

TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IN ANDHRA PRADESH – AN OVERVIEW

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ABSTRACT

The tribal welfare was an integral part of the Social Welfare Department. To look after the welfare of the tribals, creation of separate department was being frequently voiced in the public. The Dhebar Commission has also recommended for the creation of a separate department for tribal welfare. It felt that the problems relating to tribals are quite different from those relating to scheduled castes, who lived for centuries with other castes in the plains and that the problems relating to Health, Education, Water supply, easier communications, etc., need special attention. In view of the backwardness of the tribals and several problems confronting them, the need for a separate head of the department exclusively for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes has been strongly emphasized for the effective functioning which is intended to uplift the economic living conditions of the tribals, and to ensure that the concessions to the tribals in the various development departments have really gone to them to serve their needs and also to achieve coordination of the various agencies of the departments, and voluntary agencies dealing with tribal welfare programmes, a separate department is considered absolutely necessary which has within its ambit the Tribal Research Institute, also to accord its technical advice and guidance in solving the tribal problems. The government is, therefore, convinced of the need for a separate department for tribals and created the “Department of Tribal Welfare” on 14th November 1966¹.

For implementing the constitutional safeguards provided to Scheduled Tribal Welfare Department is committed for all round development of Scheduled Tribes in the state through formulation of policies and programmes Tribes and scheduled areas in the state of Andhra Pradesh and various developmental activities of tribal welfare and under TSP. Following are the aims and objectives of the Department.

INTRODUCTION

British Government in India had followed a policy of isolation, which led to the exploitation of tribals by Zamindars and landlords. After Independence, the Government of India has provided a number of provisions in the Constitution to safeguard the tribal interests and to achieve faster economic development. The Indian Constitution has laid down various protective as well as ameliorative measures to develop the tribals. These measures have been in the form of assuring their political representation as

well as their representation in services through reservation. In order to advise on matters pertaining to the development scheduled tribes, compulsory Tribe Advisory councils have been formed in the states where tribals live both in scheduled areas and outside. Changes have been made in the forest policy, guaranteeing the tribals certain rights on forest produce. The Long term credit should be provided to enable the tribal to free himself from the strangle hold of the usurious moneylenders and the tribals repaying capacity should be raised by improving their economic conditions. The institutional credit should forth come in an adequate measure and the procedure should be simplified to attract the tribals to take advantage of the credit facilities provided by the institution. But the crux of the problem still remains.

The first Prime Minister of Independent India, Pandit Jawarharlal Nehru showed keen interest in the development of tribal people by introducing "Panch Sheel" in order i) to show concern for the autonomy of the tribals; ii) to show respect for tribals rights in land and forests; iii) to train up only the tribals to carry out their own administration for their development and to avoid non - tribals into the tribal territory iv) not to flood these areas with multiple schemes and v) to judge results in terms of quality of character.

The overall policy approach towards the tribals had been i) Isolationist ii) Assimilative and iii) integrationist. The Tribal Sub- Plan(TSP) approach which came into operation since the Fifth Plan (1974-75) has two main objectives, namely i) to raise the socio- economic condition of the tribal population and strengthen infrastructure in the tribal areas, and ii) to protect and promote tribal interest through legal and administration support. As each tribal area or group has its own special problems, the tribal population in Andhra Pradesh is divided as follows: a) Areas of tribal concentration b) Small Pockets of tribal concentrated areas outside sub plan c) Primitive tribal groups and d) Dispersed tribal population.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT

1. To promote and develop education among Scheduled Tribes and thereby improve literacy among Scheduled Tribes.
2. To assist Scheduled Tribes families of below poverty line for their economic development.
3. To provide necessary constitutional protection to the Scheduled Tribes in the state in general and the Scheduled Tribes in the scheduled areas in particular and to safeguard their interests from exploitation and strive for their overall development.

FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT

The functions of the department have been defined as per the above policy frame work under the broad categorization as constitutional functions, developmental functions and coordinating functions².

1. CONSTITUTIONAL FUNCTIONS

The department is responsible for the following function as per the Provisions contained in V Schedule of Constitution of India.

a. Regulatory Functions

- i. Assisting Government in formulating Policies concerning the law applicable in the scheduled area of the state.
- ii. Convening the Andhra Pradesh TAC not less than twice in a year.
- iii. Enforcing various protective regulations, specially the land Transfer Regulations in the scheduled areas of the state.
- iv. Implementing and coordinating on rule of reservation in favour of Scheduled Tribes in the state and special reservations for Scheduled Tribes in scheduled areas.
- v. Preparing and furnishing the draft annual report on administration of the scheduled areas in the state.
- vi. Assisting government in conducting caste verification and social status verification of Scheduled Tribes and to weed out the fake certificate holders.
- vii. Implementing single line administration in the tribal areas of the state through ITDAs³.

