



SCHEDULED CASTE AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE IN MAHARASHTRA

Mohan Bhimrao Kamble

M.A, NET (Eco) Ph.D in Economics, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune,
mohankamble358@gmail.com

Abstract

The present study is concerned with Scheduled Caste (SC) include neobuddhist and its major focus on the development through the state and central governments with their policy implements .The Scheduled Castes Development Bureau, the Ministry implements Schedules Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) which is an umbrella strategy to ensure flow of targeted financial and physical benefits from all the general sectors of development for the benefit of Scheduled Castes. Under the strategy, States are required to formulate and implement Special Component Plan (SCP) for Scheduled Castes as a part of their Annual Plans by earmarking resources. In most discussion of progress of scheduled castes attention is focused almost exclusively on the programme of the Central Government. Yet state Governments have a major responsibility in the field and also incur large expenditures on their own programme of scheduled caste welfare. At present 32 States /UTs having sizeable SC population are implementing Schedules Caste Sub-Plan. Scheduled Caste, Schedules Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) Special Component Plan (SCP).

Keywords: 'Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan for Social Justice & Equality'



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1.INTRODUCTION :

This paper discusses

- (1) The public policy provisions responsible for the creation of ameliorative programmes for the scheduled castes; and
- (2) The anomalies in the administrative structure responsible for the implementation of the programmes.

Scheduled castes are one of the most disadvantaged groups in Indian society. According to the to Census 2011 the scheduled caste population is about 20.13crores populations belonging to SCs, which constitute 16.66% of the total population, the decadal literacy rate of SCs gradually increased form 1961(10.3per cent) to 2011(66 per cent).in respect of human development indicators are concerned such as health, nutrition, the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Child Mortality Rate (CMR), Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) these are comparatively higher for these groups than that of general population. The nutritional deficiency for SC children under the age of 5 years is much higher than the general. In so for

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as economic development indicators are concerned, 49.9 per cent of the SC population reported to be agriculture labourers, 14.8 per cent cultivators and 36.1 per cent other workers, according to NSSO survey 2004-05, the percentage of landlessness among SCs living in rural areas were 78 per cent as against 57% for SCs/STs. Though, the percentage of persons below poverty line (BPL) for SCs is gradually declining, as compared to general population, however it is still higher

In 1935 the British passed the Government of India Act 1935, designed to give Indian provinces greater self-rule and set up a national federal structure. The reservation of seats for the Depressed Classes was incorporated into the act, which came into force in 1937. The Act introduced the term "Scheduled Castes", defining the group as "such castes, races or tribes or parts of groups within castes, races or tribes, which appear to his Majesty in Council to correspond to the classes of persons formerly known as the 'Depressed Classes', as His Majesty in Council may prefer".[7] This discretionary definition was clarified in The Government of India (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1936, which contained a list (or Schedule) of Castes throughout the British-administered provinces. After independence the Constituent Assembly continued the prevailing definition of Scheduled Castes and Tribes, giving (via articles 341 and 342) the president of India and governors of the states a mandate to compile a full listing of castes and tribes (with the power to edit it later, as required). The complete list of castes and tribes was made via two orders: The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950 and The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, respectively.

- **Article 366: Definitions:**

"(24) "Scheduled Castes" means such castes, races or tribes or parts of or groups within such castes, races or tribes as are deemed under article 341 to be Scheduled Castes for the purpose of the Constitution".

- **"Article 341: Scheduled Castes:**

"The President may with respect to any State or Union Territory and where it is a State after consultation with the Governor thereof, by public notification, specify the castes, races or tribes or parts of or groups within castes, races or tribes which shall for the purposes of this Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Castes in relation to that State or Union Territory, as the case may be. Parliament may by-law include in or exclude from the list of Scheduled Castes specified in a notification issued under clause (1) any caste, race or tribe or part of or group within any caste, race or tribe, but save as aforesaid a notification issued under the said clause shall not be varied by any subsequent notification." The Ministry informed that the

criteria followed for consideration of specification of a caste etc. as a Scheduled Caste is extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of traditional practice of untouchability.

After promulgation of the Constitution, in exercise of powers conferred by clause (1) of Article 341 of the Constitution of India, the President made following six Orders between 1950 and 1978, for specifying castes as Scheduled Castes in relation to various States/Union Territories:- The Constitution of India has prescribed, protection and safeguards for the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and other weaker sections either specially or the way of insisting on their general rights as citizens; with the object of promoting their educational and economic interests and removing social disabilities. These social groups have also been provided institutionalized commitments through the statutory body, the National Commission of SCs and STs.

