



New national development policy for tribal peoples in India

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Abstract

After the inception of independence, the Government of India committed to the establishment of the welfare state in India and formulated special strategies for the overall development of STs. The Constitution of India provides for special provisions for the protection and development of tribes through the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India which gives the Indian Government a special responsibility for the administration of the Scheduled Areas. There are provisions for special development programs like providing financial assistance to raise the level of administration of these areas and their development.

Keywords: development policy, marketing development, union ministry of tribal

Introduction

According to the Census of India 2011, India has a 10.42 crores tribal population, constituting about 8.61% of the total population and comprises about 15% of the total geographical area of India during the British Government; the tribes are designated as Scheduled Tribe (ST) under the Scheduled District Act 1874. After the Independence of India, the Constitution of India was enforced and the Central and State Governments making a lot of efforts to the upliftment of the socio-economic condition of the ST the protective discriminations policy^[1].

The tribal development poses a challenge to the policymakers, administrators, and social workers due to the different types of the lifestyle of the tribes vary from shifting cultivation, hunting, and food gathering and few of them to some extent remain as industrial workers, technicians in a modern organized industrial firm^[2].

The MoTA has formulated the draft of National Tribal Policy covering various issues such as Alienation of Tribal Land; Tribal Forest Interface; Displacement, Rehabilitation and Resettlement; Enhancement of Human Development Index; Creation of Critical Infrastructure; Violent Manifestations; Conservation and Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups; Adoption of Tribal Sub Plan Strategy; Empowerment; Gender Equity; Enlisting Support of Non-Government Organizations; Tribal Culture and Traditional Knowledge^[3]; Administration of Tribal Areas; the Regulatory and Protective Regime; Scheduling and De-Scheduling of Tribes, etc. in 2007.

Union ministry of tribal affairs

The Government of India has been entrusted with special responsibility towards the welfare of the tribes and the amount of interest it has been evincing is not insignificant. The administrative articulation of its concern lies in the machinery it has bought into being to promote their welfare. This responsibility is engaged by the Home Ministry from 1951 to 1985^[4]. In September 1985 subjects relating to STs were cleared from the MoHA and made the responsibility of a new Ministry, namely the Ministry of Welfare which is created on 25th September 1985. This creation is continued up to May 1998. After 1998 the ST's welfare responsibility

is transferred to the new ministry namely MoSJE and the ministry is bifurcated in September 1999 and the MoTA was constituted in October 1999 with the objective of more focused attention on integrated socio-economic development of the most underprivileged sections of Indian society, the STs in a coordinated and planned manner^[5]. The MoTA is the nodal ministry for overall policy, planning, and coordination of programs of development for STs.

Tribal cooperative marketing development federation of India limited (TRIFED)

The TRIFED was set up in 1987 as a national level apex body under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 (MSCS Act, 1984). After the enactment of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 TRIFED is deemed to be registered under the latter Act and is also listed in the Second Schedule to the Act as a National Cooperative Society. The Bye-laws of TRIFED was revised in April 2003 in tune with the new MSCS Act, 2002 read with the MSCS Rules, 2002. As per revised Bye-laws, the main objective of TRIFED is to serve the interest of its members in more than one state for the social and economic betterment of its members by conducting its affairs in a professional, democratic and autonomous manner through self-help and cooperation for undertaking marketing development of tribal products.

Tribal research institutes (TRIs)

The TRIs conducting training, seminars, and workshops for the cause of tribal development and also codify customary. Most of the TRIs run a tribal museum exhibiting tribal artefacts, etc. There are at present 16 TRIs located in India. In addition to the above-mentioned major programs, the MoTA continued to implementing various schemes/programs aimed at the welfare and development of STs. Special Central Assistance (SCA) for Tribal Sub Plan: Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub Plan is provided by the MoTA to 22 Tribal Sub Plan states including the North Eastern States of Assam, Manipur, and Tripura. Since 2003-04 the MoHA is releasing the funds under for Tribal Sub Plan meant for the UTs. The main objective of

extending for Tribal Sub Plan is to raise the economic and social status of tribals in sectors of agriculture, horticulture, land reforms, watershed development/soil and moisture conservation, animal, husbandry, ecology and environment, development of forests/forest villages, development of Entrepreneurship and SSI and tribal women.

