

POLICIES AND SUB-PLANS FOR THE TRIBAL COMMUNITIES WELFARE IN TELANGANA STATE: A RECENT SOCIO- HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE ASSESSMENT

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Abstract

The development of the Scheduled Tribe community in Telangana has been given top emphasis by the state government since the new state was formed on June 2, 2014. The Scheduled Tribe population makes up 9.34% of the State's total population, according to the 2011 census. Compared to the combined State of AP's 6.99 STs, this percentage is far greater. The appropriate departments have developed numerous innovative strategies and programs to ensure the full and balanced development of the state's tribal population. Converting tribal hamlets into Gram Panchayats has been proposed as a way to enhance the way government social programs are delivered. Numerous cutting-edge initiatives are being proposed, such as Kalyana Lakshmi and the Komaram Bheem monument. In compliance with the provisions of the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan and Tribal Sub Plan Act, which was passed in 2013, the appropriate measures were taken when creating the Annual Plan for 2014–2015 and 2015–16 to guarantee that the required funds have been set aside for the Scheduled Tribes Sub Plan. This tactic was first used by the Indian government in 1975, at the start of its fifth five-year plan.

Overview

This overarching goal, balanced economic growth and population development, is the basis of each country's strategic plans, such as India's Fifth Five Year Plans. Policy makers concluded that the Scheduled Tribes are still far behind the mainstream in terms of development, even after 25 years of independence and the successful completion of four five-year plans and three annual plans. In addition, it was discovered that their socioeconomic situation was little improved by the general plan schemes and programs created for the economy's overall development. These plans and initiatives were created with the goal of advancing the economy as a whole.

Similarly, the benefits of such general welfare programs did not significantly contribute to the development of the nation's ST population. The Fifth Five-Year Plan created the Tribal Sub-Plan to address these issues and improve the socioeconomic circumstances of Telangana's tribal population, which comprises 10% of the state's total population.

The Tribal Sub Plan seeks to accomplish the following main objectives:

1. A notable decline in unemployment and poverty rates. The development of productive assets for Scheduled Tribes' benefit in order to support the anticipated increase brought about by development activities.
2. The improvement of the human resources of the Scheduled Tribes by guaranteeing their access to quality healthcare and education, and Protection from all types of financial and physical exploitation and tyranny by offering financial and bodily security.

The requirements of the Annual and Five-Year Plans cannot be changed or allowed to expire since the Tribal Sub Plans constitute an essential component of those plans. The specific

objective of this is to close the socioeconomic development gap of the STs within a set period of time. However, the department authorities' blatant contempt for the standards is the source of the most issues and challenges. The aforementioned objectives are mocked by the reality that funds intended for tribal development were actually used for other purposes. No one is held accountable for it, and monitoring and assessment are not carried out on behalf of the departments in charge.

Let's begin addressing some of the most significant operational and policy issues. The state of Telangana has been using TSP funds for infrastructure development in non-TSP areas, despite the fact that these funds are regulated and shouldn't be utilized for anything else. The TSP is given a reduced budget in annual plans compared to the entire number of tribe members, which is against the rule. The empowerment of tribal leaders (community leaders) through education, exposure, and training should be the main focus of the TSP budget.

There are no practical physical goals for TSP programs or schemes in the annual plans. The government does not regularly conduct benchmark surveys on the socioeconomic standing of the indigenous population in TSP areas. For long-term objectives and results, there is no vision document or perspective plan. Finally, but just as importantly, the TSP budget shouldn't be raised. According to Article 275(I) of the Indian Constitution, funds for the Tribal Subsidy Program (TSP) must come from the Consolidated Fund of India. Through the nodal Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the TSP is a central sector program that offers the states full financial support.

1. Therefore, it is the duty of communities and civic society to keep an eye on the Consolidated Fund of India. The financing, programs, and schemes offered by the TSP may be supplemented and enhanced by the adoption of significant tribally friendly laws like PESA and FRA, as well as the expenses borne by the ministries and institutions. New guidelines that consider the experience gathered thus far should be established in order to direct the development of the Sub-Plan in the 13th Five Year Plan. There should be monitoring and greater transparency about the TSP programs and schemes.
2. Only programs that offer direct benefits to individuals or families who belong to Scheduled Tribes shall be included in the Tribal Subsidy Program (TSP).
3. The highest emphasis should be given to the provision of basic minimum services, such as primary education, health, drinking water, nutrition, rural housing, rural electrification, and rural link roads.
3. The TSP should not contain the pay component, especially when it comes to employment programs for rural areas. Included should be initiatives that support the development of agricultural and related businesses that give the ST population a means of subsistence, such as animal husbandry, dairy development, vocational training, and other initiatives of a similar nature.
4. It is feasible to create innovative projects that improve plan allocations by utilizing institutional financing.
5. Through the use of print and electronic media, state governments must take the initiative to inform the public about the programs that are either being implemented or are currently

being implemented for the development of STs by the various departments of state governments.