- **Welfare & Empowerment Scheduled Castes**

Article 366(24) of Constitution defines the "Scheduled Castes" means such castes, races or tribes or parts of or groups within such castes races or tribes as are deemed under article 341 to be Scheduled Castes for the purpose of the Constitution. Scheduled castes are constitutionally declared as group of castes and sub castes, which suffered from the practice of untouchability. They comprise within them more than 1208 Castes and sub castes, generally consisting of former "untouchables". There are 1241 main Scheduled Castes which have been included in the list of Scheduled Castes in India.

Estimation of the gaps in development of SCs and others with the help of line departments. Prioritising the development needs of the Scheduled Castes in consultation with the primary stakeholders. Designing schemes that have the potential to accelerate the development of Scheduled Castes and bridge the gaps in development in a time bound manner. Prepare the Sub-Plan consisting of the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan Schemes after due appraisal

1. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is the nodal Ministry to oversee the interests of the Scheduled Castes. Though the primary responsibility for promotion of interests of the Scheduled Caste rests with all the Central Ministries in the area of their operations and the State Governments, the Ministry complements their efforts by way of interventions in critical sectors through specifically tailored schemes. Efforts made by State Governments and Central Ministries for protecting and promoting the interests of Scheduled Castes are also monitored.

Under the Scheduled Castes Development Bureau, the Ministry implements Schedules Caste Sub- Plan (SCSP) which is an umbrella strategy to ensure flow of targeted financial and physical benefits from all the general sectors of development for the benefit of Scheduled Castes. Under the strategy, States/UTs are required to formulate and implement Special Component Plan (SCP) for Scheduled Castes as part of their Annual Plans by earmarking resources. At present 27 States/UTs having sizeable SC population are implementing Schedules Caste Sub-Plan.

Another policy initiative for the development of Scheduled Castes is Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan, in which cent percent assistance is given as additive to Schedules Caste Sub-Plan of the States/UTs on the basis of certain criteria such as SC population of the States/UTs, relative backwardness of the States/UTs percentage SC families in the States/UTs covered by composite economic development programmes in the State Plan to enable them to cross the poverty line, percentage of SCP to the Annual Plan as compared to SC population percentage of the States/UTs.

The National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) set up under the Ministry provides credit facilities to persons belonging to Scheduled castes living below double the poverty line limits (presently Rs.81,000/- p.a. for rural areas and Rs.103,000/- p.a. for urban areas), for income generating activities.

Another Corporation under the Ministry viz. National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation (NSKFDC) provides credit facilities to beneficiaries' viz. Safai Karamcharis, scavengers and their dependents for income generating activities for socio-economic development through State Channelizing Agencies.

2. Ministry implements two Acts for protecting the civil rights of the Scheduled Castes viz.

- Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and
- The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989).
- The prohibition of employment as Manual Scavengers & their Rehabilitation Act 2013.

3. The Ministry also deals with the following important issues, with regard to Scheduled Castes Development:

- Monitoring of points 11(A) of 20 point programme - Justice to Scheduled Castes.
- Affirmative Action including reservation in private sector for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Equal opportunity to all, particularly to those who is from disadvantage groups, is an essential component of any development intervention. The mandate of the Ministry of Rural Development is to alleviate poverty in the rural areas. The Ministry is implementing various schemes/programmes with the objective to provide avenues of employment to most disadvantaged sections of the society, including SCs/STs. The Ministry has made specific provisions in the guidelines of the programmes to ensure adequate flow of resources to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The details of assistance provided to the poor households from SC/Communities under the major programmes are as under.

4. Ministry of Rural Development and Scheduled Caste

Ministry of Rural Development has been earmarking the funds for Scheduled Caste Special Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) and Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY)/NRLM from 2011-12 onwards. The details of the funds earmarked for SCSP and TSP under these schemes for 2011-12 and 2012-13 are given below:

5. Amendments in the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989:

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Bill, 2014, to amend the PoA Act, introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16.07.2014. The Bill was listed for consideration by the Lok Sabha on 17.07.2014 and on directions of Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, the Bill has been referred to the Departmental Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment.

6. The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2014:

The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2014 to modify the list of Scheduled Castes in relation to the states of Kerala (inclusion of two synonymous castes), Madhya Pradesh (inclusion of one synonymous caste), Odisha (inclusion of four synonymous castes), Tripura (inclusion of three synonymous castes) and Sikkim (exclusion of one caste) was introduced in Lok Sabha on 11.08.2014. The Bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 27.11.2014 and 8.12.14 respectively. The bill has been sent for assent of the President.

The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2014, which proposes to include eight castes as synonym to Scheduled Castes in relation to the States UT of Haryana(one), Karnataka(one), Odisha (six), Dadra and Nagar Haveli (one) and substitution of the name of the State from 'Uttaranchal' to 'Uttarakhand' was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 11.02.2014. The said Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing

Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment for examination and report. The committee in its sitting held on 26.11.2014 heard views of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, besides evidence of the Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and Registrar General of India.