2. DEVELOPMENTAL FUNCTIONS

- a. Providing necessary support to children of Scheduled Tribes' families below poverty line for their education development through hostels, ashram schools and by sanctioning scholarships.
- b. Imparting quality education to children of Scheduled Tribes' families below poverty line through residential schools, colleges and institutions of excellence.
- c. Providing economic support to Scheduled Tribes' families below poverty line for taking up various incomes generating activities and thereby aiming at poverty reduction among Scheduled Tribes.
- d. Building up infrastructure support to the Scheduled Tribes for taking up various economic activities like agriculture, live-stock development, minor irrigation, etc., and their overall economic development.

- e. Development of infrastructure such as providing road connectivity, safe drinking water and strengthening educational infrastructure in the tribal areas.
- f. Procuring MFP from the forest dependent Scheduled Tribes' families
By paying remunerative price.
- g. Undertaking public distribution system in the remote and interior tribal areas of the state.
- h. To study, protect, preserve and disseminate information on tribal culture through TCR & TI.
- i. Harnessing the natural resources like water resources and mineral resources in scheduled areas by constructing mini-hydel projects and other energy related projects and also by taking up mining activity through tribal groups/tribal cooperatives and thereby enabling their economic development.
- j. Implementing various central sector schemes and centrally sponsored schemes of the government of India intended for the development of the Scheduled Tribes in the state.

3. COORDINATING FUNCTIONS

Coordinating with the line departments of the State Government and ensuring formulation and implementation of TSP.

ORGANIZATIONAL SETUP

Organizational setup of tribal welfare administration is divided into four parts. These four parts are given in the following lines:

1. Part one State Level setup⁴

The department functions under the overall leadership and guidance of Minister for Tribal Welfare. Secretary to Government, Tribal Welfare assists the Government in formulating, implementing and in reviewing tribal welfare policies and programmes.

The Tribal Welfare Department has Three Heads of Departments.

1. Commissioner of Tribal Welfare
2. Chief Engineer, Tribal Welfare and
3. Managing Director, Girijan Cooperative Corporation (GCC).

The Commissioner, Tribal Welfare is also Ex-officio Managing Director of Andhra Pradesh scheduled tribe Co-operative Finance Corporation (TRICOR), Andhra Pradesh Tribal Power Company (TRIPCO), Andhra Pradesh Tribal Mining Company (TRIMCO), and also secretary, Andhra Pradesh Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (Gurukulam).

2. Part Two Regional Level

The regional center of TCR & TI at Bhadrachalam, the Three Circles Offices Headed by Superintendent Engineers of Tribal Welfare and Regional Office of GCC, Hyderabad are the regional offices of the Department. The ITDA for Chenchu, Srisailem covers the Chenchus of (6) districts and ITDA for Yanadis at Nellore covers the Yanadis of Four Districts and Commissioner/Director, Tribal Welfare is the Chairman of both the ITDAs.

3. Part Three District Level

In the Eight ITDAs districts viz., Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Khammam, Warangal and Adilabad, Project Officer, ITDA is the district level unit officer. He is assisted by various sectoral officers including Assistant Project Officers, Tribal Welfare; Executive Engineers, Tribal Welfare and Divisional Manager of GCC concerned and special Deputy Collector of Tribal Welfare. In the non ITDA districts there are twenty three District Tribal Welfare Officers one for each district and one for Hyderabad and Rangareddy Districts. He works under the control of District Collector concerned. In Mahabubnagar and Nalgonda Project Officer of the MADA programme concerned is implementing the tribal welfare programmes⁵.

4. Part Four Sub-District Level

In the sub-district level tribal welfare administration is operated by 65 Assistant Tribal Welfare Officers, 40 Deputy Executive Engineers of Tribal Welfare and 45 Senior Managers of GPCMS at the divisional/erstwhile taluk level are assisting Project Officers/District Tribal Welfare Officers in implementing tribal welfare programmes.

TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

In the Pre-Independence period, the Government of British India has adopted a policy of isolation towards the tribes. This policy of leave them alone; and assimilation policy was followed the Government after Independence since 1970s. Tribal Sub Plan policy, ITDAs, PTDPs, and MADAs and DTDPs are created for implementation of tribal development programmes such as Agriculture, Education, Industries, Transport and other Developmental Activities etc.