Plans for development under tribal subplans

The economic development programs pay for ITDA staff expenses. The programs also cover Special Central Assistance for Developmental Activities and Grants-in-Aid under the State Plan. The administrative administration of certain ITDA office workers, agricultural demonstration units, HNTCs inside the ITDAs, and monitoring units within the ITDAs are among the personnel programs. Additionally, the ITDAs' monitoring units are part of the staff programs. Some of the developmental projects include the following: (a) Programs for Economic Assistance This program provides financial assistance to families of ST individuals who are below the federal poverty threshold, allowing them to take engage in economic support programs.

The Telangana government's Tribal Welfare Department has approved the action plan for these initiatives. The Hyderabad-based Scheduled Tribes Cooperative Finance Corporation Limited (TRICOR) proposed this proposal. TRICOR will evaluate the implementation on a regular basis. The programs are being carried out in compliance with the process outlined in the new policy, which was issued in accordance with the orders issued by G.O. 101, dt: 31.12.2013, enhancing subsidy to 60% of the Unit Cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 1 lakh. Additionally, operational guidelines were issued in G.O. Ms.No. 1, TW (LTR) Department, dated 22-1, 2005, administered through the online beneficiary monitoring system (OBMMS) maintained by CGG.

According to G.O.R.T. No.165, dated 16-12-2014, the Telangana government re-validated the units that had been approved in the fiscal year 2013–14 and gave them a subsidy of Rs. 28.23 Cr. in the year 2014–15. 3,830 of them have been grounded as a result of an OBMMS subsidy of Rs. 21.47 Cr. During the 2015–2016 fiscal year, the aforementioned plan will get a total of Rs. 38.05 Cr. under the Normal State Plan and Rs. 5.72 Cr. under the Non Plan.

Financial Support for PSUs

Two distinct public sector organizations (PSUs) are managed by the Tribal Welfare Department. It is advised that PSUs receive Rs. 26.62 Cr in non-plan financial assistance for the 2015–2016 fiscal year. The next paragraphs will go into further depth about their acts. The Girijan Co-operative Corporation (GCC) is in charge of purchasing agricultural and minor forest produce (MFP) from tribal people at fair prices and distributing these products to the general public in isolated tribal communities. Furthermore, GCC is in charge of giving ST farmers seasonal agricultural credit. In addition to a network that consists of one regional office, three divisional offices, two new divisions, eighteen GPCMS, four new GPCMS, and two hundred new DR depots, the GCC now employs 381 regular employees, 106 contract employees, and 200 outsourced employees. The Corporation's turnover decreased to Rs. 84.00 Cr. in the 2014–15 fiscal year (up to January 2015) from Rs. 115.00 Cr. in the 2013–14 fiscal year. The GCC is focusing on developing MFP value addition units in addition to training indigenous people, regenerating non-timber forest products, promoting research and development, and boosting exports.

TRICOR

The Telangana Scheduled Tribes Cooperative Finance Corporation Limited, Hyderabad (TRICOR) operates throughout the whole state of Telangana, with its headquarters located in Hyderabad. The Act to Reorganize the Territory of the Mariana Islands and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico includes TRICOR in Schedule IX. The process of splitting TRICOR into two distinct organizations—one for each of the two states—is presently in progress. It is keeping an eye on every economic assistance program that has been put in place for the STs, including the creation of PVTGs under CCDP with government assistance under State Plan and CASPS. It also coordinates with other departments, such Rural Development.

TRIPCO

There is a lot of unrealized potential in tribal areas, thus it is vital to create hydroelectric, solar, and wind power projects in order to examine the sustainability of harnessing hydroelectric, solar, biomass, and wind energy. Consequently, the establishment of Telangana State Tribal Power Company Limited (TRIPCO) is already underway.

Small-scale hydropower initiatives

It can be placed on natural streams, rivers, and waterfalls. both the dam toes and the canal dips. The feasibility of building solar power projects in Adilbad, Karimnagar, Warangal, Mahabubnagar, Khammam, and Nalagonda. The electricity projects will be turned over to the local tribal women's organizations for management. The profits from such a project must be delivered to the local tribal government in accordance with government orders pertaining to the Project Committee, VO, SHGs, and MMS in order to be utilized for the development of local tribal areas.

