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KERALA STATE PLANNING BOARD**

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**FOURTEENTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN  
(2022-2027)**

**WORKING GROUP ON  
SCHEDULED TRIBES DEVELOPMENT**

**REPORT**

**DECENTRALISED PLANNING DIVISION STATE PLANNING BOARD  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM  
March 2022**



## FOREWORD

Kerala is the only State in India to formulate and implement Five-Year Plans. The Government of Kerala believes that the planning process is important for promoting economic growth and ensuring social justice in the State. A significant feature of the process of formulation of Plans in the State is its participatory and inclusive nature.

In September 2021, the State Planning Board initiated a programme of consultation and discussion for the formulation of the 14th Five-Year Plan. The State Planning Board constituted 44 Working Groups, with more than 1200 members in order to gain expert opinion on a range of socio-economic issues pertinent to this Plan. The members of the Working Groups represented a wide spectrum of society and include scholars, administrators, social and political activists and other experts. Members of the Working Groups contributed their specialised knowledge in different sectors, best practices in the field, issues of concern, and future strategies required in these sectors. The Report of each Working Group reflects the collective views of the members of the Group and the content of each Report will contribute to the formulation of the 14th Five-Year Plan. The Report has been finalised after several rounds of discussions and consultations held between September to December 2021.

This document is the Report of the Working Group on “Scheduled Tribes Development.” The Co-Chairperson of Working Group was Shri. Pranabjyoti Nath I.A.S. Dr.P.KJameela, Member of the State Planning Board co-ordinated the activities of the Working Group. Smt.J.Josephine, Chief, Decentralised Planning Division was the Convenor of the Working Group and Sri.Mohamed Ansal Babu N.K, Assistant Director, Decentralised Planning Division was Co-Convenor. The terms of reference of the Working Group and its members are in Appendix 1 of the Report.

Member Secretary



## **PREFACE**

In Kerala, the process of a Five-Year Plan is an exercise in people' participation. As part of the formulation of 14th five year plan, working groups have been constituted in different sector, sub sector and areas and these working groups have decided to carry out broader consultations with various stakeholders and subject experts.

The working group in its subsequent meetings held during September to November,2021 met with various stakeholders and it greatly benefitted from the deliberations with the stakeholders. Although the Reports do not represent the official position of the Government of Kerala, their content will help in the formulation of the Fourteenth Five-Year Plan document.

This document is the report of the Working Group on Scheduled Tribes Development. The Chairperson of the Working Group was Shri. Pranabjyoti Nath I.A.S. The Member of the Planning Board who coordinated the activities of the Working Group was Dr.P.K.Jameela. The concerned Chief of Division was Smt J.Josephine.

Expert co-chairperson

Official co-chairperson



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## SUMMARY

The Kerala State Planning Board constituted a Working Group on Scheduled Tribes Development in connection with the formulation of XIV Five Year Plan (2022-27) with Shri. Pranabjyoti Nath IAS as the Co-Chairperson. The terms of reference are: 1) To review all the welfare and individual assistance schemes for the people of the scheduled tribes, and make suggestions, if any, to restructure and strengthen these schemes 2) To suggest skilling for modern employment and how to provide modern employment for people of the scheduled tribes, particularly women and youth. These employment opportunities are to be in modern agriculture, industry and income-bearing services 3) To enquire into the possibility of fostering a new green revolution on household operational holdings of scheduled tribe households and on the extensive farmland holdings of the Department of ST development in the State 4) To review the status of availability of land for people of the Scheduled Tribes 5) To suggest a comprehensive monitoring mechanism for schemes under Scheduled Tribes Sub-Plan. Realising the backwardness of the ST population, the State Government have taken a number of steps to preserve their constitutional rights and improve their living situations. The percentage of TSP flow from Total State Plan Outlay was always higher than the proportion of Scheduled Tribes population.

### **Major Recommendations Of The Working Group Report On 14Th Five Year Plan**

**Education:** To promote pre-primary education to tribal children, the availability of Anganwadis with teachers from tribal communities in all ST habitats shall be ensured. Policy of multilingual early learning in the local language has to be promoted making use of the Mentor teachers from among the Community. The pedagogic tools should suit their culture and ecosystem and broaden their democratic and egalitarian vision. District Level Education Assistance has to be established with a group of HSS Teachers working in Tribal areas to sort out the problems in quality of education and prepare modules for imparting additional coaching to students of primary and secondary education.

All schools (MRSs, Government and Aided) are recommended to be institutions facilitating inclusive education to ST students from the very beginning. The functioning of MRSs shall be evaluated and a comprehensive protocol with curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities has to be introduced for the overall development of the students. A system has to be introduced to test students' aptitude in standard VIII itself and to identify further studies in accordance with the aptitude and skills of the students. The infrastructure of the educational institutions should keep UNICEF standards. Considering the fact that the monthly stipend provided to the ST students having their own accommodation facility near the institution is insufficient, an additional 'Higher Education Plus scholarship may be provided for them. Adequate number of post matric hostels may be provided for ensuring higher education and addressing dropouts at post matric levels. Bridge courses for dropouts shall also be arranged. The employability of educated youths shall be enhanced by imparting vocational training through regular programmes and other initiatives to upgrade their skills.

The total seats reserved for ST students in the State may be considered as a common pool and provide allotment to the entire ST students in schools/colleges wherever they apply, not exceeding the total number of seats available and the software to

support the new system should be improved. Extra plus two batches may be sanctioned in MRSs in tribal concentrated areas. Special efforts should be taken to promote sports and arts among tribal children.

A sub centre of Sree Narayana Guru Open University may be established in any tribal area to provide higher education facilities to tribal students and organise academic sessions supported by eminent faculties in Central Universities, I.I.T., T.I.S.S., J.N.U., Dr. Ambedkar University etc., using online platforms to impart exemplary knowledge and awareness for the students attending such courses. It is necessary to ensure the proper working of SC/ ST Cells in all the Universities and Higher Education Institutions to address discrimination and harassment.

**Work, Employment and Skill Development:** Plans for skill development shall be formulated from the time of primary education onwards. Model residential schools and tribal hostels require career orientation programme from 8th grade onwards under Career Orientation Cell to provide guidance on all areas of career prospects. A mentor-mentee scheme should be started in each Ooru (tribal settlement) and educational institutions to formulate and nurture the right passion and goals of skill development and employment. Educated youth in each ooru may be engaged as skill promoters, after training.

An Integrated Tribal Coaching Centre should be established in each district in association with the major educational institution in the district. Schemes should be formulated to get trending jobs by doing up-skilling as well as re-skilling using specially designed software applications. Finishing schools should be started to provide opportunities for the students completing advanced courses to strive to hone their skills and get the best employment opportunities. Multi-Purpose Orientation cum Vocational Training Centres should be started in tribal taluks to upgrade the skills of the educated and uneducated tribal youth as well as in various traditional/modern vocations in effective coordination with all schemes for skill training and development. The success model of AMRID may be extended to Palakkad, Kannur, Kasaragod and Idukki Districts according to the local needs. Arrangements have to be made to provide Skill Cards to those who complete training to recognise their expertise.

Apprenticeship should be arranged to professionally qualified persons in Government Institutions thereby they get experiences in their respective fields and encourage them to find out suitable employment. Along with that, apprenticeship of unemployed graduates in the office of the Govt Pleader/Public Prosecutors should be ensured.

Agriculture and Health universities may be entrusted to start vocational courses that will make use of tribal wisdom and knowledge in traditional agricultural practices and systems of medicine and also to prepare projects in their respective areas. Skill up-gradation should be ensured in Agriculture and allied sector by availing the assistance of Agriculture University, Department of Agriculture and Horticulture Corporation. Skill development training programmes should take into account job availability in tribal areas. The land available in resettlement areas in the State should be made available for such productive training and agricultural practices. The concept of Haritha Karma Sena can be piloted in Wayanad, Idukki and Palakkad districts by imparting training in modern mechanized farming.

Medicinal plant farming shall be promoted and link them with the public and private Ayurveda pharmacies and similar programmes may also be drawn up in the Animal Husbandry and Dairy sectors, by availing services of Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science

University, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Milma, etc .

Learning from the past experience of promoting cooperatives in tribal sector, Tribal Cooperative Labour Societies and Primary Farming Societies may be formed. An online store for tribal products maintained by skilled tribal youth should be started for selling their agricultural as well as forest collections without losing their IPR. All tribal products should be branded and graded like 'Agmarking' to promote genuine tribal products and to obtain GI tagging. Tourism circuits shall be introduced upholding the principles of heritage tourism connecting ST habitats in each district and this will create direct and indirect employment opportunities for tribes.

Separate Tribes Start-Up Mission shall be instituted to promote all start-up projects (lead by tribal youth). Project Incubation cum Management Support Council should be started in association with various Government Institutions, PSUs and Private Corporate bodies to nurture /incubate the entrepreneurial skill/business concepts of tribal youths. Tribal Artisan Exhibitions and Melas like Gadhika has to be promoted to propagate the art forms and to identify new artisans and new products at the sourcing level in States/Districts/Villages for expanding the tribal producers' base.

**Land and Infrastructure:** A system for fast-track distribution of land to the landless tribal population should be put in place, strictly ensuring that the land is suitable for living with basic amenities like drinking water, electricity and connectivity -both road & internet, agriculture, livelihood, etc. The successors are to be stated in the title deed itself. Land laws need to be made complementary with the customary laws of tribal communities. The implementation of the Land Bank Scheme in various Districts shall be closely monitored with monthly reviews keeping the need for scrutinising and amending the guidelines in force. Tribal settlement and rehabilitation should be planned with a holistic vision with sustainable development in view. The planning of tribal settlement and rehabilitation shall consider the Comprehensive Evaluation Report of TRDM conducted by KIRTADS in 2017-2018. Awareness creation activities may be undertaken through training of educated tribal youth on various land laws and rules of the State and the Country. A digitalised tribal land bank should be started based on land category, the status of usage etc.

Urgent measures to be taken to provide houses to all tribal households considering the grievances surfaced in the construction of houses till date and looking into the customs as well as traditional cultural practices of different tribal groups. Ensure all amenities including clean drinking water to all tribal households making maximum use of the existing natural water resources including the revival of contaminated water sources and effective use of domestic latrines.

Multi-purpose community centre's have to be emerged as hubs for all socio-cultural and development ventures. Ensure proper transportation facilities for tribal people with arrangements to connect the settlement areas with cities, and other villages so as people can access various services.

**Health:**

It is necessary to have a detailed study on the non-availability of the service delivery system and develop suitable intervention strategies to overcome the problem. Community Medicine Departments in Medical Colleges shall conduct Research Studies on the trends

in the Health Care System in Tribal areas and suggest ameliorative measures. Appropriate measures for the treatment and care of the Differently Abled including the Mentally Challenged Persons and for initiating mental health and well-being programmes may be adopted considering the higher rates of prevalence of mental and behavioral disorders among STs. Special arrangements for palliative care to patients suffering from chronic diseases, incapacitation and bedridden persons shall be made and a separate Geriatric Care Policy has to be prepared for the elderly ST incorporating useful traditional social control mechanisms. The existing Comprehensive Health Care Scheme shall be rationalised to ensure its outreach to the entire ST population and extend the coverage of the Mobile Medical Units with all the required facilities to remote and inaccessible habitats at least once a month and whenever needed.

In the context of low coverage of the ICDS, alternative arrangements (including the establishment of Balawadies, Community kitchens etc.) have to be made to address nutrition deficiency. Ensure disbursement of financial assistance, in the beginning of each month, to pregnant women and lactating mothers from the first 3rd month of pregnancy till the child attains the age of 1 year.

'Health Literacy' Programme shall be launched to bridge the gap between traditional knowledge and modern scientific understanding of health. Educated ST youths may be trained and deployed in disease-prone areas to function as grassroots level links between the Scheduled Tribes and Health Care Institutions. School Health Programme shall be intensified with special focus on awareness campaign for eradication of the use of narcotics and promote arts, sports and games to abstain the youths from the clutches of narcotics and undertake Deaddiction Mission. Awareness programmes shall be conducted on menstrual hygiene to remove menstrual taboo and ensure women's health and wellbeing. A Health Sub - Plan (HSP) incorporating the tribal wisdom on both preventive and curative aspects shall be launched by receiving inputs from Oorukoottams. Considering the fact that the traditional medical practices are popular among STs and the general public, a proper scheme has to be drawn to promote traditional medical practices, retaining IPR of the tribal community.

***Agricultural Development:*** There is a need to develop a Comprehensive Strategic Policy covering different interventions in agricultural development of STs in Kerala. Cultivation practices based on modern scientific information and taking into account heritage, culture, area and climatic status of the Scheduled Tribes shall be encouraged. Incentive Schemes shall be developed including insurance, interest-free loans, revolving fund, other auxiliary support etc. in tribal agricultural sector. Measures have to be taken to promote by all means their traditional knowledge and skills. Value-added products from all traditional varieties of crops reared by them shall be promoted. All age groups, irrespective of gender, should be given training in different agricultural and animal husbandry activities. Trainings may be organised in organic cultivation, modern farming methods, nursery raising, use of agricultural implements etc., and supply them implements for all agricultural operations. An integrated farming system may be encouraged by incorporating cultivation of crops, cattle rearing, goat rearing, fish rearing, mushroom cultivation and beekeeping.

Measures shall be taken to institute State Cooperative Tribes' Farming Society (SCTFS) with District level bodies and rejuvenate cooperative system with structures from grassroot level. A Digital Data Bank on Tribes' agricultural land should be prepared at the District level based on its type, farming status, etc. Through this Digital Data Bank on land, arid land should be leased to tribal farmers through cooperatives. A Seed Bank cum Museum (heritage) should be started to conserve the traditional seeds and farming practices/methods of scheduled tribes and there should be a policy for Smart Farmer Assistance.