Eklavya model residential schools

The Eklavya Model Residential Schools are launched to provide quality in higher and professional education to tribal students. So far 100 such schools have been sanctioned in 25 States. This program is funded under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India, since 1997-98.

Girls hostels for STs

The Scheme of Girls Hostels, which started in the Third Five Year Plan, is a useful instrument of spreading education among ST girls, whose literacy still stands at 18.19% as per the 1991 Census as against the general female literacy of 29.23% for construction of new hostel buildings and/or extension of existing hostels. This scheme where the cost of the construction of the hostel building is equally shared between the Centre and the State in the ratio of 50:50. In the case of UTs, the Central Government bears the entire cost of the building.

Boys hostel for STs

The objectives, items, and conditions, as well as the pattern of the assistance of this scheme, are the same as that of the scheme for Girls Hostels. The scheme is operated since 1989-90 by the Central Government of India.

Up-gradation of merit of STs students

The objective of this scheme is to prepare the students for competitive examinations for seeking entry into professional courses like Engineering and Medical Disciplines. The scheme provides for 100% Central Assistance to the States/UTs. A package grant of Rs. 15000 per student per year is provided and the State/UTs are not required to bear any financial burden ^[6]. The students with disabilities amongst STs receive specified special allowances like the reader's allowance, escort's allowance, etc.

Vocational training in tribal areas

This scheme was introduced in 1992-93 as a central sector scheme and implemented through the State Governments/UTs. The main objective of this scheme is to develop the skill of tribal youth to gain employment/self employment opportunities.

Grant-in-aid to voluntary organizations

The MoTA gives Grant-in-Aid to voluntary organizations working for the welfare of STs for projects like residential schools, hostels, remedial units, computer training units, shorthand, and typing training unit, the ballad is/crèches (in areas not covered by the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), libraries and audio-visual units.

National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC):

The NCDC is a Statutory Corporation under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare was established on 14th March 1963 under an Act of Parliament (NCDC Act of 1962) for economic development through cooperative societies. The major objective is to promote, strengthen and

develop the farmer's cooperatives for increasing production and productivity and instituting postharvest facilities.

The NCDC, in July 2018, sanctioned financial assistance to Telangana State Dairy Cooperative Federation for induction of milch animals through Dairy Cooperatives in the State by distributing one milch animal to each of the 2.13 lakh dairy society members, milk producers and members of village societies with an outlay of Rs. 1677.00 crore involving NCDC assistance of Rs. 1252.91 crore ^[7].

Village grain banks

Village Grain Banks establish to provides grants for the establishment of Village Grain Banks to prevent deaths of STs especially children in remote and backward tribal villages facing or likely to face starvation and also to improve nutritional standards.

Post-metric scholarship for STs students

The objective of this central scheme provides financial assistance to students belonging to STs pursuing post-Matriculation courses in recognized institutions.

Rajiv Gandhi national fellowship (RGNF)

The MoTA has launched a new centrally sponsored scheme namely RGNF in 2005-06 for providing fellowship to STs Students to enable them to pursue higher studies such as M.Phil and PhD ^[8]. Now this name changed as a National Fellowship of higher education for ST students (NFST).

National overseas scholarship scheme for scheduled tribes

The scheme provides financial assistance for pursuing higher studies abroad in specified fields of Master level courses, PhD and Post-Doctoral research programs, in the field of Engineering, Science and technology for STs.

Adivasi mahila Sashaktikaran yojana

Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana was introduced in 2002-03 to assist the ST women for small economic activities to augment their income with a loan of up to Rs. 50000/- at an interest rate of 4% per annum ^[9].

Conclusion

Since the inception of independence, the Central and State Governments are putting their efforts into the overall development of the STs with a planned strategy. But the present tribal situation of tribals is not better than common people living in India. The tribes, when compared to other people, continue to be poor and face difficulties. Though the development of the tribes is an ongoing programme, the pace of development has been rather slow. If the government will not take any drastic steps soon in the development of tribal education, the status of education among the tribes will be a story of distress, despair, and death. Hence the time has come to think seriously about tribal economic, education and inclusive growth.

So, there is a need for government interventions, planners and policymakers to handle this drawback and apportion additional funds within the central and state budgets for the development of tribal economy, health, education and socio-cultural aspects. So, as to develop economically, quick access and additional opportunities ought to be provided.

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