TRIBAL SUB-PLAN (TSP)

The Fifth Five Year Plan marked a significant change in the process of tribal development. The plurality of occupations marked variations in the levels of development and varied geo-ethnic milieu of

various tribes give rise to plethora of problems, which are not amenable to uniform approach for their development. Therefore, area specific strategy has been evolved basing on the recommendations of expert committee setup by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare in 1972 under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.C. Dube for the rapid socio-economic development of tribal people inhabiting the scheduled areas where more than 60 per cent tribal population are living. The main objectives of tribal sub plan are:

1. Socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes.
2. Protection of tribals against exploitation.

The Salient Features of TSP are given in the following lines:

1. It falls within the ambit of state plan meant for the welfare and development of tribals. Such a plan is a part of the all over plan of a state and is therefore called a sub-plan the benefits given to the tribals and tribals areas of a state from the TSP are in addition to what percolates from the overall plan of a state.
2. The sub-plans: a. Identify the resources for TSP areas. b. Prepare a broad policy framework for the development. C. Define a suitable administrative strategy for its implementation.
3. The most significant aspect of this strategy is to ensure a flow of funds for TSP areas at least in equal proportion to the Scheduled Tribes population of the state.
4. The recent initiative of the Ministry with regard the TSP component of various departments/sectors of the states is to put the TSP fund of the state plan in a different demand head in the budget of the Tribal Development Departments of the State.

In Andhra Pradesh State, the TSP area covers the Scheduled Areas comprising the 5938 villages as well as the adjoining 809 non-scheduled villages with 50 per cent of tribal concentration in the districts of Adilabad, Warangal, Khammam, West Godavari, East Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam and Mahaboobnagar is 31485.34 Sq. Kms area.

For the purpose of taking up an appropriate programme for the tribals the tribal areas under the TSP have been categorized into ITDAs, MADA, Cluster, DTDP, and PTDP. There are 10 ITDAs functioning in the state, 41 MADA Pockets, 17 Clusters and 12 PTDPs. Rest of the tribal population not covered under these projects is covered under DTDPs.

INTEGRATED TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (ITDAS)

In order to give operational effect to the tribal sub-plan approach, areas of concentration tribal population have been identified and separate administrative units in the form of ITDAs are established for integrated development in 1975. Under the sub-plan approach 10 ITDAs are established in the districts of Adilabad, Warangal, Khammam, West Godavari, East Godavari, Vishakapatnam, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam, Nellore and Mahabubnagar.

In the above mentioned districts the ITDAs in Nellore district is established in 2001 for Yanadis this ITDA covers 3722 villages in 166 mandals of Nellore, Chittoor and Prakasham districts. These 10 ITDAs cover the 10469 villages in 308 mandals of the 12 districts⁶.

MODIFIED AREA DEVELOPMENT APPROACH (MADA)

After removal of area restriction as per the provisions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act 1976, the Yerukala, and Lambadas are living in Telangana Region became Scheduled Tribes. This change necessitated extending developmental activities on large scale to tribals living in plain area.

Three criteria have been laid down for identification of the tribal pockets under MADA.

1. A minimum Population of 10,000.
2. 50 per cent of the population in the pockets should belong to Scheduled Tribes.
3. A Village in the pockets should be contiguous.

In accordance with above guidelines 41 MADA Pockets are identified and sanctioned in Andhra Pradesh. These 41 pockets are covered the 475 villages in 78 mandals of the 11 districts, namely Srikakulam, Krishna, Guntur, Khammam, Warangal, Karimnagar, Nizamabad, Medak, Ranga Reddy, Mahaboobnagar and Nalgonda districts respectively.

CLUSTER APPROACH

Beyond the MADA pockets, there are small areas of tribal concentration. These are called as clusters. The norms for inclusion of an area under MADA have been relaxed by Government of India and cluster approach has been introduced during the middle of the Seventh Five Year Plan period. Contiguous areas having a population of 5000 or more with at least 50 per cent tribal concentration are identified as clusters. These clusters are smaller pockets of tribal concentration. In Andhra Pradesh 180 villages of 27

mandals in Vizayanagaram, Vishakapatnam, West Godavari, Khammam, Adilabad, Warangal, Karimnagar, Nizamabad, Ranga Reddy and Manboobnagar districts are covered under 17 clusters.

For all round development of tribals in these clusters, SCA is provided for implementation of individual and community benefit-oriented programmes. The block development officers of the concerned blocks are executing the cluster programmes.

MICRO PROJECTS FOR PRIMITIVE TRIBAL GROUPS (PTDP)

Micro level planning was considered quite essential for the primitive tribes. The developmental projects meant for the primitive tribal communities are known as Micro projects. To ensure special attention for the development of the primitive tribes as well as to bring about their all-round uplift during the Fifth Five Year Plan. Twelve micro projects are now functioning in Andhra Pradesh.