Agriculture/Veterinary Universities should start short term courses on Tribal Farming. They may start Compulsory Internship Programs in Tribal Farming to promote and familiarise the farming practices, crops, methods to their students.



# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### GENERAL SOCIO ECONOMIC SCENARIO OF SCHEDULED TRIBE FAMILIES IN KERALA

1. Kerala model of development is discussed all over the world in respect of human development indices like high literacy, exemplary demographic indicators and better standards of health. The status of Scheduled Tribes with regard to Human Development Indices exhibit marked disparities with the general population in the State. The Scheduled Tribe communities as a whole are the most disadvantaged groups among the outlier communities in all human development indices. Hence, a comprehensive strategy encompassing all aspects of development of human resources needs to be planned, developed, implemented and monitored.

2. The population of Scheduled Tribes in Kerala State is 4,84,839 constituting 1.45 per cent of the State's total population (3.34 crore) as per the 2011 Population Census. There are 1,07,965 tribal families residing in 4,762 habitats as per the Report on the Socio-Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes of Kerala (2013) of Scheduled Tribes Development Department. About 11 per cent (540) of the tribal habitats are situated within the reserve forests and 20 per cent (948) are in the immediate vicinity of reserve forests. One of the peculiarities of tribal population in Kerala is that there exists large scale tribal concentrations and consequently there are no scheduled areas as per fifth schedule of the Constitution. However, there are tribal concentrated pockets like Edamalakudy in Idukki district, Puthur Grama Panchayat in Palakkad district, Thirunelly and Noolpuzha Grama Panchayaths of Wayanad district. The district wise total population and tribal population, as per the 2011 population Census, is given below.

Table No.1: Details of District wise Scheduled Tribes Population

Sl No.	District	Total Population			Scheduled Tribes			%	% to Total Population
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total		
1	Thiruvananthapuram	1581678	1719749	3301427	12624	14135	26759	5.52	0.81
2	Kollam	1246968	1388407	2635375	5195	5566	10761	2.22	0.41
3	Pathanamthitta	561716	635696	1197412	3947	4161	8108	1.67	0.68
4	Alappuzha	1013142	1114647	2127789	3175	3399	6574	1.36	0.31
5	Kottayam	968289	1006262	1974551	10974	10998	21972	4.53	1.11
6	Idukki	552808	556166	1108974	27995	27820	55815	11.51	5.03
7	Ernakulam	1619557	1662831	3282388	8349	8210	16559	3.42	0.50
8	Thrissur	1480763	1640437	3121200	4362	5068	9430	1.94	0.30
9	Palakkad	1359478	1450456	2809934	24314	24658	48972	10.10	1.74
10	Malappuram	1960328	2152592	4112920	11272	11718	22990	4.74	0.56
11	Kozhikode	1470942	1615351	3086293	7429	7799	15228	3.14	0.49
12	Wayanad	401684	415736	817420	74476	76967	151443	31.24	18.53
13	Kannur	1181446	1341557	2523003	20141	21230	41371	8.53	1.64
14	Kasargod	628613	678762	1307375	23950	24907	48857	10.08	3.74
<b>Total</b>		<b>16027412</b>	<b>17378649</b>	<b>33406061</b>	<b>238203</b>	<b>246636</b>	<b>484839</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1.45</b>

Source: Census 2011 Human Development Index (HDI) Status

3. One of the main findings of the State Human Development Report 2005 [Kerala State Planning Board] is that there is a vast difference in the Human Development Indices among different social groups in the State. While the mainstream society excels in various facets of human development, the tribal communities lag far behind. The Report also indicates that the Deprivation Index [on the basis of inaccessibility to basic amenities viz., Housing, Sanitation, Drinking Water and Electrification] is significantly high in case of Scheduled Tribes of the State as compared to the general society. Poverty among Scheduled Tribes in Kerala still remains more than two-and-a-half times that of the all Kerala rural population below the poverty line, which stands at 9.4 per cent.

4. In spite of the various welfare measures initiated and the Constitutional protections given, the present status of the tribal community is characterized by social backwardness, economic vulnerability, poor health and low educational standards. The community is also inflicted with social evils like alcoholism and drug abuse. The incidence of poverty among the tribal groups of Kerala is half that of all India (KDR, 2008). The Index of Deprivation is based on the basic necessities for well-being such as housing quality, access to drinking water, electricity for lighting, good sanitation, health care initiatives and education. Accordingly, the tribal deprivation index of the State was worked out as 57.9 per cent in 2001, while the same for the state as a whole was 29.5 per cent. The State's tribal deprivation rate based on Population Census 2011 is 43.34 per cent which is much lower than the rate of 57.9 per cent in 2001. Among the districts, Idukki has the highest tribal deprivation rate (51.94%) followed by Palakkad (50.78%), Kasargod (49.81%) Wayanad (48.66%) and Kannur (42.02%). This depicts the positive impact of ST development programmes during tenth and eleventh plan.

### **Critical Gaps in Development**

5. The developmental intervention of Government of Kerala pertaining to tribal welfare so far was rather support for sustenance like distribution of individual benefits which could not generate investable surplus or savings for the tribes. Even in the case of agricultural operations, the land available for cultivation of majority of tribal is inside or surrounded by forests and vulnerable to damage by wild animals. Tribal distress is common as a result of lack of cultivable land with major portion of the tribal families, low production and marketing, price arbitrage, lack of value addition and storing mechanisms, etc. There is lack of handholding support to the tribals from different administrative departments. A focused intervention is required to fill the critical gaps existing in various development sectors through co-ordinated effort.

6. Apart from the livelihood sector, in the health care sector also urgent interventions are required to address the peculiar health issues of tribal people like sickle cell anaemia, skin diseases, addiction to alcohol, etc. Some research studies point out that the longevity of tribes is far below the state average. As majority of tribal settlements are in inaccessible and interior forest areas; there is lack of health centres in the vicinity of the habitats. There exist a good number of differently abled people, for whom there are no suitable schemes to address separately.

7. Hence, a co-ordinated effort is required in the sectors of agriculture, social and in-

frastructure for a focused intervention aiming at the comprehensive development of tribals.

### **Socio- Economic Condition/Tribal Situation in the State Literacy**

8. As per the Report on the Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013 , literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes in the State is 74.44 per cent, which is lower than the State average literacy of 93.91 per cent (2011). The highest literacy rate is in Kottayam district which stands as 94.31 per cent. The literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes in Palakkad is reported as 57.63 per cent which is the lowest among the districts in the State. Here also the Cholanaickan community in Malappuram district stands with the lowest literacy rate (39.90%). The literacy rate of ST males belonging to Kadar and Kattunayakam communities are also lower than the State average. The women literacy is 70.15 per cent as against the general literacy of 74.44 per cent of Scheduled Tribes. The lowest rate of women literacy is also recorded in respect of Cholanaickan community which is 42.55 per cent.

### **Employment Status**

9. The employment pattern of Scheduled Tribes is broadly classified into three, namely; forestry sector, agriculture & allied sectors and non-agriculture & allied sectors.

10. The Scheduled Tribe population in the age group of above 5 years of age are estimated as 3,84,978. Of them, 1,77,910 (46.21%) are identified as individuals having no income. The remaining 2,07,068 persons (53.79%) have some type of employment. It has been estimated that 17,138, persons (4.45%) of the total are engaged in forestry sector, 1,44,264 persons (37.48%) depend on agriculture and allied sectors and 45,666 persons (11.86%) are workers in non-agriculture and allied sectors. Of the total persons employed, 1,58,935 (76.75%) are workers in various sectors like agricultural labour (1,11,636), non-agricultural labour (19,794), MGNREGS (11,752), forest area (10,939) and other sectors (4814). The self-employed among the Scheduled Tribes are 39,167 (18.92%).

### **Unemployment**

11. The unemployed persons in the age group 15-59 are 84,207. They constitute 30.27 per cent of the total number of 2,78,172 persons in the age group 15-59. Of them, 60,776 are women and constitute 72.17 per cent of the unemployed. The unemployed women in the age group 15-29 are 37,131; representing 61.09 per cent in the total unemployed women in the age group 15-59. Of the total unemployed persons, 55,876 are (66.36 %) in the age group 15-29, 14,919 are (17.72%) in the age group 30-44 and 13,412 are (15.93%) in the age group 45-59.

### **Malnutrition**

12. Altogether 14,134 families are apparently affected by malnutrition. This segment constitutes 13.09 per cent of the total families. The largest numbers of such families are found in Wayanad, Palakkad and Idukki districts. But the proportion of malnourished families is highest in Pathanamthitta followed by Alappuzha and Malapapuram districts.

### **Basic Amenities**

13. Housing. Altogether, 10,374 families are absolutely houseless. They constitute

9.61 per cent of the Scheduled Tribe families. Besides, there are 16,633 sub families having no independent houses. Taking into account this category also as houseless, the total houseless families would be 27,007 constituting 25 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribe families (as per the Report on the Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013). As per the Survey conducted by the ST Development Department in 2020-21, it is estimated that about 16,070 tribal families possessing land are homeless and 7,930 families are landless.

14. **Electrification.** About 26.98 per cent of settlements are yet to be electrified in the State. The proportion of settlements without electricity connection is 56.77 per cent in Malappuram district, followed by 43.48 per cent in Idukki and 41.27 per cent in Kozhikod .

15. **Drinking water.** Altogether 17,784 families (16.47%) have their own source of drinking water like wells or tube wells. 35,120 families (32.53%) are depending on public wells or tube wells. About 18,799 families (17.41%) are using natural sources such as river, lake or stream (neerchal) for collection of drinking water .

16. Altogether, 42,601 families face scarcity of drinking water. They constitute 39.46 per cent of the total families. Scarcity of water during summer season is faced by 33,623 families (72.96%).

17. **Health.** Altogether 2103 tribal settlements have no health care institutions within their premises. This constitutes 44.16 per cent of the total settlements. Health care workers are not available for 780 settlements. Health care services such as immunization, medical camps, cleaning campaign etc had never been organised in 1306 settlements. The situation is worst in Wayanad, Palakkad, Kasaragod and Idukki Districts .

18. **Sanitation.** There are 1543 settlements without domestic or public latrines. They are 32.08 per cent of the settlements in the State. Of them 598 are in Wayanad, 270 in Palakkad, 165 in Kasaragod and 162 in Idukki. Altogether, 51,551 families are without proper latrines.

19. **Roads.** Out of the 4,762 ST settlements, 60.31 per cent are connected by motorable roads. Only footpaths or pathways are available in 1,225 settlements. Around 7.69 per cent settlements (366) have no connectivity at all; mostly within forests. A substantial number of tribal families located in scattered areas are also without proper access. A total of 1,467 houses located in scattered areas have no proper access. They are 26.67 per cent of the houses in scattered area (as per the Report on the Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013).

### **Particularly Vulnerable Groups (PTGs)**

20. There are five Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in the State viz. Kattunaikan, Cholanaikan, Kurumbas, Kadars and Koragas settled in Wayanad, Nilambur, Thrissur, Kasargod, Kozhikode and Palakkad. According to the Report on Socio-Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013, the PVTG population is 26,273 and the number of households is

6,771 in 603 settlements.

### Weaker Section among Scheduled Tribes

21. Arandan/Aranadan, Wayanadan kadar, Kudiya/Melakudi, Mahamalar, Palleyan/Palliyan, Thachanadan Moopan, Malapanickar and Malamchandaram are the 8 minority communities among the ST communities in Kerala. Adiyar, Eravalan, Hill Pulaya, Irula, Malasar, Malayan, Mudugar and Paniyan are the 8 marginalised ST communities. Kadar, Kattunaikan, Koraga, Kurambar/Kurumbas and Cholanaikan are the 5 Particularly Vulnerable ST communities (PVTGs) in the state. These 5 PVTG communities can also be considered as highly marginalised groups. The ST Development Department has already undertaken a few programmes to address the problems of communities like Adiya, Paniya and Primitive Tribes utilising TSP funds as also funds like SCA to TSP, provisions under Art 275(1) etc. The number of families, population, sex ratio, literacy rate and area of habitation of these communities, as per report on Socio-Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013, are given below

Table 2: Community-wise information of Scheduled Tribes

Sl. No.	Name of community	Families	Population	Sex Ratio	Literacy Rate	Area of Habitation
Minorities						
1.	Arandan/ Aranadan	80	247	1308	49.28	Malappuram
2.	Wayanadankadar	174	673	934	86.46	Wayanad
3.	Kudiya, Melakudi	195	911	989	79.69	Kasaragod
4.	Mahamalar	40	143	932	43.55	Palakkad
5.	Palleyan/Palliyan/ Paliyan	423	1484	1003	78.25	Idukky
6.	Thachanadan Moopan	391	1649	1026	80.73	Wayanad
7.	Malapanickar	236	982	1144	83.04	Malappuram
8.	Malamchandaram	514	1662	1024	51.73	Kollam, Pathanamthitta

		Marginalised				
9.	Adiyan	2576	11221	1082	66.26	Wayanad
10.	Eravalan	1255	4418	999	50.38	Palakkad
11.	Hill Pulaya	960	3415	998	65.55	Idukky
12.	Irula	7617	26525	1015	60.01	Palakkad
13.	Malasar	1267	4201	986	50.4	Palakkad
14.	Malayan	1461	5550	1047	63.23	Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad
15.	Mudugar	1274	4668	1098	64.15	Palakkad, Wayanad, Kannur
16.	Paniyan	21605	92787	1057	65.19	Malappuram, Palakkad, Kozhikode
		PVTGs				
17.	Kadar	545	1974	1041	58.74	Thrissur, Palakkad, Wayanad
18.	Kattunaikan	5137	19995	1009	59.37	Kozhikode, Malappuram, Palakkad
19.	Koraga	445	1644	1050	78.35	Kasargod
20.	Kurumbar/ Kurumbas	543	2251	996	56.36	Palakkad
21.	Cholanaikkan	101	409	834	39.63	Malappuram

Source: Report on the Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013

## Gender Dimensions of ST Families in Kerala

22. In most of the tribal societies in Kerala women enjoy equal status with men and are the cornerstone of the social structure of the tribal societies. Tribal women enjoy certain economic and social equalities and are equal partners in family and conjugal rights. But they do not enjoy pre-marital freedom. Even though they have an important position in tribal society, they are debarred from exercising power and also do not hold any properties as these are always vested with the males. Though these tribal women enjoy some freedom with regard to marriage and family as compared to other societies in Kerala, they are marginalised in the socio-economic and political spheres of life. Due to the impact of modernization and influence of non-tribal societies on tribal societies, women are losing the socio-economic and cultural positions that they enjoyed earlier. In many socio economic characteristics, the tribal women lag behind tribal men.