TRIMCO

The state of Telangana has mines and minerals that will serve as inspiration for the formation of a business that will engage in mining operations with the active involvement of tribal mining cooperative societies. Telangana State Tribal Mining Company Limited (TRIMCO) will make every effort to mine such deposits (TMCSs), submit lease applications to mine through Tribal Mining Cooperative Societies, and locate new, profitable mineral resources. Tribal members will also receive instruction in gem cutting, polishing, and other related skills.

Enhancement of Competencies Needed for Formal and Independent Work

(G.O. Ms. No. 63, PR & RD (1) Dept. dt: 13.03.2012) The establishment of a Tribal Skill Sub Mission, authorized by the government, will be in charge of offering training and placement for skill upgrading. The main objective of this initiative is to help young people from tribal villages pursue higher education and work as part of RYK's Sustainable Formal and Self-Work Submission Mission. 4824 ST teenagers were placed and 5348 ST children received training throughout the 2014–2015 academic year. During the 2015–2016 fiscal year, staff support of 0.84 Cr. will be provided for the implementation of this effort.

ITDA for STs in areas designated as plain

To serve the educational and professional needs of STs who reside in plain areas, the government approved the creation of an ITDA with its headquarters located in Hyderabad. In compliance with the A.P. Re-organization Act, 2014 and G.O.Ms. No. 57, TW (SER.1.2) department dated 31-05-2014 of the combined state of A.P., orders were issued for the

division of ITDA for the development of STs in plain areas and the formation of ITDA for the development of STs in plain areas for Telangana State. NABARD Consultancy Service (P) Ltd. (NABCONS), situated in Hyderabad, was in charge of posting a thorough report on the project. NABCONS recommended in its report that road connections, drinking water distribution, horticulture, Indira Kranti Patham, and other efforts of a similar nature be undertaken as programs for STs in plain regions. The requirements for ST habitations have been established based on the study and the survey that followed. Roads, drinking water systems, educational and medical institutions, and structures are just a few of the many projects under construction. For the 2015–2016 fiscal year, this project has a total budget of 2.24 crore.

Repayment of NSTFDC Loans

A sum of 4.23 crore rupees has been allocated to help ST beneficiaries in the State repay loans given by NSTFDC. Building Ashram Schools for Scheduled Tribe (ST) Boys and Girls in Naxalist Areas with Extra Support from the Central Government (ACA). The program's goal is to build new or additional facilities for Ashram Schools, Post-Matric Hostels, and Integrated Hostels, all of which presently live in private housing. This plan includes the following projects (a total of 42). This project has a 1.95 crore budget for the 2015–2016 fiscal year.

The NABARD initiative

The program aims to accomplish its objective of creating infrastructural facilities in tribal communities with the assistance of NABARD by building BT roads, infrastructure for ashram schools, and small hydroelectric power projects, among other things.

The Construction of Highways and Streets

The project's goal is to provide road connection in tribal areas with financial assistance from NABARD. At an estimated cost of Rs. 43.92 Cr, 27 distinct roads and overflow projects were built during the 2014–2015 budget year. At a cost of Rs. 32.12 Cr., a total of 23 roads have been completed thus far, and four more are now under construction. Funding of Rs. 18.67 Cr. has been allocated in order to complete all of the work during the 2015–2016 fiscal year.

Buildings to Be Used in Integrated Residential Schools

The goal of this plan is to develop new structures and renovate existing ones at residential schools and ashram high schools situated in areas inhabited by indigenous people with funding from NABARD's Trench XVIII and XIX. Thirty of the 108 new projects that were started during the 2014–2015 academic year have been completed, and the remaining 78 are still in progress. For the 2015–2016 fiscal year, this program will be funded with Rs. 50.60 Cr. The Construction of Storage Facilities and Warehouses Out of the twelve Godowns/Storage Points that this design is intended to build for GCC, eight have been finished, two are in the process of being finished, and two have not yet been started. A budget of 1.27 crore rupees has been allocated for the 2015–16 fiscal year.

The Creation of Ashram Educational Institutions

The program's main objective is to provide all required facilities to government-run residential schools for students from Scheduled Tribes. For the fiscal year 2015–2016, a total budget of Rs. 38.81 Cr. would be allocated to this goal. The town of Medaram, in the

Warangal District, hosts the Medaram Jatara once every two years. To enable and assist the attendance of tribal pilgrims, certain activities are recommended. As a result of the 2014 event, work is still being done. The budget for the 2015–2016 fiscal year is 0.94 crore for the aforementioned goal.

Infrastructure for Education

This program aims to build staff quarters for educational institutions, ATWO offices, youth training centers, etc. According to this plan, 78 separate projects must be completed, 38 of which have already been completed and 40 of which are ongoing. A budget of Rs. 27.00 Cr. is allocated to the scheme for the fiscal year 2015–2016. The program's ultimate objective is to provide yearly maintenance assistance for roads constructed in tribal territories. Eleven distinct initiatives were initiated, with an estimated total cost of 3.77 billion rupees. The project cost two and a quarter million rupees to complete. (1) Work is being done.