These Micro Projects aim at bringing about socio-economic development of a group of families in a compact area. They are made to refine and improve upon the traditional vocation of primitive tribes residing in the micro project areas while planning for their social and economic development. Emphasis is given on implementation of individual benefit-oriented schemes as well as development of critical infrastructure in the project area. Unlike the tribes of other areas the primitive tribes covered under micro project are allowed to avail 100 per cent subsidy under individual benefit schemes. The projects also aim at developing the core economic sectors like agriculture, horticulture, soil conservation and animal husbandry. Besides them facilities of drinking water, education and health are also provided under these projects.

The primitive tribes have some peculiar characteristic features. The schemes that are being introduced for the development of the other tribes will not be applicable to them. Based on their cultural specialties, ecosystem and aptitude, core programmes have been identified for different primitive groups.

DISPERSED TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (DTDP)

The programme for the development of the dispersed tribal population remaining outside the coverage of ITDA, MADA and Micro Projects, is being implemented from the Sixth Five Year Plan. This programme is known as Dispersed Tribal Development Programme. Implementation of DTDP has been extended to cover the entire dispersed tribal population in the Andhra Pradesh State.

ANDHRA PRADESH TRIBES COOPERATIVE FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED (TRICOR)

Andhra Pradesh Tribes Cooperative Finance Corporation Limited was established in October, 1976 with Registration No. T.A. 843 under Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Societies Act, 1964 with Head Quarters at Hyderabad, and its area of operation extends over the entire state of Andhra Pradesh.

The objective of the corporation is as follows:

1. All round development of Scheduled Tribes in the state with special attention on TSP Area.
2. Economic development of Scheduled Tribes by providing financial assistance to Scheduled Tribes families below poverty line to take up economic support activities.
3. To provide agriculture credit for development of agriculture and for poverty alleviation, programme.
4. To provide financial assistance to Scheduled Tribes for creation of income generating activities.
5. To accelerate pace of economic development of Scheduled Tribes.
6. To provide training programmes for skill upgradation leading to self/wage employment.
7. To empower Scheduled Tribes women Self Help Groups for taking up economic support activity.
8. To plug critical gaps of finance in economic support schemes.
9. To tap institutional finance by providing margin money.
10. To coordinate implementation of SGSY, CMEY, AMSY RSUY, CLDP, NABARD, SCA, NSTFDC, Programmes⁷.

GIRIJANA COOPERATIVE CORPORATION LIMITED (GCC)

In the light of the constitutional provisions, based on the recommendations of the Malayappan Committee the Director of Social Welfare, Government of Andhra Pradesh established the GCC in 11th October 1956. The GCC is a public sector undertaking of Government of Andhra Pradesh. The GCC established for the socio-economic uplift of tribals in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The GCC has its headquarters at Vishakhapatnam. The GCC is a state level organization with one regional office, 10 divisional offices, 43 Girijana Primary Cooperative Marketing societies (GPCMS) and 839 DR Depots, which work in close coordination with ITDAs.

Following are the objectives of the GCC:

1. To ensure payment of remunerative prices for the Minor Forest Products (MFP) collected by the tribals by eliminating the middlemen and private traders who are indulging in unfair trade practices.
2. To ensure availability of essential commodities even in the interior agency are through a network of DR Deports.
3. To provide support to the tribals in their agricultural activities through extending credit facilities.

ANDHRA PRADESH TRIBAL MINING COMPANY (TRIMCO)

Andhra Pradesh Tribal Mining Company was established in 2001 under the companies' act 1956 as a joint venture TRICOR (74 per cent) and APMDC (26 per cent) to take up mining activity with active participation of Tribal Mining Cooperative Societies. Activity commenced in mining of semi-precious stones at 7 locations and project surveys are being taken up for assessing the potential and mining of other major important mineral resources.

To harness the mining potential in tribal areas for improving the living conditions of tribal communities by distributing the mineral wealth generated, by exploiting the various mineral resources lying in the tribal regions of the state.

ANDHRA PRADESH TRIBAL POWER COMPANY (TRIPCO)

Andhra Pradesh Tribal Power Company was established under the companies Act, 1956 in July 2002 to explore the feasibility of harnessing the hydro power available in the tribal areas and to establish mini-hydro power projects in scheduled areas by utilizing natural streams and waterfalls. The mini-hydel power projects are to be entrusted to the local tribal, women organizations as the owners for management. The entire profit from such projects will accrue to the local tribals and for developing local tribal areas. The company has so far identified 79 potential locations with an installed capacity of 142.80 MW detailed projects reports were prepared for 13 projects of 16.81 MW. Pre-feasibility reports for eight projects of 9.40 MW submitted to Government of India. Four projects are sanctioned by Government of India, out of which, construction of three projects at Vetamamidi, Pinjarikonda and Metlapalem has commenced.

