

Analysis of Scheduled Castes Sub Plan of Telangana State

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Abstract:

The Process of Equalization among an Indian civilians is a continuous practice since Independence, Even after several decades of independence and after several attempts by the government, it is unable to reduce the discrimination in social, cultural, political and economical status of depressed class people. It is observed that economical equalization can be the thriving effect than the other methods of equalizing with mainstream of the Indian society. Taking this economical perspective into consideration the governments are giving much more priorities to economical aspects, like Budgets, Sub plans, special component plans, economical packages etc., Provisions have been made to effectively utilize the funds allocated for the target communities based on the proportion of their population within the budget year. The Department of Scheduled Caste Development is dedicated to the integrated and general development of Scheduled Castes. Educational development, socio-economic development, protection and welfare schemes implementation programs are the main objectives of the Scheduled Caste Department, Welfare schemes like Dalitha Bandhu, T-PRIDE, Kalyana Lakshmi, ASARA pension programs are the financial assistance schemes for Telangana state scheduled Castes people.

Keywords: Scheduled Castes Sub plan, Special Development Fund, Budget, Special Component Plan, SCSDF, SCSP

1. Introduction:

Scheduled Castes have historically suffered from an enormous disadvantage and development deficit as compared to the rest of the population. This was expressly recognized in the constitution of India, which mandated special protections and provisions for Schedule Castes. The Government of India initiated the concept of Special Component Plan (SCP), now called Schedule Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) in Sixth Five Year Plan. SCSP is seen as a critical initiative in closing the development gap between the Scheduled Castes when compared to others. This umbrella strategy purports to direct plan resources across Central Ministries in Government of India and Departments in the States, at least proportion to the SC population at the National Level (16.63 %) and similarly at the Telangana state Level (15.44%), to accelerate the pace of development of SCs so that the gaps in their development when compared to others is bridged at the earliest. SCSP is therefore a key instrument for fulfilling the objectives of inclusive growth in India.

Special Component Plan (SCP) initiated by government as intervention strategies during seventies to cater exclusively to Scheduled Castes (SC) Such plans are meant to ensure benefits to these special

groups by guaranteeing funds from all related development sectors both at State and Centre in proportion to the size of their respective population. Government of India also extends Special Central Assistance (SCA) to states and UTs as additive to SCP. (Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment provides 100% grant under Central Sector Scheme of SCA to SCP as additive to SCP to States/UTs).

2. Conceptual Framework:

“Impact of Schedule castes sub plan in Telangana State” is very significant because more than 15% of the population of Scheduled Castes are facing the socio-economical discrimination. To bring parity among society by giving appropriate inputs to improve their economic conditions. So the Constitutional makers have adopted so many provisions for providing special assistance like reservation in education and employment. When these groups get benefits of this protection they automatically come forward without anyone’s assistance and help. Once this protection has been used by these groups our country reaches the status of any developed country. But it is unfortunate to say that still more than 50% of the Scheduled Castes are unaware about their protection and ignorant to get those benefits, because of the problems like, poverty, illiteracy, interference of middleman, lack of will of the government etc. These groups of people have failed to obtain the complete fruits. So it is inevitable to bring systematization by the government to provide the fruits of reservation to those who actually needed and exclude the forward class from reservation. The present study on “Schedule Castes Financial Allocations and Utilizations” covers the relevant provisions of the Telangana state and actual implementation of those provisions. The present work highlights the hurdles which come in the way for materializing the Constitutional goals of special treatment. The study would also highlight the role of judiciary in interpreting the protective discrimination clause provided in the Constitution of India in favor of Scheduled Castes Through this study, people belonging to these sections (SCs) would be enlightened about the Constitutional protections and benefits and the protection given to them under various laws. Besides, the conclusion and suggestions made in this research work may be utilized by the legislators, policy makers and policy interpreters to bring about justice and equality through the policy of proportionaleconomic allocations of funds.

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The nomenclature of SCP has since been changed to Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP). The strategy of SCSP consists in important interventions through planning process for social, educational and economic development of Scheduled Castes and also for improvement in their working and living conditions.

