairman)
6. The Task Force on Development of Tribal Areas -1972.
7. The Dube Committee -1972.
8. The Study Team on Co-operative Structure in Tribal Development Project Areas - 1976.

9. The Study Group on Relief of Indebtedness Land, Alienation and Restoration in Development Agency Area -1973 (Shri P.S Appu as its Chairman)
10. The team of Marketing, Credit and Cooperation in Tribal Areas -1978 (Shri K.S. Bawa Committee)
11. The Working Group on Development of Scheduled Tribes during the 7th Five Years Plans (1985- 90)

The Dhobar Commission (1961) recommended an integrated approach based on the minimum essential items like food, drinking water, employment, educational health and village road.

The task force on Development of Tribal Areas constituted in 1972 suggested that the ecological, occupational and social preceptors. of the tribal population should be properly assessed for formulation of a policy and its implementation so that a steady flow of benefits could be assured to the tribal people. The Dupe committee in 1972 tried to define a new strategy for tribal development and suggested that the problem of tribal development should be defined at the national level and national efforts required for tackling it, worked out. It also suggested an integrated area development approach in consonance with the genius and aspirations of the tribal people.

## **CONCLUSION:**

The greatest challenge that the Government of India has been facing since independence is the proper provision of social justice to the scheduled tribe people, by ameliorating their socio-economic conditions. Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and denotified tribes constitute the weakest section of India's population, from the ecological, economic and educational angles. They constitute the matrix of India's poverty. Though the tribals are the sons of the same soil and the citizens of the same country, they born and grow as the children of the nature. From the historical point of view, they have been subjected to the worst type of exploitation social. They are practically deprived of many civic facilities and isolated from modern and civilized way of living since so many centuries.

Tribals constitute 8.61% of the total population of the country, numbering 104.28 million (2011 Census) and cover about 15% of the country's area. The fact that tribal people need special attention can be observed from their low social, economic and participatory indicators. Whether it is maternal and child mortality, size of agricultural holdings or access to drinking water and electricity, tribal communities lag far behind the general population.

These indicators underline the importance of the need of livelihood generating activities based on locally available resources so that gainful employment opportunities could

be created at the doorstep of tribal people. Recognizing this need for initiating such livelihood generating activities in a sustained and focused manner, the Ministry of Welfare (now Ministry of Tribal Affairs) established an organization to take up marketing development activities for Non Timber forest produce (NTFP) on which a tribal spends most of his time and derives a major portion of his/her income. In 1987, the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) was set up with an aim to serve the interest of the tribal community and work for their socio-economic development by conducting its affairs in a professional, democratic and autonomous manner for undertaking marketing of tribal products.

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