

OBJECTIVES FOR 2006-2007

The objectives for welfare and development of the Sch. Castes are as follows :-

- (A) To ensure educational and cultural development of the Sch. Castes.
- (B) To ensure economic development of the Sch. Castes, and
- (C) To provide common facilities for the Sch. Castes to up-grade their standard of living.
- (D) To protect the Sch. Castes from various social exploitation and to safeguard their constitutional rights.

THE SCHEMES AND PRIORITIES FOR THE ANNUAL PLAN 2006-2007.

(a) EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCH. CASTES.

As per 1991 Census the general literacy in the State was 60.44% while Sch. Castes literacy was 56.66%.

As per 2001 Census the overall literacy in the State has gone upto 73.20%. The SC literacy has gone upto 74.70%. This is a significant achievement.

The following is a chart showing S.C. literacy of 1991 and 2001 :-

<u>Literacy rate of SCs as per 1991 Census</u>	<u>Literacy rate of SCs as per 2001 Census</u>
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Total -	56.66%	74.70%
Male -	67.25%	81.08%
Female -	45.45%	67.20%

Yet priority has to be given to bridge the gap of literacy level between Sch. Castes and other communities in the State. Apart from eradication of illiteracy, the younger generation of the Sch. Castes has to be given opportunity to acquire special education/ technical education/ professional education. The drop-out rate should be reduced. Special coaching/ training should be provided to them for upgradation of their merit and for securing employment through various competitive examination.

5.2. The Education Department is mainly responsible for educational development of the Sch. Castes. The efforts of Education Department are being supplemented by the Sch. Castes Welfare Department.

5.3. MAIN SCHEMES OF 2006-2007 FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCH. CASTES :-

- (1) Payment of Pre-matric scholarship (for Classes from VI to X)
 - (i) Class VI to VIII @ Rs. 40/- per month.
 - (ii) Class IX & X @ Rs. 50/- per month.

(2) Payment of Boarding house stipend to hostellers (for Classes from VI to X) @ Rs. 600/- per month.

(3) Payment of Post-matric scholarship to hostellers and non-hostellers (Centrally Sponsored Scheme).

(4) Payment of stipend to I.T.I. trainees. @ Rs. 200/- per month to day-scholars and @ 600/- p.m. for hostellers.

(5) Payment of outfit allowance to students going outside the State for higher technical/ professional studies. @ Rs. 2000/-

(6) Construction of SC boys/ girls hostels.

(7) Sanction of incentive award (Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Memorial Award) for up-gradation of merit.

(8) Special coaching in core subjects for up-gradation of merit.

(9) Setting up of book-bank for technical/professional courses.

(10) Imparting training in various vocational/ technical/ industrial trades.

(11) Imparting pre-recruitment training for better results in competitive examinations

5.4. SPECIAL SCHEMES FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE VULNERABLE GROUPS.

The Vulnerable group of Sch. Castes engaged traditionally in un-clean occupation require special attention for their educational development. So, a special centrally sponsored scheme namely "Pre-matric scholarship to the children of those engaged in unclean occupation" is being implemented in the State. A 40 seated boys' hostel and a 63 seated girls' hostel for the SCs was constructed namely Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Memorial Boys' Hostel and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Girls' hostel where in 20 seats was earmark for vulnerable groups and these are functioning. The boarders of these hostels are not only paid stipend/ scholarship but all the expenses of their dress, books, treatment etc. are also being borne by the State Government. Special Tutors are also engaged to given them special coaching.

5.5. RESERVATION FOR SCH. CASTES IN SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR HIGHER STUDIES.

Normally SC students are not in a position to secure seats for higher studies in various technical/professional courses on the basis of competitive examinations/ Joint Entrance examination. So, the State Government strictly follows the principle of reservation for Sch. Castes in selection of candidates for higher studies in various technical/ professional courses.

B. SCHEMES & PRIORITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHEDULED CASTES.

5.6. The State Government have attached priorities for the economic development of the Sch. Castes, particularly of the landless agricultural labourers, marginal and small farmers in order to bridge the

gap between the haves and have nots for the purpose of reducing the socio-economic imbalance within the shortest possible time frame.