Revision of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995: The Rules notified in 1995, were revised on 23.12.2011. Further amendment in the PoA Rules for enhancing the relief amount by 50% i.e. between Rs. 75,000/- to Rs. 7,50,000/- depending upon the nature of offences has been approved on 23.06.2014, and is under notification in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary. Upward revision of financial norms under the Scheme of Grant-in-aid to voluntary organizations working for the SCs (last fixed in 1998):

7. The Scheme has been revised and informed to the States/UTs vide letter dated 15th July, 2014. Following revisions have been made in the financial norms

1. Generally 100% enhancement
2. Honorarium of teachers has been revised upward at par with the salary of teachers in Kasturba Gandhi Vidhyalaya.

Setting up ‘‘Dr. Ambedkar International Centre for Social Justice’’ at 15, Janpath New Delhi: The Government has approved setting up of the Centre at an approximate cost of Rs.195 crore at Janpath. The architectural plan and design of Dr. Ambedkar International Centre has been approved by the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) on 20.11.2014. The Government has also taken a decision to fully develop the Dr. Ambedkar Memorial at 26, Alipure Road, Delhi. The CPWD has already started preliminary work. The architectural Plan has been approved by the Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E) on 27.11.2014.

8. Creation of ‘Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Caste Entrepreneurs’ Scheme:

The Government has decided to set up a new Venture Capital Fund for SCs. An allocation of Rs.200 crore has been provided for the Fund. A scheme has been finalized in consultation with the IFCI. The Standing Finance Committee (SFC) under the chairmanship of Secretary (SJ&E) was held on 03.12.2014 for appraisal of the proposed Scheme. Competent Authority has approved the Scheme. The fund would be operationalised during remaining part of the year 2014-15 onwards.

9. Credit Enhancement Guarantee Scheme for Young and Start-Up Entrepreneurs belonging to Scheduled Castes:

The Finance Minister in his Union Budget Speech for FY 2014-15 made on 10th July 2014, inter-alia, announced that a sum of Rs.200 crores will be allocated towards Credit Enhancement Guarantee for Young and start-up entrepreneurs, belonging to Scheduled Castes, who aspire to be part of neo middle class category, with an objective to encourage entrepreneurship in the lower strata of the Society resulting in job creation besides creating confidence in Scheduled Castes.

The said allocation is under Social Sector Initiatives in order to promote entrepreneurship among the scheduled castes and to facilitate concessional finance to them. The proposed Scheme and Standing Finance Committee (SFC) memo has been concurred on 17.10.2014 by the IFD M/o SJ&E. However, due to non allocation of budget under the Scheme SFC memo has not been circulated for inter-Ministerial consultation.

10. Implementation of Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT) Scheme:

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) vide ID dated 26.3.13 provided the list of 121 districts across the country selected for implementation of DBT. The necessary proforma in this regard were uploaded on the Central Plan Scheme Monitoring System (CPSMS) portal in mid February 2014. Having received the digitally signed digitized lists of beneficiaries forwarded by 8 States/ UTs and 15 Top Class Institutions, in respect of the 3 Scholarship Schemes of the Department in the Financial Year 3013-14, the Department of SJE could disburse Rs 1062.37 lakhs directly into the bank accounts of 45184 beneficiaries. For the Financial Year 2014-15, till date the Department has been able to credit an amount of Rs 6.43 lakhs directly into the bank accounts of 9 beneficiaries. Around 15 proposals are in the pipeline where scholarships would be disbursed shortly through DBT.

11.Social Justice and Social Welfare Division

The Constitution of India in its Preamble, Fundamental Right, Directive Principle of state policy and other social legislations/provisions there under confirm India , an a welfare state with commitment for the cause and inclusive growth of its people in general and of vulnerable in particular, Since the socioeconomic and educational backwardness of certain vulnerable and weaker sections in Indian society are aging much behind in term of health, education, employability, housing, participation I economic activities and availability of basic infrastructure etc.

The Social Justice and Social Welfare Division in the planning Commission is responsible for providing overall guidance for formulation of policies, plans and programmes/schemes with principle objective to protect & safeguard the interest of these sections and ensure their welfare, empowerment and development in the quality of life.