## Female Population

23. The share of female in tribal population is 50.86 per cent (2,46,636). Thrissur district has the highest proportion of women with 53.74 per cent, where as in Ernakulam the proportion of female to male is only 49.58 per cent. The details on the female population in the State are shown below.

Table 3: Female Population

State	Population		
	Total	Female	% to Total
Kerala	4,84,839	2,46,636	50.86

Source: Report on the Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013

Table 4: Single Female Member Families

State	Families		
	Total	Single Female Member Families	% to Total Families
Kerala	1,07,965	2011	1.86

Source: Report on the Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013

## Age, Marital Status, and Women in Distress

24. The women population can be classified into five broad categories, such as married, separated, widows, single mothers and others consisting of children, students, unmarried etc. Among the women population, 1,00,245 are married (46.33%), 4,943 are separated (2.28%), 21,561 are widows (9.96%) and 928 are single mothers (0.43%). The children, students, unmarried etc. under the category of others are 88,712 (41%) and 8.60 per cent are above 60 years.

25. The women in distress above 60 years consist of 10,605 widows (96.08%), 384 separated women (3.48%) and 48 single mothers (0.43%). The proportion of women in distress above 60 years to the total women in distress in Mala Arayan community is 58.91

per cent, which is higher than the state average. The next community, which has the high ratio of women in distress above 60 years is Kurumar. Kurumar community has the ratio of 48.45 per cent. This reveals the fact that the status of women is poor in relatively better ST communities like Mala Arayan and Kuruman.

### **Female Literacy and Educational Status**

26. A total of 58,540 women, belonging to Scheduled Tribes are illiterates. The women literacy is 71.08 per cent as against the general literacy of 75.81 per cent of Scheduled Tribes. Altogether, 1,10,507 women have the qualification below SSLC or 10th as against the total 1,96,132 women above 5 years of age. Among the Scheduled Tribe women, those who have studied below SSLC are 56.34 per cent. In respect of PVTG, the proportion is below the state average.

27. There are 15,203 women with SSLC and 8,728 with higher secondary (+2) education. These two categories together form 23,931 which constitute 12.20 per cent of the female population of Scheduled Tribes. The total number of Scheduled Tribe persons who have passed SSLC and Plus Two are 46,716. Thus the women have outnumbered the males in passing SSLC and Plus Two. The performance of women of PVTG in SSLC and Plus Two examinations are far behind the state average.

28. Graduates and post graduates among Scheduled Tribe women are 2,482 and 508 respectively. There are 4,475 graduates and 822 postgraduates in the Scheduled Tribes. As such it can be seen that the females had shown more initiative in higher education than the males. The diploma and certificate holders in technical branches are 3,686 among the Scheduled Tribes. Of them, 2,490 are females, claiming 67.55 per cent of the total. The representation of women belonging to PVTG in acquiring technical knowledge and skill is only 1.41 per cent while their share to the total female population is 5.88 per cent.

29. Among the Scheduled Tribe communities there are 27 female engineering graduates and 37 female medical graduates. The male medical graduates are only 28. Thus, the females have proved their predominance in medical education. Among 26 communities there is no female representation of engineering graduates while these communities together contribute 59.86 per cent of the total female population of Scheduled Tribes. Similarly no one among females belonging to 28 communities has obtained medical degree. The females in these communities constitute 77.10 per cent of the total female population. Besides, the females among the 5 PVTGs had not gained either engineering or medical degrees.

### **Enrolment of Girl Students**

30. The Scheduled Tribe girls between the age 3-5 years are 12,037. Of them, 10,012 have not enrolled in anganwadies, indicating that 83.18 per cent of the girl children have not entered into the pre- primary level of education. The rate of non-enrolment of the girl children in anganwadies is 93.66 per cent among PVTG. Among Paniyans, 2953 girls in the age group 3-5 years as against the total 3,234 girls are out of preschool education (91.31%).

## Dropout of Girl Students

31. The dropout syndrome among Scheduled Tribe girls is very high. It is estimated that 15,224 girls had left out the educational institutions without finishing their studies. They represent 33.51 per cent of the total girl students of Scheduled Tribes. The secondary level of education is the most vulnerable stream of dropout of girl students. The girls who have discontinued their studies at secondary level constitute 85.59 per cent of girl students in secondary classes. The dropout rates in certificate and diploma courses also seem to be on the higher side. Even 11 girls have dropped out of their engineering degree course, resulting huge loss to the society as well as the State. The details on dropout of girls at different stages of studies are given in the following table.

Table 5: Dropout of Girl Students from Educational Institutions

Sl. No.	Course/Class	Girl Students	Dropout	% to Girl Students
1	Primary	31473	6962	22.12
2	Secondary	6810	5829	85.59
3	Higher Secondary	3583	721	20.12
4	Graduation	1772	230	12.98
5	Post-Graduation	167	82	49.10
6	Certificate Courses	380	382	100.53
7	Diploma Courses	239	534	223.43
8	B Tech	89	11	12.36
9	MBBS	40	-	-
10	BAMS	10	-	-
11	BHMS	2	-	-
12	Others	864	-	-
Total		45429	14751	32.47

Source: Report on the Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013

## Employment Pattern

32. Scheduled Tribe women had proved their identity in every field of occupation. The sectors of employment engaged by women can broadly be classified into forestry, agriculture and non- agriculture. Among the Scheduled Tribe women, there are 81,491 main workers in the age group 15-59, engaged in different occupations. The agricultural labour constitutes 53.39 per cent of the total work force. Farming is the next sector, which provides employment for 11.56 per cent of women workers in the age group 15-59. Mahathma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) provide employment to

11.12 per cent of the women workers in the age group 15-59. Collection of forest produce and herbal plants, traditional occupation and occupations in forest area together provide employment for 7.87 per cent of women workers. The representation of government/quasi government employees is 4.34 per cent of the total main workers.

33. In the age group 15-59, altogether 20,044 women workers have subsidiary occupations. The non- agriculture and allied sectors are the major source of subsidiary occupation. Approximately 52.47 per cent of the subsidiary occupations are provided by the non-agriculture and allied sectors.

34. The main workers of tribal women above 60 years are 4,757. Of them, 71.60 per cent have their main occupation under agriculture and allied sectors, consisting of agriculture, animal husbandry and agriculture labour. Approximately 50 per cent of them are under non agriculture and allied sectors.

35. The women workers in forestry sector in the age group 15-59 are 6,414. Altogether, 55,773 women main workers depend on agriculture and allied sectors, for their livelihood. Of them, 43,511 (78.01%) are agricultural workers.

36. There are 19,304 women main workers in non-agriculture and allied sectors in the age group 15-59 consisting of 9,062 workers under MGNREGS, 4,906 workers in non-agricultural sector and 3,535 employees in government/quasi government sectors.

37. The total main workers of Scheduled Tribes in the age group 15-59 in all sectors of employment are 1,93,965. Of them, 81,491 (42.01%) are women. The representation of women is above 50 per cent in traditional occupations, collection of herbal plants, animal husbandry, MGNREGS etc.

38. In the case of subsidiary occupation the proportion of women workers in the age group 15-59 is 40.92 per cent. There are 20,044 women engaged in subsidiary occupations as against the total number of 48,987 tribes engaged in subsidiary occupations. Women workers are more in sectors such as animal husbandry, MGNREGS, traditional occupation etc.

### **Unemployment among Women**

39. There are 84,207 Scheduled Tribes in the age group 15-59 without any gainful occupation. Of them, 60,776 are women and constitute 72.17 per cent of the unemployed. The unemployed women in the age group 15-29 are 37,131, representing 61.09 per cent in the total unemployed women in the age group 15-59.

40. The proportion of unemployment among educated women is high compared to the total unemployed Scheduled Tribes in the age group 15-59. 9,361 women with the qualification of SSLC are reported unemployed. 6,694 women having +2 level of education are also enlisted as unemployed. The graduates and post graduates among the unemployed women are 2015.

41. The unemployment among women in the age group 15-59 holding technical/professional certificate/degree is very high compared to the total unemployed persons of technically qualified. The unemployed women with technical / professional qualification are 1,620 (64.49%) as against the total 2,512 unemployed persons with technical/professional qualification. Altogether, 9 girls with engineering degree and 11 girls with medical degree are unemployed. Among the unemployed women with technical/professional qualifications 1,306 are in the age group 15-29, 264 are in the age group 30-44 and 50 between the ages of 45-59.

42. Another group of unemployed women in the age group 15-59 are the vocationally qualified and skilled. Altogether, 1,705 girls who have acquired vocational qualification or skill in trades like engineering, medical treatment, teaching, tailoring etc. remain unemployed. Of them, 1,146 (67.21%) are in the age group 15-29, 422 (24.75%) are between the age 30-44 and 137 (8.05%) are in the age group 45-59. Girls with tailoring skill constitute approximately 43 per cent of the vocationally skilled unemployed women. About 149 Girls with nursing education are found as unemployed.

### Basic Amenities of Women and Women Headed Families

43. The details on the housing status of women in distress are given in the following table.

**Table 6: Housing Status of Women in Distress**

Sl. No.	Category of Women in Distress	Women Families (No.)		Dilapidated Houses (No.)
		Landless	Houseless	
1	Single Mothers	1	19	405
2	Single Mothers as Head of Family	22	41	304
3	Widows as Head of Family	385	988	12066
4	Women as Head of Family	566	1099	6810
5	Families with Daughters Attained the Age	346	965	16692
6	Families with Separated Women/ Divorced	119	342	5227
Total		1439	3454	41504

Source: Report on the Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013

44. Altogether 16,693 families of Scheduled Tribes are fully depending on others for drinking water. Of them, 4,482 (26.84%) are women headed families. The Scheduled Tribe families without proper latrines are estimated as 51,551. Of this, 12,402 (24.06%) are women headed families. The numbers of un-electrified houses of Scheduled Tribes are 61,098. Of them, 14,486 (23.71%) houses are of women headed families.

### **Social Security Measure**

45. The ration cards facilitate to avail food articles at subsidised rates. In addition it is a document which serve as an ID and even as a proof for family income as far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned. 4,974 houses of women headed families are without ration cards. As the total families without ration cards are 24,995, the women headed families constitute 19.70 per cent of the total.

46. The BPL (Below Poverty Line) is the bench mark for medical treatment and for availing benefits under rural development and social welfare schemes. As such the classification of families as APL and BPL has to be done more meticulously. Such an exercise has not been done in the case of Scheduled Tribes. Consequently many of the deserving families are outside the BPL list. Therefore, the BPL families among Scheduled Tribes are only 55,392. Of them, 16,076 are women headed families (29.02%).

### **Role of Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Kerala**

47. Socio-economic development and protection of the tribals from all kinds of exploitation are the twin objectives of Tribal Sub Plan. As per the TSP strategy, the State used to allocate an amount which is more than proportional to the Tribal Population in the State as TSP provision in the budget for the exclusive development of STs in the State.

48. The role of the Scheduled Tribes Development Department is very crucial in the implementation of TSP and other welfare/protective programmes for the tribals. The department directly formulates and implements programmes in the field of education, housing, health care and economic development. Besides these, the department has an ex-officio role to ensure that the local bodies are formulating and implementing tribal development programmes observing the guidelines prescribed, particularly those concerned with infrastructure development like roads, water supply, electrification, soil conservation etc. in the tribal areas, while considerable TSP funds are operated by the local bodies. The department also helps the Local Bodies in implementing their own TSP projects/programmes and also for implementing the schemes transferred to local bodies through the staff transferred to the Local Governments (Project officers of ITDPs/Tribal Development officers/Tribal Extension Officers). Apart from this the department has a major responsibility in protecting the tribals from various kinds of Atrocities which the non-tribals often commit against them. The provisions under the PCR Act 1955 and the Prevention of Atrocities Act 1989 are widely used for punishing the culprits and to rehabilitate the tribal victims.

49. The Scheduled Tribes Development Department has a network of 7 Integrated Tribal Development Project [ITDP] offices, 10 Tribal Development Offices and 53 Tribal Extension Offices spread across the state.

50. For the purpose of vetting, clearing and for according administrative sanction for the projects, Government have constituted the District Level Committee (GO(P). No.11/2021/Planning Dated 28.09.2021) in all districts with the District Panchayath President as Chairman and the District Collector as Member Secretary and the District Level Officer of the Scheduled Tribes Development Department and the officers of the line

departments as members. District Planning Officer is the convener of the District Level Committee. At the State level, the State Level Working Group, with Principal Secretary to Government, SC/ST Development as Chairman, is functioning for vetting and approving the ST projects to be cleared at State level.