5.7. For economic development top priority is given to family oriented income generating schemes. Such schemes are implemented by various Development Departments. Agriculture and Horticulture Departments implement land based schemes. Fisheries Department implements schemes based on Pisciculture, Industries Deptt. implements schemes based on various trades of small and villages Industries. Animal Husbandry Department implements schemes based on livestock resources and etc. The S.C. Welfare Department supplements the efforts of other Departments where necessary. But the main responsibility of the S.C. Welfare Department is to coordinate and supervise implementation of schemes by other Departments.

5.8. SPECIAL SCHEMES FOR VULNERABLE GROUP OF SCH. CASTES.

In addition to the family oriented schemes mentioned above, some special schemes for traditional occupation of the vulnerable group of Sch. Castes have also been taken up for implementation during 2001-2002. Some of these are as follows :-

- i) Financial assistance for shoe making.
- ii) Construction of work cabin for cobblers.
- iii) Distribution of musical instruments for professional group of musicians.
- iv) Schemes for Laundry business.

5.9. During the year 2001-2002 funds have been provided to the Panchayet bodies at Zilla level, Block level and Gram level and a good number of schemes will be implemented by the Panchayet bodies. This strategy of implementing schemes through Panchayet will continue during the 9th plan period.

C) SCHEMES FOR PROVIDING COMMON BENEFIT.

5.10. Schemes for providing common benefit are implemented by various development departments of the State Government for the purpose of upgrading the life style of the Sch. Castes people.

Some main schemes of this nature are indicated below :-

- i) Construction of Road in SCSP area.
- ii) Construction of market shed in SCSP areas.
- iii) Construction of seasonal bandh in SCSP areas.

- iv) Construction of Barrage in SCSP areas.
- v) Extension of electrical line in SCSP areas.
- vi) Sinking of tube-well, Mark-II tube-well and Deep tube-well in SCSP areas.
- vii) Establishment of Schools/ Community halls in SCSP areas.
- viii) Extension of minor irrigation schemes in SCSP areas.
 - ix) Setting up Cooperative Societies in SCSP areas.
- x) Extension of solar lighting system in interior SCSP areas.
 - xi) Establishment of health centres in SCSP areas.
 - xii) Holding of health camps in SCSP areas.

5.11. OTHER SCHEMES.

In addition to the schemes indicated for educational development, economic development of the Sch. Castes and schemes for infrastructural development of the Sch. Castes as mentioned above, some more schemes are implemented for their Welfare.

Some of these schemes are indicated below :-

- i) Financial assistance for construction of houses.
- ii) Purchase of house sites for establishment of Model housing colony.
- iii) Distribution/ Allotment of land to landless SC families.

D) SCHEMES FOR PROTECTING THE SCH. CASTES FROM VARIOUS SOCIAL EXPLOITATION AND TO SAFEGUARD THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.

5.12. To protect the Sch. Castes from various economic and social exploitations the following schemes are implemented in the State.

- i) Enforcement of the Money lenders Act.
- ii) Extension of credit facilities through the State SCDC, other financing Banks and Cooperative societies.
- iii) Procurement of Agri-produce/ Forest-produce through Cooperative Societies at the reasonable rate.
 - iv) Inter-caste marriage award.
- v) Financial assistance for treatment so that the Sch. Castes are not indebted.
 - vi) Enforcement of PCR Act. and Atrocities Act.
 - vii) Establishment of Special Courts.
 - viii) Sanction of legal aid.

5.13. TO PROTECT THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF THE SCH. CASTES, THE FOLLOWING MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

1) Reservation for Sch. Castes in employment under the State Government/ Government under-takings is strictly followed. The existing

level of representation of Sch. Castes and Sch. Tribes in various services and posts under the State Government as on 31.3.2006 is shown in the following chart :-

Category of Post	Percentage of representation	
	SCs	STs
Group 'A'	16.77%	18.52%
Group 'B'	17.07%	24.26%
Group-'C'	15.19%	26.90%
Group-'D'	18.11%	29.75%

(2) The State Government have enacted a special law namely "The Tripura Sch. Castes and Sch. Tribes (Reservation of vacancies in services and posts) (Second Amendment) Act, 2005 to prevent violation of the principle of reservation in services.

(3) Reservation for Sch. Castes in admission of students to education institutions and in selection of students for higher studies is strictly enforced.

(4) Scheduled Castes Certificates wrongly issued to those who do not belong to Scheduled Castes are being cancelled. 96 SC Certificates have so far been cancelled and punishment has been imposed on 24 Government Employees.