12th five year plan 2012-17 Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan

Sr. No	Plan/Division	Total Budget(crore)
1.	All Ministry division department	626966.80
2.	District level plan	395433.20
3.	Social Justice & other departments	1022400.00

Source: Planning Commission Report 2012

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Scheduled Caste Population in Below Poverty Line (BPL)

Sr.no	State	Scheduled caste population Below Poverty Line (in percentage %)
1.	Bihar	70.66 %
2.	Uttar Pradesh (UP)	58.99 %
3.	Maharashtra	51.64 %

Source: Census 2011 Government of India

The fifth position in the list of the poorest states in India is grabbed by Bihar. Half the population Bihar is below the poverty line. Poverty is around 70.766%. The reasons for the backwardness of agriculture are both institutional and technological. And structural and institutional factors acted as a barrier to the agrarian transformation The poverty in UP is 58.99%. It is India's largest state and also one of the poorest. A cycle of poverty, illness and death occurs in UP; partly because many girls are married off in their teens. UP is the state with the greatest number of malnourished children.

12.Maharashtra Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan Structure :

Social Justice and Scheduled Caste economic and social development plan implication of government of Maharashtra, since 1980 sixth five year plan start 31May 2016, under the Social Justice Development Scheduled Caste plan two types one is State level second District level plan implication on grassroots, this is planning

and budgeting about overall Scheduled Caste population 11.80% per cent . Census of Maharashtra 2011 SC population 16.66% per cent. Recently budgeting very less, total SCSP Plan in Maharashtra 207 scheme following types.

- SCSP Plan in Maharashtra:-
 1. State level plan: - 63
 2. District level plan :- 84
 3. Special Assistance and other plan:- 60

Above three types scheme running in Maharashtra state of economic, social, education development of scheduled caste.

**•Expenditure Budget 2000-01 - 2006-17 Scheme under SCSP In Maharashtra:-
(in lakhs)**

Financial years	Total Budget (Plan-Nonplan)	SCSP Budget	SCSP Budgeting (%) precent
2000-01	48160	551.00	1.14
2001-02	54911	742.50	1.35
2002-03	61215	715.00	1.16
2003-04	70356	751.30	1.0
2004-05	72361	655.98	1.30
2005-06	72361	1122.00	0.8
2006-07	78506	1529.00	2.02
2007-08	82194	2060.00	2.5
2008-09	99972	2332.80	2.3
2009-10	1,24,633	2652.00	2.12
2010-11	1,30,818	3867.10	2.9
2011-12	1,44,783	1,44,783	2.92
2012-13	1,65,209	1,65,209	2.77
2013-14	1,81,100	4787.00	2.64
2014-15	1,84,423	6644.00	3.27
2015-16	2,40,000	2,40,000	2.7
2016-17	2,56,992	6725.00	2.6

Source: Scheduled caste sub-plan report 2016-17

Scheduled Caste Sub-plan in Maharashtra state budgeting since 2000-01 to 2016-17 tenure period of budgeting above table average budgeting 1.6 per cent per year not more than 3.6 per cent financial assessment of SC. Census 2011 in Maharashtra SC Population 16.66 per cent and budget allotment 2.9 per cent very less, scheduled caste population under the BPL below Poverty Line development ratio kinds of not justice scheduled caste society in the state economically, socially very backward still this situation hopes Social justice department actively participated overall development of scheduled caste .

Expenditure Budget 2015-16 Schemes under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (in lakhs)

Sr. No	Ministry / Department	2013-14 Actual Budget	2014-15	2015-16
1	Dept. of Agriculture & Cooperation	1627.07	1930.88	1967.71
2	Dept. of animal husbandry & dairy & fisheries	269.87	352.19	230.84
3	Dept. of Ayurveda & Naturopathy AYUSH	17.72	53.45	50.40
4	Department of Commerce	80.25	100.00	65.00
5	Dept. Of Electronic & Information Technology	45.61	77.00	51.00
6	Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation	2519.68	3358.20	1372.00
7	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	3547.98	4658.04	3731.45
8	Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation	239.09	-----	-----
9	Dept. of School Education & literacy	8569.08	10326.34	7816.40
10	Dept. of Higher Education	1975.08	2538.89	2378.30
11	Ministry of labour & Empowerment	210.98	396.25	348.79
12	Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise	228.85	399.24	313.61
13	Ministry of New & Renewable Energy	16.87	33.00	10.00
14	Ministry of Panchayat Raj	1134.27	545.00
15	Ministry of Power	435.27	800.00	564.37
16	Dept. of Rural Development	6358.37	14033.47	3865.36
17	Dept. of Land Resources	282.40	607.50	258.83
18	Dept. of Science & Technology	55.92	78.12	85.04
19	Dept. of Social Justice & Empowerment	4021.20	4837.50	5128.50
20	Dept. of Disability Affairs	90.40	102.49
21	Ministry of Textiles	73.04	231.55	176.17
22	Ministry of Women & child development	3960.59	4220.00	2057.35
23	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	154.04	251.20	217.00
24	Chandigarh, Daman & Diu	1.16	1.08	1.69
25	Grand Total	34722.13	50548.16	30850.88

Source: Expenditure Budget Vol. I 2015-16 Government of India.

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