## CHAPTER 2

### EVOLUTION AND STATUS OF TRIBAL SUB-PLAN

#### **History**

51. The Tribal population of India, during the pre-British period had led almost an independent 'gotra' life of their own. Each tribal community had a common territorial division, usually geographically isolated having distinct dialect and cultural practices. They had customary laws which controlled their political, social and religious organizations and hence they did not have to depend on outside law and order institutions. They had control over natural resources and the richness of the flora and fauna satisfied eighty percent of their basic needs either in terms of consumption for food or making up of their shelter.

52. The British administrators who ruled India initially did not intervene the affairs of the population who lived in Tribal areas due to various reasons. Because they thought that the administration in hilly areas was very costly and also that it was desirable to keep them away from outside political interferences. However, the exploitation of landlords resulted in the revolt of Mal Paharas of Rajmahal hills in 1796. Simultaneously the railway expansion in India started by the Britishers in 1853, had felled big trees from the forests for the use of sleepers. The forest dwelling Tribal population protested against this move. It was in this situation, the Britishers enacted Indian Forest Act of 1865 which asserted the monopoly right of forest wealth. The provisions of the Act were further expanded in 1878 making the rulers vested with absolute ownership which infringed the 'right' of the Tribals. In all, there were 140 revolts led by the Tribals during the British period against the various types of exploitations and stringent forest regulations.

53. The Britishers based on the studies conducted by Dr. Francis Buchanen in 1807, followed by the studies of anthropologists and administrators like Riseley, Thurston, Dalton, Hutton and others, who all prepared descriptive accounts of habitat, economy, customs and traditions, social organisations etc. could understand the necessity to have a distinct arrangement and also the dangers of extending normal laws to the Tribal areas. Consequently in 1833, Chotanagpur was declared as a non-regulated area, followed by the Scheduled Districts enactment of 1874, which empowered the respective head of the administrators to modify any enactment in force. In short, the executive was given the power to exclude these areas from the normal operation of general laws so as not to expose them and make victims of the various enactments brought into force from time to time.

54. The Montague, Chelmsford Report of 1918 concluded that the political reforms suggested for the rest of India could not apply to these backward areas. The Government of India Act of 1919 classified these tracts, as some areas are so backward and as such should be wholly excluded from the scope of the reforms. A system of modified exclusion was applied to other backward areas.

55. The Simon Commission (1930) has visualized a policy for Tribal Areas and observed, "the responsibility of Parliament for the backward tracts will not be discharged

merely by securing to them protection from exploitation and by preventing those outbreaks which have from time to time occurred within their borders. The principle duty of the administration is to educate these people to stand on their own feet, and this is a process which has scarcely begun”.

56. The commission was also of the opinion that “perpetual isolation from the main currents of progress would not help for the long term solution”. However, the Government of India Act, 1935 declared the backward areas as ‘Excluded’ and partially Excluded Areas.

57. There were no such areas in the erstwhile parts of Kerala. Summing up, it has been observed that the British Administration did more harm than doing good for the Tribal population of India.

### **Constitutional Provisions**

58. The Constituent Assembly discussed wide ranging subjects before framing the Constitution for independent India. Replying to the objectives of the Resolution tabled in the Assembly, Jaipal Singh of Chotanagpur who championed the cause of Adivasis said “what my people require is not adequate safeguards, we do not ask for any special protection. We want to be treated like every other Indian a new chapter of Independent India, where there is equality of opportunity, where no one would be neglected.”

59. Besides the extension of Fundamental Rights to the Tribes as any other citizen like equality before the law (Article 14) and prohibition of forced labour and traffic in human beings (Article 23) the Constitution of India has provided dual treatment of Tribal Areas and Tribal people and ensured provisions both for ‘protection’ and ‘development’ than any other backward classes. There are provisions to appoint a National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (Article 338) to investigate and report to the President, direct Central Government control over administration in Scheduled areas (Article 339(2)) and financial support (Article 275 (1)) as well. The statutory recognition (Article 342), proportionate representations both in the Parliament and State Legislations (Articles 330 and 332), reservation in services, restriction of non-tribals to move and settle or acquire property in tribal areas (Article 19 (5)), protection of language, dialects and culture (Article 29 (1) etc. are also there. The Directive Principles of the constitution require that ‘the State to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.’ It may be recalled here that the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment has detailed the provisions for Local Self Governments for rural and urban area, and relating to the powers of authority and responsibilities of Panchayats, the thrust is given to ‘the preparation of plans for economic development and social justice (Article 243g) and also to take up matters listed in Eleventh Schedule like income generation from minor forest produces (item no. 7).

60. The Constitution of India has declared the areas predominantly inhabited by the Tribal people as Scheduled Area (Article 244(1)) under Fifth Schedule where there are provisions to restrict the application of inappropriate law, regulate allotment and transfer of

land and money lending and the formation of Tribal Advisory Councils tailored to the policy matters. Later according to Bhuria Committee's report, in the 5th Scheduled Areas, PESA (Panchayats Execution to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (No. 40) was introduced. According to this Act Gramasabha is supreme for overall development and empowered, among other things, competent to safeguard and preserve the tradition and customs of the people, their cultural identity, community resources and the customary mode of dispute resolution: The Tribals' areas within the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram (Article 244(2)) come under sixth Schedule and there are provisions for Autonomous district and Regional councils which serve as an instrument of self-management and have powers of legislation and administration of justice, besides executive, developmental and financial responsibilities.

61. Meanwhile another landmark legislation brought in to force is on 'The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest dwellers (Recognition of forest rights) Act, 2006', which enabled the target groups to enjoy three types of rights viz individual, community and developmental. Emanating from Article 17 of the constitution, the two central Acts (1) Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, (2) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989) and as amended in 2015, also enable legal protection, compensation for victims, legal aid etc.

62. Thus, the Tribal Development scenario has to be understood in the above mentioned Constitutional provisions which stand for 'protection' and 'development.'

### **Policy Approach**

63. The policy for Tribal development discussed three approaches viz. isolation, assimilation and integration. It was decided to adopt the policy of integration. It is in a way main streaming without any imposition and to promote their cultural traditions, identity, self-dignity, emancipation from all type of exploitations etc.

64. The five principles spelt out in 1952, known as "Nehruvian panchasheel" have been considered as a guiding force.

1. People should develop along the lines of their own genius and should avoid imposing anything on them, we should try to encourage every way their own traditional art and culture.
2. Tribal rights in land and forest should be respected.
3. We should try to train and build up a team of their own people to do work on administration and development. Some technical personnel from outside will no doubt be needed especially in the beginning. But we should avoid introducing too many outsiders into tribal territory.
4. We should not over administer these areas or overwhelm them with a multiplicity of schemes. We should rather work through, and not in rivalry to, their own social and cultural institutions.

5. We should judge results, not by statistics or the amount of money spent, but by quality of human character that is evolved.

65. There have been many changes in the tribal communities over a space of six decades or so. But the imbalances in growth from among the various tribal ethnic groups and tribal areas are noticeable now. Therefore, appropriate policy changes are to be taken in a comprehensive manner to promote economic growth and to provide equal opportunities to one and all.

### **Development Strategies at the National Level**

66. India has adopted a Five-Year Plan strategy for overall development of the country. In the First Five-Year Plan (1951-56) the general development programmes also encompassed all the Backward classes of the people including the Scheduled Tribes. The Second Five-Year Plan (1956-61) began with socio-economic development based on the culture and traditions and introduced the special Multi-purpose Tribal Blocks. The Third Five-Year Plan period (1961-66) focussed reduction in disparities like education, health, communication and economic development, and to promote equity of opportunity. It may be recalled here that Attappady Block of Palakkad district became the first Tribal Block in Kerala (1962). The fourth Five-Year Plan period saw (1969-1974) the attempt to increase the standard of living of the Scheduled Tribes.

67. In the first four Five-Year Plan periods, the Elwin Committee (1957) Dhebar Commission (1961) and Shilu Ao Committee (1969) evaluated the Tribal Development programmes and suggested remedial measures, but these recommendations could not be implemented properly. It was under such circumstances, a Task force (1972) on 'Development of Tribal Areas' constituted by the Planning Commission reviewed the whole situation and found the inadequacy of plan outlay for the tribal development and suggested that ecological, occupational and social parameters of the development of tribal people should be considered for formulations of policy and its implementation. The Scheduled Tribes of India formed 7.5 per cent of the total population, but the plan allocation for the first four Five-Year Plans has been less than 1 per cent of the total plan outlay.

68. Meanwhile, an expert committee set up by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare in 1972, headed by Professor (Dr) S C Dube drafted a unique strategy known as Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) which is considered as a landmark shift in policy perspective. The TSP started from the Fifth Plan (1974-1978) and introduced a mechanism for implementation through Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP'S). There shall be a TSP along with the national plan. The allocation of funds will be in proportion to the population of the Scheduled Tribes and there will be a budgetary head for this purpose. The TSP is aimed at 'development' and 'protection'. The real 'development' as distinguished from the 'welfare' primarily focused in area development to narrow the gap between the levels of development of tribal and other areas and also to improve the quality of life. In a way there were income generating activities, infrastructural development and administrative reinforcement. The elimination of exploitation figured in all forms, to reinforce the inner strength of the

people, improving organizational capabilities flexibility to take care of the special problems of the tribal region in each state etc. framed in the new strategy. Another outstanding feature of TSP is the funding pattern through various sources viz. State Plans, Special Central Assistance (SCA) to TSP, Grants under Article 275 (1), sectoral programmes of Central Ministries / Departments and Institutional Finance.

69. In the Sixth Five-Year Plan (1980-85) TSP has given emphasis on family- oriented economic activities rather than infrastructure development schemes. In order to cover more than half of the Tribal population, Modified Area Development Approach (MDDA) was started in tribal pockets of 10,000 populations. In the seventh Five-Year Plan (1985-90) there was substantial increase in flow of funds from the two major national agencies viz., Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED- 1987) to support forest and agricultural produces and National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC 1989) to give credit, employment generation and skill development, also started functioning

70. The Eighth Five-Year Plan (1992-1997) dealt with elimination of exploitation, land alienation, socio-economic uplift etc. The Ninth Five-Year Plan (1997-2002) emphasized the advancement on social empowerment, economic empowerment and social justice for socio- economic development. The Scheduled Areas witnessed the implementation of PESA (1996). At the centre, a new ministry for Tribal Affairs has been created in 1999.

71. The Tenth Five-Year Plan (2002-2007) continued the previous approach and increased the outlays on education, minor irrigation and development of forest villages. The Eleventh Five Year (2007- 2012) TSP has envisaged for rapid and inclusive growth so as to reduce poverty and unemployment. The creation of productive assets to sustain the growth attained, human resource development, provision of physical and financial security against all types' exploitation and oppression the implementation of Forest Right Act were the important initiatives taken during the same plan period.

72. The Twelfth Five-Year Plan, TSP (2012-2017) came out with many details of policy approaches. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) released a Vision and Mission document. In a nut shell in the 12th Plan, TSP envisages overall improvement in the socio economic conditions, relaxing normative prescriptions in tribal majority areas, strengthening of implementing agency, engaging people from tribal community, sensitizing officials so as to have empathetic to tribal lives and traditions, monitoring closely, land acquisition for needy, plan within a plan for weakest, speedy implementation of PESA and FRA etc.

73. An important feature of the Thirteenth Five Year Plan (2017-2022) in Kerala is its determination that the 'planning process' will work to protect the rights of the people of the Scheduled Tribes and to expand the socioeconomic achievements of all people of the Scheduled Tribes in the State. It also ensured that the allocations to the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for the people of the Scheduled Tribes would exceed the share of the population of Scheduled Tribes in the State.

74. The Vision document of MoTA states “To empower socially, economically and politically the Scheduled Tribes to enable them to exercise effective control over their life style, their natural resources base and to make informed choices and to integrate them culturally, emotionally and psychologically into the national main stream and nation building process by facilitating reduction and removal of gaps in the Human Development Indices (HDI'S) and other development processes of the Scheduled Tribe population vis-a-vis the general population”.

75. The Mission document directs for enhancing capacity for growth, skills, faster generation of employment, management of environment, markets for efficiency and inclusion, decentralization, empowerment and information, technology and innovation, securing energy for future, rural transformation and sustained growth of agriculture, improved access to quality education and better preventive and curative health care.

76. Thus, the TSP approach has been tribal centric, people friendly community-oriented holistic and multifaceted. The major thrust areas and issues identified for the Tribal Sub Plan since the Fifth Five Year Plan up to the fag end of the Thirteenth Five-Year Plan periods persist in one way or other at varying degrees depending upon the availability of the resources and also on the growth attained by each community. Therefore, the Fourteenth Five-Year Plan for Kerala has to rearrange and adopt all the points mentioned above over five decades and also to supplement certain points to be developed on the basis of the present status report and other emerging problems.

### **Status of Tribal Sub Plan in Kerala**

77. The Tribal sub plan was introduced in Kerala during the fifth Five Year Plan period. Earlier the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes affairs were administered by the then Harijan Welfare Department. In 1975, a separate Government Department viz., Scheduled Tribe Development Department, was created to provide the administrative structure for the implementation of TSP. In 1975 itself ‘The Kerala Scheduled Tribes (Restriction of Transfer on Lands and Restoration of Alienated Lands Act)’ was enacted (Later the Act was amended in 1999, by scrapping restoration of alienated land and it was substituted by alternate land). The Tribal Development Block of Attappady became the first ITDP in Kerala (1976). Later six more ITDP's were also formed with specific jurisdictions. The development of the Scheduled Tribes outside the ITDP's is now covered by ten Tribal Development Officers (TDO's). The initiatives taken during the period include the formation of Sugandhagiri Cardamon project in Wayanad to rehabilitate mainly the freed bonded labourers (750 families) and Attappady farming co-operative Society (420 families). The Tribal Development Programmes had been decentralized at the district level in 1983-84.

