

# INSTITUTE OF WELFARE BODIES OF SC,ST,OBC,AND WOMEN WELFARE

## MODULE 6

# INTRODUCTION

- **. WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES, SCHEDULED TRIBES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES.**
- **Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**
- **Introduction**
- India is a welfare State, committed to the welfare and development of its people and of vulnerable sections in particular. The preamble, Directive Principles of State Policy, Fundamental Rights and specific sections, viz., Articles 38, 39 and 46 in the Constitution of India, stand testimony to the commitment of the State to its people. Socially disadvantaged groups of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes have received special focus over the years for their social and economic advancement. Government has taken several steps for framing appropriate policies needed to design and implement various welfare programmes for achieving the objective of creating favourable environment to ensure speedy socio economic development of SCs/ STs. For the well being of these communities, special target-oriented programmes are being implemented by earmarking funds, providing subsidies, offering reservations in employment and educational institutions etc. According to the 1991 Census, the population of Scheduled Castes in Tamil Nadu was 107.12 lakhs, constituting 19.18% of the total population. The Scheduled Tribes numbering 5.74 lakhs constitute 1.03% of the total population. The major ameliorative activities for these communities are grouped as educational development, economic development, housing and other schemes, Special Component Plan and Tribal Sub Plan. The implementation of the Special Component Plan (SCP for Scheduled Castes and the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for Scheduled Tribes has received special attention since their inception, as these programmes are effective instruments to ensure proportionate flow of funds for SCs and STs from other general development sectors.

# FORMULATION OF ANNUAL PLAN OF 2017-2018

- 1. The Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Scheduled Castes (SC) population together constitute nearly two fifths of Orissa's total population.
- According to 2011 census, the State has the Scheduled Tribes population of 95.91 lakh and Scheduled Castes population of 71.88 lakh constituting 22.85% and 17.13% respectively of the total population of the State.
- 2. The Scheduled Area declared under the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution of India constitute 69,614 sq. kms out of the total geographical area of 1,55,707 sq.kms
- . There are 119 blocks having more than 50% ST population in the Tribal Sub-Plan areas spread across 12 districts. Besides, there are 45 MADA and 14 Cluster pockets which contiguous areas of tribal concentration based on norms
- . There are 62 Scheduled Tribe communities in the State including 13 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG). The Scheduled Tribes of Orissa constitute 9.66% of the country's tribal population of india.
- . 3. The State Government follows a multi-pronged approach for the all-round development of STs, SCs, Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Minorities in the State through operationalizing a host of schemes & programmes meant for these vulnerable classes of the society for bringing them with the mainstream of development.

# BROAD OBJECTIVES

- **. Broad Objectives The broad objectives of welfare of ST, SC, OBC and Minorities are as under:**
- Raising socio- economic condition of the ST, SC, and OBC & Minorities. Reducing poverty.
- Bringing to mainstream ST, SC, OBC & Minorities, and enabling them to participate in the development process in an equitable manner.
- Developing critical infrastructure in Scheduled Areas.
- Increasing their access to education, health, housing and other services.
- Creating / increasing opportunities through self-employment / wage employment. Securing their rights over forests and lands.

# MAIN POINTS OF SCHEDULED TRIBES AND SCHEDULED CASTE

- The tribal areas of the State have a higher incidence of poverty than the rest of the State. Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste people are relatively poor and constitute a substantial portion of the population below the poverty line
- . One of the main objectives of developmental planning of the State is to provide these poor and asset-less people access to resources to enhance their employment opportunities and bring their income levels above poverty line
- . 6. The survival, protection and development of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) and bringing them at par with the rest of the tribal population is another important objective of planned development of this sector.
- The State Government continues to strive and secure forest rights and land rights to ST people and to promote development of forest dwellers
- 7. Tribal areas also lack of adequate infrastructure to support developmental activities. An important objective, therefore, is to bridge the critical gaps in communication, roads and other economic infrastructure as well as the social infrastructure in the tribal areas.

# ROLE

- 8. Health and nutritional standard of ST and SC population are relatively poorer than those of the general population. Also, the quality of health services in tribal areas is inadequate.
- Provision of the basic health services and improvement in health and nutritional standards of the Scheduled Tribe and scheduled Caste population leading to an improvement in their health indicators, is also an important objective
- . 9. Low literacy adds to vulnerability of tribal population. The literacy levels among Scheduled Castes are also lower than the general population. It is heartening to note that the 2011 census has recorded a quantum jump in the literacy levels of STs and SCs in the State. The overall literacy rate and the literacy of STs and SCs in Orissa in 2001 were 63.1%, 37.4% & 55.5% respectively and have increased to 72.87%, 52.24% & 69.02% respectively in 2011. Bridging the literacy gap between the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes and the general population will be an important objective during the 12th Plan and thrust on literacy and primary education of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Caste population will be continued. Special Emphasis shall be on substantially augmenting female tribal literacy.

# EDUCATION SYSTEM

- The objectives for educational advancement of SCs and STs include improving the literacy rate, female literacy rate, universal education, improving the educational status, increasing the enrolment rate, reducing dropout rate, repetition and retention rate at all levels, improving the pass percentage in X and XII Stds., improving the performance in competitive examinations, improving the quality of teaching and encouraging the integration of ST with the rest of the society. The strategies for achieving these objectives include equipping all the schools/ hostels with necessary infrastructural facilities, providing basic amenities to all schools, opening of new ADW/ GTR schools/ hostels, upgradation of schools, special coaching, educational concessions, increasing the coverage under provision of incentives to girl students etc. The thrust will be on the larger involvement of the community through active participation of the parent-teacher associations, local bodies, activists/ volunteers and NGOs, strengthening of formation and functioning of PTAs, imparting training to school students after completion of schooling and absorbing them as teachers for primary sections, constitution of school-management committees to supervise the improvement of school infrastructure, creating better teaching-learning atmosphere and monitoring the quality of education. For achieving universal education, the facilities provided under DPEP and Sarva Sikhsha Abeyan Programmes will be utilised for strengthening school / hostel infrastructure. They include construction of additional class rooms, labs, provision of lab equipments, better teaching learning materials, play grounds, sports materials, provision of water facilities, sanitary facilities and upgrading of schools wherever possible. For the promotion of tribal education, special emphasis will be laid on opening of more number of GTR schools, enhancing grants to ashram school, establishing vocational training institutes, stepping up of community participation in education, establishing close relationship with the tribes, opening of non formal education and evening schools in tribal areas.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The objectives will be to reduce the percentage of SC/ ST families living below poverty line to less than 10% and to raise the economic status of this segment of the population. The strategies will be towards mobilising and organising the poor SC and ST families in Self- Help Groups (SHGs), creating awareness on literacy and health care, improving the capacity and ability of poor people to manage risks, promoting self reliance and thrift, supporting them to form micro- enterprises in wide range of key activities by giving support in infrastructure, forward and backward linkages and other assistance for improvement in the income generating capacity of SC and ST families living below poverty line, improving the skills of SCs/ STs by providing training, and identification of appropriate institutions and activities, imparting wide range captive job-oriented vocational training to the educated unemployed youth, providing linkages for job placement or self-employment through EDP, promoting income generating capacities in industry/ secondary sector and service sector thereby providing mobility from low income areas of primary sector to high income areas of secondary and services sector, imparting entrepreneurial skills and giving financial and non-financial support to the SCs/ STs to start small and medium scale enterprises in industrial and service sectors.