The Government of India introduced National Social Assistance Program (NSAP) w.e.f. 15-08-1995 with a view to support minimum needs of the poor destitute having little or no regular means of subsistence from their own source of income or through financial support from their family members. It is a 100% Central assistance program. The Inter-Ministerial Committee has taken note of the detailed

guidelines relating to the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) for the Scheduled Castes, issued by the Central Government from time to time. The basic objective of the SCSP has been to channelize the flow of outlays and benefits from the general sectors in the Plan of States for the development of Scheduled Castes, at least in proportion to their population, both in physical and financial terms. It has been observed that several State Governments have not been earmarking adequate funds to SCSP, proportionate to the share of SCs in the population. It is therefore reiterated that Scheduled Caste Sub-Plans should be an integral part of Annual Plans as well as Five Year Plans, making provisions therein non-divertible and non-lapsable, with the objective of substantial reduction in poverty and unemployment among SCs and for bridging the gaps in their socio-economic development. The State governments should build a Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan Fund for generating resources for implementing the schemes for the development of the SCs. They should evolve norms on the basis of which they should apportion a part of their total plan outlay every financial year for being utilized under SCSP. This outlay should be proportionate to the scheduled caste population, as per the latest census figures. This should be called the 'Scheduled Caste Sub Plan Fund'. Similarly, women population proportionate fund should be allocated out of the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan Fund for targeted program for Scheduled Caste women. Before commencement of the next financial year, the Nodal department of the State Governments should communicate to the line Departments, a tentative plan outlay which has been earmarked for preparation of Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan.

Guidelines issued by Planning Commission for formulation, implementation and monitoring of SCP and TSP emphasize, inter-alia, on earmarking funds towards SCP and TSP in proportion to population of SC and ST respectively, creating dedicated unit for proper implementation and separate budget-head/sub-heads for making funds non-divertible and approval for plans of Central Ministries/Departments/State Governments being conditional on adherence to implementation of SCP and TSP. Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs periodically review and monitor SCP and TSP respectively.

After the formation of the new State of Telangana, on the 2nd June, 2014, the State Government has attached the top-most priority for the development of Scheduled Castes population in the State which accounts for 15.45% of the total population as per the 2011 Census. The Department of Social Welfare Department was renamed as 'Scheduled Castes Development Department, and nominated as 'Nodal Department' to co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of various schemes - reflect the importance given by the Government to ensure all-round development of the Scheduled Castes. Various innovative schemes such as purchase of Agriculture Land, KalyanaLakshmi, New residential Schools & women degree colleges, Asara Pensions, Drinking water to households, health oriented schemes such as KCR Kits, SannaBiyam to hostels, Dalithabandhu Investment support scheme for the farmers @ Rs.5000/- per acre each season in the state, irrigation and other community oriented infrastructure schemes are notable among the certain initiatives taken by the Government for the development of SCs. Government enacted the "Telangana State Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Special Development Fund (Planning, Allocation and Utilization of Financial Resources) Act, 2017 (Act 18/2017)", and framed rules for this act, vide G.O.Ms.No.53 Dt:13.09.2017. Scheduled Castes Development (SCP) Department The Act is aimed to ensure accelerated development of SCs with emphasis on achieving equality focusing on economic, educational and human development along with security and social dignity and

promoting equity among SCs. In accordance with section 3 of the SDF Act, the State Government shall earmark a portion of the total PragathiPaddu outlay of the State in proportion to population of SCs in the state in every financial year to be called as the Schedule Castes Special Development Fund

2. SCHEDULED CASTES SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (SCSDF)

After the formation of the new State of Telangana, on the 2nd June, 2014, the State Government has attached the top-most priority for the development of Scheduled Castes population in the State, which accounts for 15.45% of the total population as per the 2011 Census. The Department of Social Welfare Department was renamed as 'Scheduled Castes Development Department', and Nominated as nodal department to co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of various schemes - reflect the importance given by the Government to ensure all-round development of the Scheduled Castes. Various Innovative schemes such as purchase of Agriculture land, KalyanaLaxmi, new residential Schools & degree colleges, Asara pensions, drinking water to households, health oriented schemes, SannaBiyam to hostels, Irrigation and other community oriented infrastructure schemes are notable among the certain initiatives taken by the Government for the development of SCs and same are being proposed to continue along with some more new schemes under "SC SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND" (in place of SC Sub plan) for the FY 2017-18 duly ear marking of funds in proportion to SC population and the details of same are given in this volume department wise. The out lay of SC SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS for the year 2017-18 is Rs.14375.13 crores, which accounts for 16.33% in the total outlay of PragathiPaddhu (Rs.88038.80 Crores) of Annual Budget of Financial year 2017-18.