78. The beginning of the Nineth Five-Year Plan coincided with the 73rd and 74th Constitutional amendments and the Local Self Governments have been entrusted with specified responsibilities relating to the welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes also. Almost two-third of the TSP fund was allotted to the LSG's. The Tribal Resettlement and Development Mission was formed in 2001 to accelerate land distributions and resettlement

mainly to benefit the landless people. The TSP funds were withdrawn for 19 months from 8.10.2001. Again in 2003, during the Tenth Five- Year Plan 50% TSP funds were made available to the LSG's. Considering the vulnerability, language problems and exploitation of the Tribals, in addition to the Gramasabhas, 'Oorukootam' was introduced exclusively meant for the adult members of the Tribal Population (w.e.f 31-05-2003). During the Eleventh Five-Year Plan period the forest dwellers started getting ownership to individual rights which paved the way to provide infrastructural facilities for them. But the land coming under the development rights for the purpose of providing basic amenities to hamlet is yet to be implemented with a very few exception. The Twelfth Five-Year Plan period witnessed the amendment of FRA in 2012 which allowed to give Community Rights relating to the collection, value addition and sale of non-wood forest produces. The Thirteenth Finance Commission awarded 148 crores for the benefit of the five Particularly Vulnerable Tribal groups (PVTGs) of Kerala. There is an increase in the flow of funds from the State plan from two per cent to three per cent since 2014-15. There has been reduction in share given to LSG's to an average 22 per cent. The increase in funds is now directed to Additional Tribal Sub Plan (ATSP). Another new idea is to divide the schemes into two viz., Green Book and Amber book where the schemes coming under former can go ahead with the starting of the financial year (April). There has been a move to include certain tribal pockets of five districts in the 5th Schedule of the constitution so as to implement PESA where Gramasabha is supreme and the same is pending before the MoTA.

79. To sum up, it is seen that the Tribal population of Kerala according to 2011 census is 4,84,839 which is only 1.45% of the total population of Kerala. There are 37 Tribal communities and of them 5 are coming under PVTG's. After 12 National Five-Year Plan periods, 8 Five-Year Plan under TSP, and 5 Five-Year Plan under LSG's, in general, the development of the Tribal population is not satisfactory. The advancement of certain communities is noteworthy while majority of them are found to be still marginalized. As a result within the Scheduled Tribes communities there are serious imbalances in growth. Broadly the target groups have formed into three layers viz., an upper layer who have stabilized their position, a middle layer struggling to raise their position to economic freedom and a lower layer who have not benefited out of planned change. Addressing 'Scheduled Tribes' as one category is going to harm the lower layer and would lead to further marginalization.

80. Therefore, the 14th Five Year Plan has to address this issue seriously. If development initiatives are going to drive away, the under developed communities to further marginalization, the fault is ours. So there should be community specific, family specific concerted efforts to ameliorate the situation within the coming Five Year Plan. It is a sorry state of affairs that the majority of the Tribal population has been waiting for the past six and half decades despite a constitutional mandate which clearly offers protection and development. The coming chapters are expected to analyze the situation in depth and would show the way to adopt better democratic planning strategies for the TSP in Kerala.



### CHAPTER 3

## REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF TSP SCHEMES/PROGRAMMES DURING XII AND XIII FIVE-YEAR PLANS

81. In order to ensure a comprehensive and holistic development of Scheduled Tribes in the country, the strategy of Tribal Sub plan (TSP) was introduced during the first year of fifth Five Year Plan (ie 1974-75). Socio-Economic development and protection of the tribals from all kinds of atrocities and exploitation are the twin objectives of TSP. As part of the strategy all states have to earmark an amount from the state plan, which is equal or more than proportionate to the ST population in the State, for the exclusive development of ST families therein.

82. Ever since the concept was introduced, the state had taken keen interest in allocating funds to the TSP, which was always more than proportionate. From 1974-75 to 1982-83 the TSP provision was distributed among the line departments (sectoral departments) after budgeting in their respective head of accounts. From 1983-84 to 1996-97 a portion of the TSP funds was distributed to the district level for the formulation and implementation of need based and tribal area specific development programmes, after identifying the tribal concentrations and tribal clusters in the State.

83. As directed by Government of India, Kerala also had identified the tribal concentrations in the State namely, Integrated Tribal Development Project areas (ITDP). This concept ensures spatial dimension to the Tribal Sub Plan programmes. More than 70 per cent of the ST population in the state is within the ITDP areas now. ITDPs were functioning from 1974-75 itself. From 1989-90 onwards the number of ITDPs were raised to seven from five, after reconstituting the boundaries of the ITDPs. Right from the very beginning, TSP programmes, are implemented in the state with high emphasis on ITDP areas.

84. After decentralizing the TSP in 1983-84, the state had established a body in each district for the formulation, implementation and monitoring of TSP in the districts under the control of the District Collectors. The name of the Body was District Level working Group (DLWG), the District Collector being the Chairman of the Committee. All District Level Officers implementing TSP were members of the working group.

85. For the purpose of vetting, clearing and for according administrative sanction for the projects, Government have reconstituted the District Level Working Group (DLWG) as the District Level Committee for SC/ST vide GO(P).No.11/2021/Planning Dated 28.09.2021 in all districts with the District Panchayath President as Chairman and the District Collector as Member Secretary and the District Level Officer of the Scheduled Tribes Development Department and the officers of the line departments as members. District Planning Officer is the convener of the District Level Committee. At the State level, the State Level Working Group, with Principal Secretary to Government, SC/ST

Development as Chairman, is functioning for vetting and approving the ST projects to be cleared at State level.

86. As per the direction of Govt. of India, the State pooled the TSP funds under various heads of account and brought to the single head of account of ST Development Department (STDD) during 1996-97. After the emergence of Local Governments (LGs), the State earmarked a sizable portion of the pooled TSP funds to the Local Governments (nearly 67%) during 1997-98. As soon as the Local Governments assumed power in the district and lower levels, the DLWGs in the districts ceased to exist from 1997-98.

87. From 9th plan (1997-98 to 2001-02) the State had earmarked nearly 67 per cent of the TSP funds every year to the LGs except in the year 2001-02 during which the TSP funds allotted to LGs were taken back. During 2002-03, no funds were allocated to the LGs; the entire TSP funds were under the jurisdiction of ST Development Department.

88. During 2003-04, 50 per cent of the TSP funds were distributed among the LGs. The remaining 50 per cent was under the control of the ST Development Department. Thereafter the quantum of TSP funds set apart for LGs has been decreasing. During 2016-17, the percentage of TSP quantum earmarked to LGs is only 22.85. The balance 77.15 per cent is under the jurisdiction of ST Development Department.

#### **Flow of TSP Funds from State Plan during 12th and 13th Five-Year Plan**

89. The amount earmarked to Tribal Sub Plan from State Plan is known as “flow to Tribal Sub Plan”. From 1974-75 themselves the yearly flows to TSP were always higher than the minimum based on the proportion of ST population in the State. From 1974-75 to 1996-97, a portion of the general sector funds was shown as notional flow to TSP. As the notional flows rarely materialized, it was stopped from 1997-98.

90. During 12th Plan ` 2,602.25 crore was earmarked as TSP flow from the state plan provision of ` 95,010 crore. This is 2.74 per cent of the state plan and is much higher than the overall flow of 2.05 per cent during 11th Plan.

91. The yearly TSP flows to ST Development Department has increased from 61.96 per cent in 2012-13 to 77.13 per cent during 2016-17. Whereas, the TSP fund flow to LGs in the same period has decreased from 38.04 per cent in 2012-13 to 22.87 per cent in 2016-17. Year-wise TSP flows during 12th FYP are given in table 7.

**Table 7:** Flow of TSP funds during 12th Five Year Plan

(Rs.in crore)

Year	TSP flow from State Plan	% of TSP flow from State Plan	TSP flow to STDD	% of TSP flow to STDD	TSP flow to LGS	% of TSP flow to LGS
2012-13	325.05	2.32	201.43	61.96	123.62	38.04

2013-14	389.85	2.29	265.55	68.11	124.30	31.88
2014-15	600.00	3.00	460.78	76.80	139.22	23.20
2015-16	604.50	3.02	465.28	76.97	139.22	23.03
2016-17	682.85	2.85	526.65	77.13	156.00	22.87
<b>Total</b>	<b>2602.25</b>	<b>2.74</b>	<b>1919.69</b>	<b>73.77</b>	<b>682.36</b>	<b>26.23</b>

Source: Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Government of Kerala

**Table 8:** Flow of TSP Funds during 13th Plan (Rs.in Crore)

Year	TSP flow from State Plan	% of TSP flow from State Plan	TSP flow to STDD	% of TSP flow to STDD	TSP flow to LGS	% of TSP flow to LGS
2017-18	751.08	2.83	575.08	76.56	176.00	23.43
2018-19	826.19	2.83	632.59	76.56	193.60	23.43
2019-20	866.26	2.83	663.27	76.56	202.99	23.43
2020-21	781.36	2.83	598.26	76.56	183.10	23.43
2021-22	781.36	2.83	598.26	76.56	183.10	23.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>4006.25</b>	<b>2.83</b>	<b>3067.46</b>	<b>76.56</b>	<b>938.79</b>	<b>23.43</b>

Source: Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Government of Kerala

92. During 13th Plan period an amount of ` 4,006.25 crore was earmarked as flow of TSP. This was 2.83 per cent of the state plan provision in 13th FYP. The year-wise flow to TSP during 13th FYP is shown in table 8 above.`

### Budget Provision and Expenditure under TSP during 13th Five-Year Plan

**Table 9 :**The Year Wise Allocation and Expenditure under TSP during 13th FYP (Rs.in Crore)

Year	STDD			Local Governments		
	Budget allocation	Expenditure	Percentage of Expenditure	Budget allocation	Expenditure	Percentage of expenditure
2017-18	575.08	533.75	92.81	176	135.76	77.14
2018-19	632.59	502.13	79.38	193.6	151.29	78.15
2019-20	663.27	428.46	64.60	202.99	110.55	54.46
2020-21	598.26	400.59	66.98	183.10	167.06	91.24
2021-22 (as on 02/22)	598.26	367.73	61.47	183.10	119.42	65.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>3067.46</b>	<b>2232.66</b>	<b>7279</b>	<b>938.79</b>	<b>684.08</b>	<b>72.87</b>

93. The overall outlay of STDD includes outlay of schemes implemented by KIRTADS, Rural Development Department and High Court. The percentage of expenditure by STDD was 92.81 per cent in 2017-18. It reduced to 79.38 per cent in 2018-19. In 2018-19, there was a general reduction in plan allocation in all sectors to the extent of 20 per cent to meet rehabilitation and restoration needs of the economy affected by floods.

94. The percentage expenditure by Local Governments shows an increasing trend in the first two years of 13th FYP. In 2019-20, expenditure was low both by the department and LGs because of treasury restrictions.

95. As in 2018-19, if revised outlay is considered, percentage expenditure of department at 86 per cent is much higher than the expenditure against budgeted outlay.

### **Important Schemes of STDD during 12th & 13th Five-Year Plans**

96. During 2016-17, the last year of 12th Plan there were 40 TSP schemes under the jurisdiction of STDD, including 50 per cent CSS of STDD and State share contribution to IAY (the schemes is CSS of Rural Development Department). In addition to these there were eleven 100 per cent CSS, including SCA to TSP. For ensuring qualitative change and progress in the planning process, the STDD brought in the following reforms during 12th Plan.

1. It was decided to make sector/subsector wise allocation of TSP funds based on certain principles
2. Similar schemes were brought together and put under the title “Umbrella Schemes” and thereby controlled the increasing tendency of number of schemes.
3. Online submission of Annual Plan proposals
4. From 2016-17 a new system of budgeting of plan schemes was introduced, whereby all top priority schemes which can be implemented quickly are placed in a part namely, Green Book and all others are shown in another part – Amber Book.

97. Accordingly, the STDD implemented 42 TSP schemes including 50 per cent Centrally Sponsored Schemes and the 40 per cent State Share contribution to the 60 per cent CSSs namely, PMAY and DAY/NRLM maneuvered by the Rural Development Department. Besides these there were Ten 100 per cent Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs). Apart from all these the STDD is implementing programmes utilizing Special Central Assistance funds (SCA to TSP) released by Government of India as additionally to TSP.

98. Broadly these schemes can be categorized as Education, Housing, Health Care, Protection and Rehabilitation, Economic Development and other need based programmes. In the light of this, a broad sector wise analysis of these schemes during 12th and 13th Five

Year Plan is given below.

### Education

99. In order to impart high quality education to selected ST Students, the department runs 13 Nursery Schools, 10 Kindergarten, 3 Balavadies, 1 Vikasvadi, 3 Balavijnan Kendrams, 7 Peripatetic education centres for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups, 20 Model Residential Schools, 22 single teacher schools, 106 Prematric hostels, 9 post-matric hostels, 12 training centres, 2 Vocational Training Centres, 1 Industrial Training Institute under the ST Development Department. Apart from post matric and pre-matric scholarships, Ayyankali Talent Search scholarship, peripatetic education and sports promotion helps in overall development of tribal students.

100. The plan outlay and expenditure under Education Sector of ST Development Department during 12th and 13th Plan are shown in table 10 below.

**Table 10 :** Budgeted Outlay and Expenditure under Education Sector of ST Development Department (Rs. in lakh)

Year	12 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan			Year	13 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan		
	Budgeted Outlay	Expenditure	% of Expenditure		Budgeted Outlay	Expenditure	% of Expenditure
2012-13	8071.00	8071.00	100	2017-18	17090.01	14333.17	83.87
2013-14	9798.70	9798.70	100	2018-19	19606.00	15903.43	81.12
2014-15	12877.65	12877.65	100	2019-20	17939.50	10006.00	55.78
2015-16	13480.02	13480.02	100	2020-21	16270.50	12569.70	77.25
2016-17	15530.01	12140.4	78.17	2021-22 (as on 05/10/2021)	15924.50	4691.71	29.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>59757.38</b>	<b>56367.77</b>	<b>94.32</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>86830.51</b>	<b>57504.01</b>	<b>66.22</b>

Source: Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Government of Kerala

101. Nearly 27 per cent of the gross plan outlay of STDD is segregated for educational programmes. For example, ₹ 159.24 crore has been budgeted during 2021-22 for educational programmes of STDD. This is 26.61 per cent of the Gross plan outlay ₹ 598.26 crore during the year.