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESEARCH & TRAINING INSTITUTE (TCR & TI)

In pursuance of the recommendations made by the Dhebar Commission which emphasized the need for research and surveys in tribal areas, the government of India has sanctioned TCR & TI at

Hyderabad under central sector scheme during Third Five Year Plan. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has established the TCR & TI at Hyderabad during the year 1962-63.

The main functions and duties of TCR & TI are given in the following line:

1. To conduct studies on tribal ethnography, ecology and cultural dynamics.
2. To verify tribal status of candidates availing constitutional benefits against scheduled tribe Quota.
3. To monitor progress of Implementation of protective regulations.
4. To conduct training programmes to various categories of officials working in tribal areas.
5. To evaluate various tribal development programmes.
6. To publish books, journals, etc. on tribals.
7. To prepare agency administration report and rule of reservation.
8. To preserve important aspects of tribal culture like songs, dance, language, art, material culture etc., and maintain library.
9. Administration and personnel management.

Recently the institute has been paying its emphasis on applied research so as to plough back the research findings which are useful to the policy makers, planners, and executives working in the tribal welfare department.

GIRIJAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (GDA)

Girijan Development Agency is centrally sponsored agriculture oriented project functioned in tribal areas of Srikakulam district since January 1972. The project started with an outlay of Rs. 1.50 crores for a period of 5 years by the Ministry of Agriculture, government of India and it was closed by March, 1977. The project mainly meant for development of agriculture and allied sectors with some additional provision in sectors viz., roads, education, health etc. The GDA was converted into ITDA from 1 January 1979⁸.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)

The Andhra Pradesh Tribal Development Project (APTDP) and Andhra Pradesh Participatory Tribal Development Projects (APPTDP) are assisted by IFAD. Rome and Netherlands Governments have been operating since 1991 and 1994 in the ITDAs of Andhra Pradesh. The supervisory missions were visited the project areas, once in every six months and IFAD team had expressed satisfaction about the progress of implementation and appreciated the government of Andhra Pradesh in executing the project

through innovative approaches like people participation, women development etc. Encouraged by the success of endeavors and achievements under the APPTDP, APTDP the tribal welfare department mooted the proposal for extension of project to the all ITDAs of Andhra Pradesh.

The overall objectives of the project:

1. Raise income levels, ensure food security and improve the quality of life of the tribals within the context of the traditional tribal environment, culture and values.
2. Promote greater self-reliance amongst communities on a substantial basis.
3. Prevent degradation of the environment.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

For Scheduled Tribes education is an input not only for their economic development, but also for promotion in them self-confidence and inner strength to face new challenges. It is worthwhile to note that the education increased at a faster rate amongst Scheduled Tribes than in the general population. Various educational programmes which are they implemented by the Government of Andhra Pradesh are given in the following lines:

1. GIRIJANAVIDYAVIKASKENDRAS (GVVK)

Providing access to educational institutions has been the first task attended to by government. In this direction Andhra Pradesh had set the pioneering examples when compared to the rest of the country. One major decisive step in this direction was opening 4317 GVVKs in 12 districts namely Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram, Vishakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Guntur, Prakasham, Nellore, Chittoor, Adilabad, Warangal, Khammam and Srisailam ITDA area. In all these schools, government has relaxed the education and professional qualification in favor of local Scheduled Tribes. The posts are reserved for local Scheduled Tribes only. Even if they are 10th class failed they were appointed as teachers and later sent for teacher training at government cost. This measures introduced in 1986 brought an enrolment explosion in tribals area out of 4317 GVVKs 351 GVVKs are upgraded to primary schools in 2001-02. Government of Andhra Pradesh has sanctioned permanent buildings for all these upgraded schools under DPEP during 2003-04. Presently, these GVVKs are called as Tribal Welfare Primary Schools.

2. ASHRAM SCHOOLS

The Ashram Schools are opened in 1974 to provide both school and hostel under the same roof. The Ashram Schools are exclusively for Scheduled Tribes. The Ashram Schools are established in all districts of Andhra Pradesh state. Presently, 599 Ashram Schools are functioning in the tribal concentrated areas. Out of 599 Ashram Schools 451 for Boys and 148 for Girls are functioning in the state. These Ashram Schools are being categorized into Ashram Primary Schools, Ashram Upper Primary Schools and Ashram High Schools. There are 99 Ashram Primary School, 209 Ashram Upper Primary School and 291 Ashram High Schools, working in Andhra Pradesh. In the tribal areas, Ashram Schools have been centers of awareness, social renaissance and qualitative academic performance⁹.