Other Schemes

Act of 2006 Acknowledging Forest Rights

The Indian government recently enacted the STs and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (RoFR) Act, 2006. The regulations required to make the legislation functional went into effect on January 1, 2008. The Scheduled Tribes who live in forests would be granted legal rights to the lands they now possess under the terms of this legislation, with each family being allowed to claim up to ten acres of land. In a similar vein, the Tribal people would be granted the right to gather small forest products, graze their cattle, and build their homes and hearths in their native environment. When it comes to identifying, registering, and transferring ownership rights to forest resources, the government has given STs top priority. Life in the forest and its near environs. A total of 231368 claims covering 837675.0 acres of land were filed. As of January 2015, there have been 94278 land titles issued, totaling 305977 acres of land. During the 2015–2016 fiscal year, 3.92 crore rupees are expected to be allocated to the project's phase-II program.

Financial Aid and Assistance with Legal Matters

Some of these programs include financial relief and legal support for victims of crimes against ST people. For the aforementioned purpose, 0.03 crore under the Normal State Plan and 0.04 crore under the Non Plan were allocated for the 2015–2016 fiscal year.

Promotion of Inter-caste marriages

All eligible couples receive an incentive of Rs. 50,000 per pair to encourage marriages between individuals from different castes. A budget of Rs. 0.07 Cr. has been allocated for the aforementioned activity in the fiscal year 2015–2016. Implementing programs that are pertinent to tribal health is currently the focus of the Health Schemes Department. Patients residing in tribal villages are referred to referral hospitals using one of these programs' referral fund provisions. A budget of 0.95 crore rupees has been set aside for personnel maintenance and administrative expenses for the fiscal year 2015–16.

Schemes under CASPS (Centrally Assisted State Plan Schemes) Schemes under Article

The Government of India provides Grants-in-Aid to State Plans in accordance with Article 275 I of the Indian Constitution in order to promote economic development in Scheduled Tribes or Scheduled Areas. These subsidies are being used to maintain seven Ekalavaya Model Residential Schools and buy infrastructure development facilities, both of

which are meant to close significant gaps in the current infrastructure (EMRS). Among other things, the infrastructure work will include building GCC DR depots and renovating the staff quarters and office buildings of three ITDAs.

From the SCA to the Tribal Subplan

The economic development programs pay for ITDA staff expenses. The programs also cover Special Central Assistance for Developmental Activities and Grants-in-Aid under the State Plan. The administrative administration of certain ITDA office workers, agricultural demonstration units, HNTCs inside the ITDAs, and monitoring units within the ITDAs are among the personnel programs. Additionally, the ITDAs' monitoring units are part of the staff programs. This program provides financial assistance to families of ST individuals who are below the federal poverty threshold, allowing them to take engage in economic support programs.

Plans for the Conservation and Development of PvTGs, also known as CCDPs

The Indian government has approved the Conservation and Community Development Plan for the development of PvTGs for a five-year term starting in 2012–13. This initiative has included programs like building multipurpose buildings, internal CC roads and drains, street lights, drinking water, corpus funds for SHGs for livelihood interventions, and strengthening the delivery of nutritional services by building buildings for DR depots and Anganwadi centers. Two examples of the kinds of structures that have been built are Anganwadi centers and DR depots. The budget for the 2015–2016 fiscal year is 55.00 Cr for the aforementioned goal.

Umbrella Program for the Education of Students with Disabilities

In the academic year 2014–15, the Indian government started a new initiative called the Umbrella scheme. All of the previous educational initiatives that were supported by the Central Government are included in this program and fall under its jurisdiction.

FAST – (MTF) under CASPS

The program's objective is to provide ST students with financial aid in the form of stipends and scholarships so they can continue their education. The BE budget for the 2015–2016 fiscal year is Rs. 20.00 Cr.

Other Departments' Tribal Supplemental Plan (NSP)

The TSP plan was developed by the Indian government with the goal of raising the socioeconomic indicators of STs to the same level as the whole population. This concept calls for setting aside money for the Tribal Sub Plan from the state plan budget in accordance to the ST population. Accordingly, the same strategy has been used in Telangana, and allocations for the Tribal Subplan have been given to the tune of 9.61% of the total state plan budget. This is in contrast to the 9.34% ST population that exists there. The TSP allocations, which came to Rs. 5035.68 Cr., were split among 36 line departments. To implement the programs, the Tribal Welfare Department was given Rs. 1735.57 Cr. under the Normal State Plan of other departments.

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