102. In the first four years of 12th Plan the STDD could spent the entire amounts budgeted under educational programmes. An amount of ₹ 597.57 crore was allocated during 12th Plan and achieved 94.32 per cent of expenditure.

103. In the last five years (2017-22), ₹.86,830.51 lakh was earmarked for the promotion of education of ST students. Of this, 66.22 per cent expenditure was incurred.

104. Besides plan funds, the STDD is using a sizable portion of their non-plan funds for educational programmes. Disbursement of pre matriculation and post matriculation

scholarships, running and maintenance of pre-matric/post matric hostels, running ITCs etc. are the major educational programmes financed utilising non plan funds. During 2016-21, ₹ 98.73 crore spent under non-plan for educational programmes of STDD.

### Housing

105. The policy of the State Government is to provide housing to all Scheduled Tribes so that there will be no homeless Scheduled Tribe family in the State. As per the Survey conducted by the ST Development Department in 2018, it is estimated that about 16,070 tribal families possessing land are homeless and 7,930 families are landless.

106. From 2017-18 onwards housing programme has been implementing through LIFE Mission. Apart from the financial assistance from State Plan, assistance for housing is also provided by Kerala Urban and Rural Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (KURDFC). The funds earmarked by the Local Governments from their Tribal Sub- Plan fund and Prime Ministers Awaas Yojana are also utilised for providing housing for STs.

107. Out of the 6,709 houses sanctioned by the ST Department under various housing schemes in 2016-17, 1,583 houses were completed as on 2021-22. In the phase I of LIFE Mission, it was targeted to complete 12,054 unfinished houses, of which, 11,377 have been completed. Under Phase II of LIFE Mission, 3,380 houses have been sanctioned, of which 2,748 houses have been completed. In Phase III, out of the 487 houses sanctioned, 265 have been completed.

**Table 11:** Budgeted Outlay & Expenditure of various tribal housing programmes under STDD during 12th & 13th Five-Year Plans

(Rupees in lakh)							
12 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan				13 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan			
Year	Outlay	Expenditure	%	Year	Outlay	Expenditure	%
2012-13	2500.00	2499.90	99.99	2017-18	11508.00	11482.35	99.78
2013-14	2750.00	2749.87	99.99	2018-19	12700.00	13784.85	108.54
2014-15	3300.00	3271.15	99.13	2019-20	5720.00	8720.00	152.45
2015-16	4873.00	4813.57	98.78	2020-21	5720.00	6163.54	96.05
2016-17	5047.3	4629.36	91.72	2021-22(as on 05/10/ 2021)	5720.00	3786.70	66.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>18470.3</b>	<b>17963.85</b>	<b>97.25</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>41368</b>	<b>43937.44</b>	<b>106.21</b>

Source: Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Government of Kerala

108. The STDD budgeted 18470.30 lakh during of 12th FY P (2012-13 to 2016-17) and expended ₹ 17,963.85 lakh (97.25%).

109. During 13th FYP (as on 5th October 2021) ₹ 41,368.00 lakh was earmarked for

housing sector and expended more than 100 per cent.

110. On analysis of the physical targets and achievements under tribal housing it is clear that the number of sanctioned houses of previous years is varying year after year. This is due to the inclusion of spill over houses for which revised sanction is accorded in the current year. The number of houses constructed can exceed the number of houses sanctioned in a particular year due to the completion of spill over houses of previous years. Huge spill over commitments are clear indicators of the poor performance in tribal housing. In the light of this, it is suggested that the STDD may launch a special monitoring mechanism for streamlining and improving the progress of tribal housing in the state.

111. The State Share of Pradan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) - (40% State Share)- is given by STDD for implementation of the 60 per cent centrally sponsored housing scheme by the Block Panchayats. During 2021-22, an amount of ₹ 20.00 crore has been budgeted as state share for the PMAY housing under TSP.

**Table 12 :** Physical Progress of PMAY housing under TSP

Sl. No.	Year	No. of houses sanctioned	No. of Houses Completed
1	2019-20	58	146
2	2020-21	29	49
3	2021-22 (as on 05/10/21)	18	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>105</b>	<b>199</b>

Source: Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Government of Kerala

112. Similar to the STDD, the progress of PMAY housing under TSP also is poor. During the 5 year period from 2011-12 to 2015-16, 28,354 houses were targeted. But only 18,299 were sanctioned and 10,391 completed (56.78%). The progress is distressing during 2014-15 and 2015-16. Delay in beneficiary selection, delay in getting central release from Government of India, delay in releasing Grama and District Panchayat shares (25% each) to Block Panchayat for meeting the supplementary assistance needed for equalizing the PMAY unit cost with the tribal housing rate of the State etc. are certain reasons for the delay. In the last three years of 13th FYP 105 houses were sanctioned and completed. 199 Nos.

113. Apart from contributing TSP shares to PMAY housing, the Grama and District Panchayats are implementing their own tribal housing programmes in the tribal areas in their jurisdiction. A few NGOs are also engaged with tribal housing in the State, but only marginally

### **Rehabilitation of Landless ST Families**

114. The Tribal Resettlement and Development Mission (TRDM) was set up in the

State during 2001 as a part of the agreement signed by the Government while ending the land-struggle of Adivasi Gothra Mahasabha in October 2001. The TRDM is functioning well under STDD in the state, barring few shortcomings.

115. The Mission aims at providing at least one acre of land per tribal family, subject to a maximum of 5 acres, based on a master plan. Resettlement will be done on project basis with emphasis on planning and implementation through Oorukuttams.

116. The TRDM has so far identified 14,230 landless ST families. Out of them 7,033 families have been given 9161.49 acres of land hitherto. During 11th Plan ₹8,008.25 lakh was budgeted for the rehabilitation programmes and spent the entire amount (100%). The financial progress during 12th Plan (first 4 years) was also noticeable – as against ₹ 8171 lakh budgeted, ₹7956 lakh was utilised (97.37%). In the year 2016-17, ₹4200 lakh has been earmarked for the scheme.

**Table 13:** Land Distributed among ST Families Without Purchase by TRDM during 13th FYP

Land Distributed among ST families without purchase (BY TRDM)		
Year	No. of Families	Land Distributed (acres)
2017-18	667	558
2018-19	1030	801
2019-20	679	298.19
2020-21	310	363.76
2021-22	-	-
Total	2686	2020.95

Source: STDD

117. During 13th FYP 2686 ST families were benefited by TRDM scheme & the extent of land distributed was 2020.95 acres.

118. The details of land purchased and distributed (ashikkumbhumi) among ST families during 12th FYP are given below. 701 ST families were benefited by the land purchase scheme. The extent of land purchased was 280.315 acres costing ₹ 5,807.17 lakh. Land was purchased in all districts except Kannur and Thiruvananthapuram.

**Table 14:** Land Purchased and distributed among ST families during 12th Plan

Year	Land Purchased (acres)	No of families	Amount (Rs.in lakh)
2012-13	-	-	-
2013-14	23.889	61	534.41

2014-15	127.386	376	2279.90
2015-16	103.272	208	1644.56
2016-17	25.768	56	1348.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>280.315</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>5807.17</b>

Source: STDD

119. As per the estimates of ST Department, in 2020-21 there are 7930 landless STs in the State. The land distribution under TRDM is through land bank scheme, distribution of vested forest land and Forest Rights Act.

**Table 15:** Details of land distribution from 2017-18 to 2021-22 is given below.

Year	No. of Beneficiaries	Distributed Land including FRA, Land Bank Scheme & Vested Forests etc. (in Acres)
2017-18	1027	819.61
2018-19	1920	1753.15
2019-20	1037	674.85
2020-21	691	568.47
2021-22 (upto 05/10/2021)	182	74.61

Source: STDD

120. In 2020-21 (4th year of the 13th Plan) altogether, 568.47 acres of land were distributed among 691 tribals under various schemes. (as on October 05, 2021).

### **Tribal Health Programmes**

121. Nearly 20 per cent of the ST families in the state are residing in remote/inaccessible areas, mostly within forest. Consequently they are not in a position to fully avail the general health facilities provided by the Health Service Department. In view of this the Health Service Department runs 63 primary health centers in tribal areas.

122. Besides these, the STDD has set up 4 midwifery centres, 17 Ayurveda dispensaries, 5 allopathic dispensaries / OP Clinics, one Ayurveda hospital and 2 mobile medical units in tribal areas. These units have also helped a lot in providing timely medical attention to the ailing ST families.

123. The STDD had established 2 specialty hospitals for tribals during 9th and 10th FYP periods; one at Mananthavady and the other at Kottathara in Attapady. These hospitals were later transferred to the Health Services Department for operational convenience.

124. In 2016-17 and 2017-18, the department started 14 new mobile medical clinics (with GPS facility) to provide health service at the door steps of the tribes. The clinics are equipped with doctors, paramedics and modern medical amenities. The mobile clinics are

of immense help for the tribes living in interiors.

125. During the the 12th FYP period STDD allocated ₹ 6,530.36 lakh and spent ₹ 6,367.89 lakh (97.51%). An amount of ₹ 21,076.50 lakh has been allocated for health programmes during 13th FYP and expended ₹ 17,350.95 lakh registering 82.32 per cent of expenditure. Year-wise outlay and expenditure on health during 12th & 13th FYP are shown below.

**Table 16:** Tribal Health Programmes of STDD

(Rupees in lakh)

12 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan				13 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan			
Year	Outlay	Expenditure	%	Year	Outlay	Expenditure	%
2012-13	220.36	214.76	97.46	2017-18	3675.00	3957.62	107.69
2013-14	1230.00	1167.29	94.90	2018-19	4281.00	4239.36	99.03
2014-15	1120.00	1075.49	96.03	2019-20	4373.50	3281.18	75.02
2015-16	1310.00	1309.96	99.99	2020-21	4373.50	4246.37	97.09
2016-17	2650.00	2600.39	98.13	2021-22 (as on 05/10/2021)	4373.50	1626.42	37.19
<b>Total</b>	6530.36	6367.89	97.51	<b>Total</b>	21076.50	17350.95	82.32

Source: STDD

126. Besides TSP, the STDD has been allocating non-plan funds for the functioning of the medical units and mobile medical units of the department

127. Out of ₹4,373.50 lakh budgeted under TSP of STDD during 2021-22, ₹ 2,500 lakh is meant for the running of health care institutions and also for providing medical assistance through various hospitals. From the remaining provision ₹1650.00 lakh is earmarked for the scheme “JananiJanmaRaksha” meant for the pre-natal & post-natal care of tribal mothers and their infants. For combating the problem of sickle cell anemia ₹ 223.50 lakh has been allocated.

### **Critical Gap filling scheme or Corpus Fund under TSP**

128. After allocating TSP funds to various ongoing schemes, a portion of the balance funds is maintained as a kitty for meeting the fund requirement of various critical gap filling programmes under TSP. This scheme namely Corpus Fund is in operation from 2002-03 onwards.

129. As far as ST Development is concerned this is a need based and useful scheme, which is operated on a project based mode. While funds under this scheme can be used as a critical gap filler in any sector of ST Development, priority is given to programmes such as self-employment and skill development, water supply, sanitation, electrification, roads, bridges, pathways, projects for IEC, vocational training and facilitation centers, micro enterprises and income generating programmes, admission of ST Students in international

institutions etc.

130. Schemes up to ₹ 25 lakh are sanctioned by the District Level Committee for SC/ST in the Districts. Schemes above ₹ 25 lakh are placed before the State Level Working Group for approval.

131. The year-wise allocation and expenditure of TSP corpus for during 12th and 13th Five-Year Plans are given below.

**Table 17:** Utilization of TSP Corpus Fund during 12th & 13th Five-Year Plans

(Rupees in lakh)

12 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan				13 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan			
Year	Outlay	Expenditure	%	Year	Outlay	Expenditure	%
2012-13	2300	2348.62	100+	2017-18	5079.00	5022.23	98.88
2013-14	3460	3400.98	98.29	2018-19	4500.00	4054.77	90.11
2014-15	5000	4744.00	94.88	2019-20	5800.00	3157.77	54.44
2015-16	972.58	941.10	96.76	2020-21	4000.00	4453.57	111.34
2016-17	5057.69	4754.41	94.00	2021-22 (as on 05/10/21)	4000.00	582.82	14.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>16790.27</b>	<b>16189.11</b>	<b>96.41</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>23379.00</b>	<b>17271.16</b>	<b>73.87</b>

Source: STDD

132. The original budget provision of TSP corpus fund during 2015-16 was ₹ 4,924.99 lakh. As per Government decision, an amount of ₹ 3,952.41 lakh was resumed from this provision for utilisation in loan waiver schemes benefitting ST families.

133. During 12th FYP period ₹ 16,790.27 lakh was budgeted and ₹ 16,189.11 lakh (96.41%) spent under corpus fund. Similarly an amount of ₹ 23,379 lakh was allocated and ₹ 17,271.16 lakh (as on 05/10/21) expended during the period of 13th FYP. The utilization percentage was 73.87, which is lower than that of 12th FYP.

134. More than 400 projects belonging to all sectors of development have been financed under TSP corpus fund so far. In the circumstances, it is suggested that a critical evaluation study may be undertaken in the area of corpus fund projects for assessing the end use of the assets created, sustainability of the educational/training programmes taken up, self-employment and other economic development programmes launched etc.