3. MAABADI (ALTERNATE SCHOOLS)

While GVKs are opened in the habitations wherever there are more than 20 school age Scheduled Tribes children, still a number of scheduled tribe habitations are left out without access to education as the habitations are having school age children less than 20 in each case. In order to reach those areas certain local initiatives have taken place. The 926 community schools are launched in 1997-98. This resulted in opening of 5441 community schools in the entire tribal areas of the state.

4. HOSTELS

Scheduled tribe student who are studying 3rd to 10th classes in the schools run by different managements both under government and quasi-government are being admitted into tribal welfare hostels. These hostels are opened in 1977 and 65 special hostels for scheduled tribe boys and girls studying in intermediate and higher courses are opened during 1994-95. These hostels are called as Post Metric Hostels.

At present, there are 441 hostels running 23 districts of Andhra Pradesh. Out of 441 hostels, 332 for boys and 109 for girls are functioning in Andhra Pradesh. In these hostels, accommodation and boarding are provided to the students free of cost.

5. INTEGRATED HOSTELS

From 2006-07 onwards Government of Andhra Pradesh has started Integrated Hostels. Out of 120 hostels sanctioned during 2006-07 14 hostels have been entrusted to tribal welfare for management.

During 2007-08 it is proposed to start 240 hostels out of which 28 will be entrusted to Tribal Welfare for management. Each of the Integrated Welfare Hostel Complexes will be provided accommodation for 400 boarders belonging to scheduled castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward class. For each complex, buildings and other amenities are being provided adequately.

6. POST METRIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The objective of the scheme is to provide scholarships to scheduled tribe students studying post-matriculation or post-secondary state to enable them to complete their education and also provide books to scheduled students studying professional courses under Book Banks Scheme. The students staying in the post metric hostels receive the post metric scholarships @ Rs. 525 per month.

7. PRE METRIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Under Pre Metric Scholarships bright scheduled children are identified and provided opportunity to receive quality education in reputed institutions and institutions of excellence.

1. BEST AVAILABLE SCHOOLS

Bright children among Scheduled Tribes are selected by district selection committee under the chairmanship of Collector in each district and the selected scheduled tribe children are being admitted in the best available schools. This scheme is functioning from 1999 onwards. The best available schools are identified in all districts of Andhra Pradesh state and also in Srishaliam. And presently 113 Best Available Schools are functioning in Andhra Pradesh¹⁰.

2. HYDERABAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Department is sponsoring scheduled tribe children for admission into Hyderabad Public Schools, which are established in 1966 at Begampet, Ramantapur, R.K.Vidyalaya and Sainkपुरi. Apart from the sponsored candidates, department is also sanctioning scholarship to all eligible scheduled tribe candidates admitted in the schools since 1993. The department is also maintaining two hostels for the day scholars of Scheduled Tribes' studying in the public schools.

3. ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOLS FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

Government of Andhra Pradesh has started four English Medium Residential Schools for boys during 2002-03 at Hyderabad, Warangal, Tirupathi and Visakhapatnam. Under the management of

Gurukulam with a capacity of 480 students from Class-V to X for each institution.

4. SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE

Government of Andhra Pradesh has Started three Schools of Excellence at Parvathipuram, Bhadrachalam and Srisailam during 2005-06 with a long term objective of preparing the students for IIT and competitive exams.

8. COLLEGE OF TEACHER EDUCATION

A college of Teacher Education was started at Bhadrachalam to provide B.Ed., training to the Scheduled Tribes of Andhra Pradesh in 2000. The college has an intake capacity of 100 per year and the training is being imparted as per NCTE norms. The college is also providing distance mode training to in-service teachers. This college is also functioning as a study centre of Indira Gandhi National Open University for B.Ed., courses through distance mode

9. COACHING AND ALLIED SCHEMES

Coaching is provided to tribal children for competitive examinations through five Pre-Examination Training Centers. Part of the coaching cost is provided by Government of India under Coaching and Allied Scheme. These five Pre-Examination Training Centers are located at Hyderabad, Bhadrachalam, Visakhapatnam, Eturnagaram, Utnoor.

Vocational Training Institutes (VTIs) are established in 9 areas at Seethampata, Jeergiram, Paderu, Rama ChodaVadam, K.R. Puram, Bhadrachalam, Eturnagaram, Kerameri, Srisailam.

10. RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS FOR TRIBALS AND CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS FOR SCHOOL COMPLEXES

A separate society in the name of Andhra Pradesh Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (Gurukulam) was established in 1999 for managing these institutions. Out of 84 institutions 52 are for boys and 26 for girls and six for co-education. There are 10 institutions exclusively for Primitive Tribal Groups and two for Yanadis. Out of 84 institutions 38 are having Junior College sections and Government have permitted to bifurcate them in 2006-07. Apart from this six full-fledged Junior colleges are functioning. Gurukulam is also managing 41 Educational Complexes in female low literacy pockets (Mini-Gurukulams) sanctioned by Government of India and 40 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) sanctioned by Ministry for Human Resource Development, Government of India for scheduled tribe drop-out girls. Gurukulam is also providing special attention towards scouting, computer

education, yoga, physical education, cultural activities and EMCET coaching. Gurukulam is now proposing to identify monitoring the quality of curricular practice by taking up panel inspections of academic practice every quarter and also to strengthen career guidance counselling¹¹.

11. RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS IN RIAD AREAS AND CONSTRUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL JUNIOR COLLEGES FOR GIRLS IN RIAD AREAS

This is a new scheme intended to provide quality education to scheduled tribe girl students through residential junior colleges in the uncovered areas by opening six Residential Junior Colleges at P. Konalavalasa, Chiutapalli, Rampachodavaram, Utnoor, Mannanur and Eturunagarm and also to provide buildings for all the proposed 6 institutions to accommodate 960 girls in 1st year intermediate.

12. HOSTEL BUILDINGS FOR DEGREE COLLEGES IN RIAD AREAS

The scheme is intended to provide hostel buildings for Post-Metric scheduled tribe students studying in eight degree colleges in the RIAD areas. Each degree college will have one boys' hostel and one girls' hostel. Children admitted in the hostels will receive maintenance charges @ of Rs. 525 per month under Post Metric Scholarships.

13. CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH SCHOOLS IN RIAD AREAS

The scheme is intended to provide additional accommodation to high schools especially tribal welfare girls' ashram high schools located in the RIAD area.

14. BUILDINGS FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The objective of the scheme is construction of buildings (new/additional accommodation) to Integrated Hostels, Post Metric Hostels and Ashram Schools which are in private accommodation. The funding is shared by state and central government as 50:50 basis.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

Under the Economic Development for the tribals in the state, the government is framing and implementing several schemes in the state. The economic development schemes are given in the following lines:

1. Economic Support

The objective of the scheme is to take up economic development programmes for Scheduled Tribes under schemes such as agriculture, horticulture, sericulture, coffee plantation, Janashree Bhima Yojana etc.

2. Integrated Area Development Programme

The objective of the scheme is to take up family oriented cum income generating schemes for Scheduled Tribes (Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan).

3. Schemes under Article 275(1)

The objective of the scheme is to bridge critical gaps in infrastructure by taking up infrastructure development facilities such as BT roads, minor irrigation schemes, amenities to tribal welfare educational institutions etc.

4. Schemes under Tribal Area Sub-Plan

The objective of the scheme is to provide quality education and amenities/additional accommodation to tribal welfare educational institutions/educational institutions in tribal areas.

5. Development of Primitive Tribal Groups

Special projects approved by Government of India for development of PTGs are taken up under this with equal matching grants from state government. During 11th Five Year Plan, Government of India is proposing to formulate and implement conservation cum development plans for all PTGs in a period of five years. The planning process for preparing separate action plan for each PTG has commenced.

6. Coffee Plantation Project

Under this the coffee plantation project is taken up in ITDA, Paderu at Vishakhapatnam district from 2001-02.

7. Special Projects

Special projects are being formulated for the tribals living in plain areas, including development of Yanadis, exercitation of irrigation sources, and a few minor irrigation projects under this need.

8. Development of Remote and Interior Tribal Habitations

There are 2351 tribal habitations in the state located on hill-tops and in remote and interior areas. Most of the habitations required basic amenities but providing permanent infrastructure could not be taken up due to forest conservation act. Special projects are being formulated to provide basic

infrastructure to these habitations. The rules for operationalization of Forest Rights Bill, 2006 are being formulated by Government of India. The rules will also accelerate the development of these habitations.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The various agricultural development schemes for Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh by Government of Andhra Pradesh. The schemes are given in the following lines:

1. Land Purchase Scheme

The TRICOR is implementing the scheme of purchase of agriculture land since 1993-94 for the benefit of landless agriculture labours of scheduled tribe community. It provides an asset, which will not only give income on sustained basis, but also a status in the society.