3. Present Scenario in Budget allocations :

After the formation of the new State of Telangana on the 2nd June 2014 the State Government has attached the top-most priority for the development of Scheduled Castes. The population in the State which accounted for 15.44% of SC's of the total population as per the 2011 Census. The Department of Social Welfare Department was renamed as "SC Development Department" to reflect the importance given by the Government to ensure all-round development of the Scheduled. To improve the delivery mechanism of Government Welfare Schemes, As per the provisions of the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan and Tribal Sub Plan Act, 2013, while preparing the Annual budgets necessary care has been taken to ensure earmarking of required funds for the details of which are given in this volume, department wise.

The Scheduled Caste Sub Plans are designed for channelizing the flow of outlays and benefits for the development of SCs at least in proportion to their population in the plans with an objective to bridge the gaps in development indicators between the general population and SCs. Planning Commission of India given guidelines from time to time to the central ministries and states. "Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan & Tribal Sub-Plan (Planning, Allocation and Utilization of Financial Resources) Act 2013" came into force from 24th Jan 2013.

Government of Telangana has formed "SC SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (SCSDF)" & "ST SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND" for the FY 2017-18 duly ear marking the required funds in proportion to SC/ST population. The out lay of SC special development fund for the year 2017-18 is Rs.14375.13 crores, which accounts for 16.33% in the total outlay of PragathiPaddhu (Rs.88038.80 Crores) of Annual Budget of Financial year 2017-18. Under SCSDF various innovative schemes such as

purchase of Agriculture land, KalyanaLaxmi, Asara pensions, drinking water to households, health oriented schemes, SannaBiyam to hostels, are being proposed to continue along with some more new schemes. The Government have enhanced the compensation rates under the SCs & STs (POA) Act, 1989 w.e.f. 01-4-12, vide G.O.Ms.No.22, SW (POA) Dept. Dt.16-6-12. An amount of Rs350.58Lakhs provided in budget for 2015-16. An amount of Rs.3654.59 Lakhs is provided under CSS for 2017-18 for implementation of SCSDf.

Table: 1.1. Telangana State Budget Allocations for SC’s from 2012-13 to 2022-23

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Fiscal Years	Total Budget	Percentages	SC Budget	Percentages
2012-13	4495903.77	100%	643363.42	14.30%
2013-14	5295528.62	100%	883598.89	16.69%
2014-15	1,00,63,796.08	100%	757944.94	7.53%
2015-16	1,15,68,919.32	100%	808923.78	6.99%
2016-17	1,30,41,587.45	100%	1048396.14	8.04%
2017-18	1,49,64,599.77	100%	1437512.17	9.61%
2018-19	10475790.25	100%	1645279.26	15.70%
2019-20	7526324.11	100%	1240022.11	16.48%
2020-21	10461261.68	100%	1653496.85	15.80%
2021-22	12627258.71	100%	2130684.50	16.87%
2022-23	14197125.71	100%	3393775.88	23.90%

Source: Annual budget report of Telanagana state-2022-23

- Telangana State Budget reached the mark of 1 crore Budget from Formation of the state onwards that is FY 2014-15.
- Budget allocations for SCs in FY2014-15 to FY2017-18 are 7.53% to 9.61% which are gradually increased but they are not in satisfactory manner, as per planning commission guidelines the allocations should be equal to their population but allocations are not up to the mark.
- The outlay of SC SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS for the year 2017-18 is Rs. 1437512.17 lakhs which accounts for 9.61% in the total outlay of Annual Budget of Financial year 2017-18.

Table: 1.2. Telangana State Budget Allocations for SC’s from 2012-13 to 2022-23.