### **Pooled Fund**

135. From 2009-10 onwards a portion of the TSP funds of STDD is earmarked as a kitty for financing special projects under ST development submitted by line departments, autonomous bodies, co-operative institutions, registered charitable societies, notable NGOs, Universities etc. The project proposals are first scrutinized by the State Planning Board and viable proposals are forwarded to the STDD for placing in the State Level Working Group for approval.

136. During 12th FYP (from 2012-13 to 2016-17), ₹ 5,838.04 lakh was budgeted and ₹ 5,806.54 lakh (99.46%) spent under pooled fund. As contrary to this, an amount of ₹.3000.00 lakh was allocated and ₹ 1164.08 lakh spent (41.64%) during 13th FYP (as on 5th October 2021). The fund utilization during 13th FYP is very low compared to that of 12th FYP. Year wise utilization of pooled fund during 12th and 13th Five-Year Plan is given below.

**Table 18:** Utilization of TSP Pooled Fund during 12th and 13th Five-Year Plan

(Rupees in lakh)

12 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan				13 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan			
Year	Outlay	Expenditure	%	Year	Outlay	Expenditure	%
2012-13	1250.00	1247.54	99.80	2017-18	1000.00	416.21	41.62
2013-14	1300.00	1300.00	100.00	2018-19	1000.00	364.55	36.45
2014-15	1288.04	1288.04	100.00	2019-20	500.00	143.72	28.74
2015-16	1000.00	839.00	83.90	2020-21	200.00	200.00	100
2016-17	1000.00	1131.96	113.20	2021-22 (as on 05/10/21)	300.00	39.60	13.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5838.04</b>	<b>5806.54</b>	<b>99.46</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3000.00</b>	<b>1164.08</b>	<b>38.80</b>

Source: STDD

137. Cancer control programmes among ST people, conduct of job oriented technical courses/training programmes, electrification of ST settlements, supply of seedlings and millets to ST families, organizing of agricultural training programmes, integrated sustainable development of ST colonies, tribal janamaithry policing, payment of arrear electricity charges of ST families, three day meals programme in 100 paniya settlements, job linked training and placement assistance, comprehensive agricultural development project in Attapady, Milk producing and marketing programme of MILMA in collaboration with TRDM etc are certain important projects taken up utilizing pooled fund.

138. As in the case of TSP Corpus Fund, an evaluation study of projects taken up utilizing pooled fund also may be undertaken by a competent external agency with the objective of finding – how far the benefits accrued have reached the ST families/beneficiaries, sustainability of the programmes, shortfalls(if any) etc. While doing this, priority may be given to those with high project cost.

#### **Additional Tribal Sub Plan (ATSP)/Special package**

139. This is a special package programme launched during 2014-15 by allocating funds in addition to the normal share of TSP in the State. It is utilized for the socio economic development of ST population living in ST settlements, particularly those in inaccessible/remote areas.

140. Infrastructural facilities like house to houseless ST families, water supply, sanitation,

resettlement of ST families living in difficult conditions; tie up with MGNREGS in providing wage employment; health, nutrition, women & children development programmes; programmes for preserving the tribal dialects and culture; tie up with Kudumbasree in alleviating the incidence of tribal poverty; programmes of ICDS, NSAP etc. are certain components of the package.

141. At state level the scheme is jointly monitored by the Hon'ble Minister of SC/ST Development and the Hon'ble Vice Chairman, State Planning Board. At the district level the District Collectors periodically monitor and review the scheme.

142. During 2017-18 an amount of ₹ 9999.99 lakh was budgeted for the scheme and ₹ 5481.52 lakh spent. This is 54.81 per cent of the allocation. In 2018-19 ₹ 110 crore was allocated and ₹ 54.81 crore spent (9%) under ATSP. ₹ 150 crore has been budgeted during the current year 2016-17 also and the scheme is progressing. In 2021-22 of the 94 colonies selected under this programme, the construction works in 22 colonies have been completed.

### **Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP)**

143. The Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs releases SCA as an addition to the TSP efforts of the States. Accordingly the Government of India is releasing SCA funds to the States from 1974-75 itself, the year in which TSP was launched. It is mainly meant for taking up income generating/economic development programmes beneficial to ST families. Infrastructural programmes incidental to income generation can also be taken up under the scheme.

144. As per the recent guidelines issued by Government of India, after formation of tribal clusters on the basis of tribal population, tribal self-help groups have to be formed within the clusters. These groups are supposed to initiate income generating activities through increased productivity and value addition with emphasis on watershed development, minor irrigation, horticulture, food processing, cultivation and preservation of medicinal / aromatic plants, etc.

145. Whereas during 12th FYP an amount of ₹ 3,982.2 lakh (93.32%) was spent against a budget provision of ₹ 4,267 lakh.

146. During 13th FYP an amount of ₹ 5,300.00 lakh was budgeted for utilizing the SCA funds released by Government of India. But ₹ 2,911.28 lakh only could be spent in the period. This was only 54.92 per cent of the budget allocation. 368671 STs were benefited by the programme. The progress of the scheme during 2018-21 was poor.

147. Delay in submitting project proposals, Utilisation Certificate and Expenditure statement to Government of India, absence of viable projects in the proposals made etc. resulted in delay in the actual release of SCA from Government of India and also lead to a reduction in normal fund release.

**Table 19 : Utilisation of Special Central Assistance to TSP**

(Rupees in lakh)

Year	12 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan				13 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan				
	Out lay	Expenditure	%	STs Benefitted	Year	Outlay	Expenditure	%	STs Benefitted
2012-13	600	369.42	61.57	4485	2017-18	1300	1255.31	96.56	7104
2013-14	767	.46	99.54	4500	2018-19	1000	545.06	54.51	134144
2014-15	700	699.82	99.97	5000	2019-20	1000	297.78	29.78	139248
2015-16	1000	992.85	99.28	5485	2020-21	1000	534.28	53.43	53175
2016-17	1200	1156.65	96.38	9250	2021-22 (as on 05/10/21)	1000	278.85	27.89	35000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4267</b>	<b>3982.2</b>	<b>93.32</b>	<b>28720</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5300</b>	<b>2911.28</b>	<b>54.93</b>	<b>368671</b>

Source: STDD

**Protection and Rehabilitation of ST families****The Forest Right Act 2006**

148. The STs and other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 was brought into force from 31-12-2006. As soon as the Act was enacted, the STDD formed a Cell in the Department for the formulation and implementation of programmes/projects utilising the provisions of the Act. Forest Right Committees (FRCs) in the settlements and 3 tier Committees at State, District and Sub Divisional levels were formed to scrutinize and pass the eligible claims. Training was given to all the members of the Forest Right Committees.

149. As per the Act there are three types of Rights for which the ST families can make claims- individual rights, community rights and development rights. Under the individual rights-out of 43,466 claims received in the State so far, 38,941 claims passed by Grama Sabha, 29,115 claims passed by Sub Division Level Committees(SDLCs), 27,909 claims were passed by District Level Committee and title deeds (record of rights) issued to 26,745 claims. The extent of forest land involved in this case is 35,433.87acres.

150. Whereas the progress of community rights is dismal- out of 1109 claims made up to February 2022, , 825 claims passed by Grama Sabha, 505 claims passed by Sub Division Level Committees(SDLCs), 383 claims were passed by District Level Committee and title deeds (record of rights) issued to 183 claims

151. In the case of development rights the progress is comparatively better than community rights - out of the 945 claims made 503 titles. Forest land involved and allowed by Forest Department against the claims was 187.38 acres. Other Development claims are pending with the Forest Department. The table showing the progress of implementation of the provisions of Forest Right Act 2006 in the State is given below.

**Table 20:** Progress of Forest Right Act 2006 (up to February - 2022)

Sl. No.	Items	Individual Right	Community Right	Development Right
1.	No of FRCs constituted	662	662	662
2.	No of claims received by FRCs so far	43466	1109	945
3.	No of claims passed by Grama Sabha	38941	825	945
4.	No of claims passed by Sub Division Level Committees(SDLCs)	29115	505	-
5.	No of claims passed by Forest Department	-	-	833
6.	No. of claims passed by District Level Committee(DLCs)	27909	383	
7.	No of titles issued	26745	183	503
8.	No of claims in which Rights issued	26745	183	503
9.	Extent of land (acres)	35433.87	-	187.38

Source: STDD

152. During the 13th FYP ₹ 200.03 lakh was budgeted and ₹ 161.97 lakh (80.97%) spent. The progress of implementation of the scheme is appreciable, compared to other states. Funds for implementation of the provisions were received from Government of India as 100% CSS.

### **Kerala STs (Restriction on Transfer by & Restoration of Lands Act) 1999**

153. Even though the Act was first passed in 1976 the provisions could not be implemented due to massive protest from the non tribals who encroached the tribal lands. After making several amendments and finally framing the new Act in 1999 also there has been no progress in implementing the provisions of Act.

154. As per the provisions of the Act: -

1. At least one acre of land has to be allotted to landless ST families who have lost land by alienation. Whereas those ST families who have less than one acre of land have to be provided residual land to ensure one acre under their possession.
2. If alienated land exceeds 5 acres, the excess land has to be recovered and handed over to the loser family. Action has to be initiated to comply with the above provisions of the Act.
3. The attempt to alienate the land and usufructs in the land owned by ST families are also reported to be prevalent and all details are kept as top secret by both parties. This practice is also to be curbed to resolve the land problem permanently.

4. As per KST Act 1999, transfer of land belongs to STs are prohibited. But still documents are registering in Sub Registrar offices on the pretext that there is no mention anywhere that the transferee is a member of STs. Suitable remedy is the need of the hour.

155. On the basis of several individual petitions received, the Supreme Court ordered the State in 2010 to implement the provisions of the Act and restore the lost lands to ST families within 2011. Due to immediate follow up the State received 120 acres of land from Government of India at Thatheyalam in Mannarghat (Palakkad district). The Sub Collector, Ottapalam had initiated action to distribute the lands. But forest and environmental clearances are yet to be received. Similarly an extent of 444 acres of land was received in Wayanad also for distribution among the ST families. In this case also forest and environmental clearances are pending.

156. During 2011-12 ₹ 5 lakh was spent for initiating action on the rehabilitation and development of the beneficiary families. From 2012-13 to 2015-16 ₹ 154.8 lakh (73.77%) was utilized out of ₹ 209.84 lakh allocated. Major portion of the funds was given to the Revenue Department for the rehabilitation and development of the targeted ST families. And in 13th Five Year Plan period from 2017-18 to 2021-22 ₹. 3.14 lakh was utilized out of ₹ 130.00 lakh allotted.

Implementation of Provisions of Prevention of Atrocities against STs Act 1989(amended in 2015)-50% CSS

157. Atrocities against STs are comparatively low in Kerala. However the State has set up a cell under an ADGP of Police Department to deal with the cases registered under the Act. The system has been performing well in collaboration with STDD. The State has succeeded even to find out the culprits responsible for unwed ST mothers in the State through DNA tests.

158. For meeting the expenditure associated with the case procedures, rehabilitation programmes for the affected etc. the STDD is implementing a 50 per cent CSS from 1990. The State has ensured all possible rehabilitation packages under the scheme so far. The STDD budgeted ₹ 127.18 lakh during 12th FYP and spent ₹ 119.97 lakh (94.33%). During 13th FYP – out of ₹ 400 lakh allocated ₹ 303.6 lakh (75.9%) was expended.

### **Tribal Sub Plan of Local Government (LG) Institutions**

159. As follow up to the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, three tier Panchayats and Urban bodies came into being in the State from 1996-97. The three tier system was assigned a major role in the socio economic transition of the people, especially the SCs and STs. As advised by the State Finance Commission, it was decided to devolve 30 per cent of the State Plan funds to the LGs for taking up need based and location specific schemes/projects ensuring people's participation in formulation, implementation and monitoring of them. Accordingly the peoples plan campaign was introduced and the devolved funds were given to the LGs as grant in aid from 1997-98.

160. In the plan grant allotted to LGs there were categories:- general, Special Component Plan(SCP) and Tribal Sub Plan(TSP). Hence the TSP is a major source of the plan grant given to the LGs. As stated above during the initial years of decentralization, 67 per cent of the TSP allocation was devolved to the LGs. From the very beginning of decentralized planning the progress of TSP was always less than that of the general plan. This created an impression that the LGs are not interested in TSP implementation though there are several LGs, especially the Grama Panchayats involved in TSP with added enthusiasm.

161. During 10th and 11th FYP the LGs were mandated to make compensatory allocations for equalizing the expenditure of TSP with the general. Thereafter they are allowed to carry over the unutilized quantum of TSP funds (applicable to SCP and general as well) to the succeeding financial year for utilization. Even then the situation has not improved; TSP expenditure still falls behind the general plan.

162. Consequently the TSP flow given (as stated early) to the LGs has been reducing continuously from 2004-05 and it is 22.85 per cent only during 2016-17, the last year of 12th FYP. The year wise outlays and expenditure of LGs under TSP compared with STDD during 11th and 12th Five-Year Plan have been narrated early.

163. The LGs formulate and implement their TSP projects as per the guidelines issued by Local Self Government Department from time to time. The projects are formulated with the participation of tribal families through their oorukuttams. The oorukuttams usually meet for project formulation, beneficiary selection and monitoring. The project proposals are originated and prioritized in the oorukuttams. The LGs cannot change their priority.

164. LGs always formulate TSP projects in the sectors – housing, drinking water, sanitation, education, health care, nutrition, agriculture, skill development training, animal husbandry, link roads and connectivity, pathways, footbridges, electrification, employment generation, soil and water conservation etc. The Annual TSP Proposals of LGs are approved by the District Planning Committees before implementation of the TSP projects therein.