1. Minor Irrigation Programmes

The TRICOR is implementing Minor Irrigation Programmes duly mobilizing resources in the form of corporation subsidy utilized on priority basis for implementing Minor Irrigation Programmes. Such as bore wells, open wells, filter points, electric motors, energy station, micro sprinklers, mini sprinklers, mini jets, misters, fan jets, micro sprayers, foggers, emitting pipes, micro tubes, similar other emitting pipes, check dams, lift irrigation, in well bores, submersible pump sets.

In addition to the above mentioned programmes other agriculture based programmes are also implemented by the government of Andhra Pradesh. Those are Horticulture and Land Development for Agriculture.

NSTFDC SELF EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES

With a view to encourage scheduled tribe educated youth, Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Tribe Finance Corporation has been implementing self-employment programmes since 1993-94 lending them loan assistance from NSTFDC. The broad objective is to make available easy access to credit for the poor educated unemployed scheduled tribe youth at cheaper rate of interest for self-employment units and to identify entrepreneurial capabilities among scheduled tribe youth and facilitate to emerge as successful entrepreneurs in the society.

BANK LINKED SELF EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES

The candidates studied up to 10th class are encouraged to establish industry, service and business sector schemes under bank linked programme. For this business sector schemes are started under bank linked programme¹².

HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

The various Health development schemes are implemented in the state by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. These schemes are explained in the following lines:

1. Referral Fund

The objective of the scheme is to refer tribal patients in emergency cases to hospitals. Under this scheme, medical camps are also conducted to provide on the spot medical aid.

2. Hospitals and Dispensaries and Public Health

The objective of the scheme is to provide support to institutional functioning in tribal areas. Presently 1162 medical institutions are functioning in 9 districts namely Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Khammam, Warangal, Adilabad, Mahboobnagar in Andhra Pradesh. Out of 1162, 18 dispensaries, 113 Primary Health Centers, 29 Community Health Centers, 27 MMUs, and 975 Sub Centers are functioning in Andhra.

OTHER SCHEMES

1. Monetary Relief and Legal Aid to the Victims of Atrocities

The objective of the scheme is meeting the expenditure for payment of relief and to provide legal aid to the victims of atrocities.

2. Promotion of Inter Caste Marriages

The objective of this scheme is to award incentives to each couple for inter-caste marriage.

3. Research Fellow Scholarships

The objective of the scheme is to provide fellowships to research scholars.

4. Laying of Roads

The objective of the scheme is to develop infrastructure facilities in tribal areas with assistance from NABARD by taking up BT roads, drinking water sources etc.

5. Health Insurance

The department of tribal welfare has introduced a “Student Health Insurance” and “Personal Accident Policy” under the name of Rajeev Girivala Raksha to provide immediate medical care through reputed private hospitals up to Rs. 5000 in all cases and up to Rs. 50,000 in emergency cases¹³.

6. Grain Banks

To provide food security to all PTGs families, Adivacy Awas Yojana cards and social security pensions are provided. Further 4563 Grain Banks are established in tribal areas in the ITDAs of Andhra Pradesh state.

CONCLUSION

The authority since its establishment in 1974-75 has embarked upon undertaking many developmental programmes. The programmes that the authority has undertaken are: sericulture, agricultural, irrigational, MADA, PTG, DTGP, educational, self-employment, loans, subsidies and Tourism Development.

The diverse programmes the authority has undertaken to reflect that it is mostly needed to achieve the objective for which it was established. Its efforts are laudable and need to be appreciated and rewarded. But viewed in the context of population explosion, the objective of establishment of ITDA is not only to meet the present needs of the growing tribal problems but to visualize the needs that would crop up in another decade. All the efforts of the authority put together are not even adequate to meet the present needs. Therefore, it is imperative on the part of the authority to revolutionize its efforts to meet the present and the future challenges of the tribes. Such an endeavor possible when men, money and material are made available to the authority and hurdles in the acquisition of land can be overcome.

The foremost administrative acts of expenditure and income which all depend upon the finance allotted. The attention has to be paid to the fund to lead the authority for implementation of developmental activities in the ITDA Jurisdiction. The main source of the finance of ITDA is only grants from the governments of state and central.

For the upliftment of ITDA the most important source is increase or enhancement of financial assistance which can be corpe up by the government through allotting the financial resources to implement various tribal development programmes.

The ITDA was established in the city of Bhadrachalam because of rapid growth of tribal problems and to solve the problems arising thereon. The authority's main objective is to ensure an orderly development and growth of the tribal areas development which is witnessing bewildering changes on socio-economic and political fronts. The achievements of the authority are mostly of developmental nature for which tribes are the prime factor. Tribes are required in quantities and in different places to carry out developmental programmes; if it is not easily available thereby the authority assumes paramount prominence.

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