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Description	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Agriculture	3613 5.67	4020 1.8	2103 7.54	1076 7.64	2028 2.44	9032 3.38	2265 67.4	3042 09.4	3531 14.9	3635 56.8	2238 83
Industries	9017. 2	9500	1405 9.72	2081 1.16	1306 5.92	9793 .59	1715 2.41	1577 .41	2350 5.48	6303 0.48	6303 0.21
Public Health	1533 4.05	2967 3.7	1534 .74	823. 13	304. 37	340. 37	6802 .91	4635 .00	4635	6502 0	7923 5.75
Employment and	184	500	258.	2.36	3.36	2258	1416	9359	883.	23.1	104.

Training			68			.94	.58	.69	33	8	65
Education (Residential)	1719 13.65	3077 85.52	1597 .27	1544	7364 1	1077 43	1147 43.4	7998 4.4	8781 5	9582 6.83	1063 79.6
Women Development & Child Welfare	2039 0.01	3066 2	3412 .24	7129 .54	2092 5.25	2366 7.89	2501 3.81	9359 .69	9511 .31	1106 0	1195 3.53
Disabled Welfare	121.5	100	46.8 2	1191 2.56	57.5 1	181. 04	32.9 7	2830 0	3609 4.09	3609 4.09	3609 4.09
Weaker section housing	3979 9.62	6000 0	2315 6.21	1292 3.06	2387 5.77	7286 1.38	9774 8.77	4385 .55	1850 00	2179 31.2	2104 49.9
Civil Supplies	1134	1420. 36	2500	772	386	7818 4.5	7809 9.51	6502 0	6502 0	6502 0	7923 5.75

Source: Annual budget report of Telangana state-2022-23

- Budget allocations for SCs from 2012-13 to 2022-23 which are gradually increased for all sectors but they are not in satisfactory manner, as per planning commission guidelines the allocations should be equal to their population but allocations are not up to the mark
- Agreculture sector allocations for SC SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS are larger than other sectors when compare to Industries, Public health, Weaker section housing, civil supplies, education, employment training, child and women welfare sectors.

4. Scheduled Castes Development in Telangana State

The Department of Scheduled Caste is dedicated to the integrated and general development of Scheduled Castes. Education development, socio-economic development, welfare and protection of scheduled castes and the implementation of land purchase programs are the main objectives of the Scheduled Caste Department, the Kalyana Lakshmi program; the implementation of rules on reservation, financial assistance for Telangana students (FAST) as well as social security, such as orphaned children's homes; and rehabilitation. The Department is responsible for the objectives set out above by the Head of Departments.

The population of Scheduled Castes is 54,32,680 (15,43 per cent) of the total population, of which 3,51,93,978 are in the 2011 Census. The estimated caste population is 40,96,123 (75,40%) in rural areas and 13,36,557 (24,60%) in urban areas. The frequency of the SC literacyrate is 52.52 percent.

Objectives

The main objectives of the Department of Scheduled Caste Development are literacy, socio-economic development, health and protection of castes as well as the implementation of social security programs such as orphaned children's homes, rehabilitation of Jogins, bonded workers and scavengers. The Department takes part in the objectives through five wings

1. The Scheduled Caste Development Commissioner is responsible for the implementation of educational programs such as hostels and scholarships, the Protection of Civil Rights Act of 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Act of 1989, the monitoring of progress in the completion of vacancies and the monitoring of the Scheduled Castes Sub plan.

2. The Telangana State Scheduled Castes Co-operative Finance Corporation undertakes economic development projects to upgrade the Scheduled Castes.
3. The Telangana Scheduled Caste Residential Education Institutions Society manages quality education for girls and boys from SC in the state.
4. The Telangana State Research Circle organizes competitive exam training programs for central and state services, pre-examination centers and research circles.
5. Protection of civil rights cells is responsible for the implementation, monitoring and supervision of civil rights protection and prevention in the State against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Conclusion:

Government of Telangana State adopted the Scheduled Castes sub plan from United Andhra Pradesh. After formation of the Telangana State the Scheduled Castes sub plan has been provisionally implemented. Every year sub budget allocations has been allocated from main budget based on proportionate population of Scheduled castes. The allocations must be utilized for targeted scheduled castes people only, If any unspent funds available it is added to next year sub plan.

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