165. The Year wise TSP outlay and expenditure of LGs during 12th and 13th Plan are given below

**Table 21:** TSP outlay and expenditure of LGs during 12th FYP

(Rupees in crore)

12 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan			
Year	Budgeted outlay	Expenditure	% of Expenditure
2012-13	123.62	102.00	82.51
2013-14	124.30	136.89	110.13
2014-15	139.22	121.61	87.35
2015-16	139.22	149.43	107.33

2016-17	156.00	109.74	70.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>682.36</b>	<b>619.67</b>	<b>90.81</b>

Source: STDD

**Table 22 : TSP outlay and expenditure of LGs during 13th FYP**

(Rupees in crore)

13 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan			
Year	Budgeted outlay	Expenditure	% of Expenditure
2017-18	176	135.76	77.14
2018-19	193.6	151.29	78.15
2019-20	202.99	110.55	54.46
2020-21	183.10	167.06	91.24
2021-22 (as on 15 <sup>th</sup> march 2022)	183.10	119.42	65.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>938.79</b>	<b>684.08</b>	<b>72.87</b>

Source: STDD

## CHAPTER 4

### STRATEGY FOR XIV FIVE YEAR PLAN

#### Part A

#### **Vision on Scheduled Tribe Development for XIV Five-Year Plan**

166. Ever since the First Five-Year Plan, special schemes /plans and programmes were made and implemented for the socio-economic development of tribal community. However, a systematic and rational approach towards tribal development had been formulated by Government in its Fifth Five-Year Plan. The Task Force of the Central Planning Commission recommended that for ensuring a balanced socioeconomic development, it would be necessary for the Fifth and subsequent Five-Year Plans with the starting up of a Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) strategy. The tribal sub Plan strategy emphasized area development with a focus on improving the quality of life of the tribal communities.

167. In spite of the various welfare measures initiated and the constitutional protections given, the present status of the tribal community is characterized by social backwardness, economic vulnerability, poor health and low educational standards. The community is also inflicted with social evils like alcoholism and drug abuse. The incidence of poverty among the tribal groups of Kerala is half that of all India (KDR,2008). The Index of Deprivation is based on the basic necessities for wellbeing such as housing quality, access to drinking water, electricity for lighting, good sanitation, health care initiatives and education. Accordingly, the deprivation index of the state was worked out as 57.9 per cent in 2001, while the same for the state as a whole was 29.5 per cent. The state's tribal deprivation rate based on Census 2011 is 43.34 per cent which is much lower than the rate of 57.9 per cent in 2001. Among the districts, Idukki has the highest tribal deprivation rate (51.94%) followed by Palakkad (50.78%), Kasargod (49.81%) Wayanad (48.66%) and Kannur (42.02%) etc. This clearly depicts the positive impact of ST development programmes during Tenth and Eleventh Plan.

#### **Major Issues of Scheduled Tribes Development**

168. The major issues faced by the Community are summarized below

1. Education: low literacy rates, poor standard of education, high rates of dropouts.
2. Lack of access to health care facilities.
3. Poverty.
4. Landlessness and issues of Resettlement.
5. Lack of proper dwelling houses.
6. Lack of basic amenities and critical infrastructure viz., road connectivity, power supply, drinking water, health facilities etc.
7. Lack of public amenities - suitable anganwadi buildings, recreation facilities/

playground, cultural centres/reading rooms, library facilities, burial grounds etc.

8. Lack of social, political and economic empowerment.
9. Lack of handholding and support structure for likelihood activities.
10. Remoteness of tribal habitations and associated threats.
11. Exploitation by vested interest groups.
12. Degradation of cultural values.
13. Inadequacy of employment oriented skill development.
14. Lack of Institutional credit/banking facilities.

### **Vision for Scheduled Tribes Development**

169. For the welfare and betterment of Scheduled tribe peoples in the state, the vision of the Scheduled Tribes Development Department is “To evolve an educated, skilled, economically self-sufficient and progressive tribal society through strategic planning and empowerment, which is at par with the mainstream society in every aspect of life without altering their original cultural identity”.

### **Development Strategy**

170. At present, everything concerned with the development of Scheduled Tribes in the state is the responsibility of the Scheduled Tribes Development Department. In spite of this approach, the role of Scheduled Tribes Development Department may be confined to that of a nodal agency and facilitator. All the development departments and public sector undertakings like Kerala State Electricity Board, Kerala Water Authority and other line departments should play pivotal roles in the development of Scheduled Tribes in the State. The Scheduled Tribes Development Department may take the leading role in integrating the activities of various agencies in the development of Scheduled Tribes. The programmes of line department and local governments may be organically integrated.

171. It is visualized that successful implementation of the Thirteenth Five-Year Plan shall result in uplift of the tribal communities at par with the mainstream society through social and economic empowerment leading to better quality of life. Development strategy for Scheduled Tribes should be framed on the basis of the following objectives.

1. Speeding up the process of social and economic development by augmenting educational and income levels.
2. Elimination of exploitation in all forms
3. Improving the quality of life
4. Building on the innate strengths of tribal people and make them self-reliant.

5. Taking legislative and executive measures/programmes for prevention of land alienation and restoration of land already alienated.
6. Innovative strategy for improving quality and quantity of public service delivery.
7. Dovetailing central and State Government Tribal Development strategies.
8. Sustainable natural resource management and environment protection.
9. Participatory and community managed development.
10. Preservation of social and cultural values.
11. Convergence and synergy of activities of various stakeholders

**Mission: The Strategy Frame Work**

**172. For attaining the objectives mentioned above and prioritizing the interventions, the following strategy is suggested.**

**Participatory Development**

1. Policy support from Government.
2. Involvement of the community in all spheres of the plan.
3. Use of local resources and manpower in formulation and implementation of the plan.
4. Interdepartmental coordination for effective implementation of the plan.

**Natural Resource Management**

1. Watershed approach for farm based livelihood
2. Promotion of organic cultivation/natural farming
3. Joint forest management.

**Livelihood Support System, Training and Development**

1. Integration of farm, allied and non-farm activities to maximise family income.
2. Ensuring backward and forward linkages for livelihood options
3. Promotion of value addition.
4. Ensuring wage employment
5. Training on Entrepreneurship development & Skill Development

**Habitat Solutions**

1. Cost effective, community specific housing plans
2. Shelter to livestock

3. Promotion of non -conventional energy sources.

### **Building of Infrastructure**

1. Improving connectivity (roads, bridges, walkways)
2. Providing security to crop, property and inhabitants from wild animals
3. Power/electricity to domestic and farm/enterprises
4. Providing better transport and communication facilities
5. Providing social infrastructure-PHCs, Agriculture input centres, Community centres, burial grounds etc.
6. Marketing arrangements

### **Social Re-engineering**

1. Promoting community based /owned organizations like, Self Help Groups, Neighbourhood Groups, Ooruvikasana Samithis, Vanasamrakshana Samithies, Farmers clubs, collectives for agriculture and marketing, etc.

### **Financial Inclusion**

1. Provision of banking services &access to institutional credit.
2. Spreading financial literacy and improvement of saving habits.
3. Social security measures like insurance coverage.

### **Prioritizing Education and Literacy through Formal, Informal System**

1. Creation of basic infrastructure for education including MRS, Hostels, etc
2. Encourage child education through anganwadies,
3. Parallel schooling for dropouts /adults

### **Ensuring Healthy Community**

1. Creation of basic health infrastructure
2. Better health education
3. Child education and health care
4. Better sanitation

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

1. Concurrent monitoring
2. Social Audit
3. Leveraging technology for improving service delivery.

#### 4. GPS based monitoring

### Part –B

## Priorities for the Fourteenth Five Year Plan

### Education

#### Introduction

173. Economic growth theory supports the accumulation and development of human capital and other factors, such as physical capital, which contribute to economic growth in the long term (Lucas, 1988; Romer, 1990). Human capital is defined as “the ability and efficiency of people to transform raw materials and capital into goods and services” (Son, 2010). The educational system is expected to help people learn these skills. Many empirical studies have found that Education is significantly and positively correlated with economic growth, indicating that Education has been a critical determinant of economic growth (Son, 2010). As Thant (1999) pointed out, educated people can use physical capital more efficiently, so the more educated a country’s population is, the more productive this country becomes. Therefore, Education has been suggested as an important means to reduce inequality, particularly in developing societies. The impact of Education on growth and human development has been well documented; it is also recognized to be a cornerstone for social justice and, hence, an important potential means for reducing inequality (Roy & Husain, 2019).

### The Importance of Tribal Education

174. Though education is considered as a fundamental right of all Indian citizens as per the 83rd Constitutional Amendment, inequality in this regard, prevails among the various Castes/Tribes/sections of the society. ‘Literacy achievements in India depend crucially on the social context: the gender division of labour, the kinship system, caste related norms, economic entitlements and so on’ (Dreze 2003). Realizing that Scheduled Tribes are one of the most deprived and marginalized groups with respect to education, several interventions have been undertaken to promote Education among the tribal community ever. However, the growth of Education continued at a slow pace till the 1990s. As per the Socio-economic Report of 1978, a study conducted by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics, Government of Kerala, only 1946 members of the Tribal community had qualifications of S.S.L.C. and above. However, according to the Report on Socio-Economic Status, 2013, published by the Scheduled Tribes Development Department, nearly 57,951 members of the community have Education above S.S.L.C. Also, according to the details available with the Secretary, Board of Public Examinations, 1,00,230 students belonging to the Tribal community of the State have qualified for higher Education by clearing S.S. L.C. examinations held between March 2001 and March 2021.

175. Education of Tribal people is important not just due to a Constitutional obligation to equality of its citizen or special entitlements to Scheduled Tribes, but because it is a crucial input in the nation’s strategy of total development of Tribal communities. However, despite nation’s efforts to ensure constitutional equality, dignity and development that they

themselves wish for, the tribal children continue to lag behind the general population in education and there is a wide gap between the dropout rate of tribal children and non-tribal children (Arora and Mehmi 2006; Mehendale 2008, Nanjunda et al 2008; Srivastava 1968, Sujatha 2000; Verma 1990).

### Educational Profile of STs

176. Literacy and Educational Status: Formal education is the key to all-round human development. Despite several campaigns to promote formal education ever since Independence, the literacy rate among Scheduled Tribes remained low. Alienation from the society, lack of adequate infrastructure like schools, hostels and teachers, abject poverty and apathy towards irrelevant curriculum have stood in the way of Tribals getting formal education. As per the Scheduled Tribes of Kerala: Report on the Socio-Economic Status, 2013, (S.T.D.D., 2013), the literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes in the State is 74.44 per cent, which is lower than the State average literacy of 93.91 per cent (Census, 2011). The highest literacy rate is in Kottayam District, which stands at 94.31 per cent. The literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes in Palakkad is reported as 57.63 per cent, which is the lowest among the districts in the State. As shown in table 5.1.1, the Cholanaickan community in the Malappuram district also stands with the lowest literacy rate (39.90%). The literacy rate of S.T. males belonging to Kadar and Kattunayakam communities are also lower than the State average. The women literacy is 70.15 per cent against the general literacy of 74.44 per cent of Scheduled Tribes. The lowest rate of women literacy is also recorded in respect of the Cholanaickan community, which is 42.55 per cent.

**Table 23:** Community Wise Data on Illiterates

Sl. No.	Community	Population (Above 5 years)	Per centage to total	Illiterates	%	% to Population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1	Adiyan	10055	2.61	3393	3.45	33.74
2	Aranadan, (Aranadan)	209	0.05	106	0.11	50.72
3	Eravallan	3956	1.03	1963	2.00	49.62
4	Hill Pulaya	3080	0.80	1061	1.08	34.45
5	Irular, Irulan	23965	6.23	9583	9.74	39.99
6	Wayanad Kadar	613	0.16	83	0.08	13.54
7	Kanikaran (Kanikkar)	17726	4.60	1757	1.79	9.91
8	Kudiya, Melakudi	852	0.22	173	0.18	20.31

9	Kurichchan, Kurichiyar	32896	8.54	5324	5.41	16.18
10	Kurumar, Mullakuruman	19736	5.13	2670	2.71	13.53
11	Maha Malasar	124	0.03	70	0.07	56.45
12	Malai Arayan, Malayarayar	27369	7.11	878	0.89	3.21
13	Malai Pandaram	1388	0.36	670	0.68	48.27
14	Malai Vedan, Malavedan	4235	1.10	579	0.59	13.67
15	Malasar	3744	0.97	1857	1.89	49.60
16	Malayan	4923	1.28	1810	1.84	36.77
17	Mannan	8507	2.21	2326	2.36	27.34
18	Muthuvan (Muduvan)	17171	4.46	5327	5.41	31.02
19	Mudugar	4014	1.04	1439	1.46	35.85
20	Palleyan, Palliyan, Palliyar, Paliyan	1363	0.35	296	0.30	21.72
21	Paniyan	81936	21.28	28521	28.99	34.81
22	Ulladan	16142	4.19	1865	1.90	11.55
23	Uraly	6994	1.82	758	0.77	10.84
24	Mala Vettuvan	17784	4.62	5786	5.88	32.53
25	Thachanadan, Thachanadan Moopan	1500	0.39	289	0.29	19.27
26	Mavilan	28816	7.49	6415	6.52	22.26
27	Karimpalan	13547	3.52	1876	1.91	13.85
28	Vetta Kuruman	5830	1.51	1891	1.92	32.44
29	Mala Panickar	914	0.24	155	0.16	16.96
	Sub Total	359389	93.34	88921	90.38	24.74

PVTG

30	Kadar	1704	0.44	703	0.71	41.25
31	Kattunayakan	17436	4.53	7084	7.20	40.62
32	Koraga	1483	0.39	321	0.33	21.64
33	Kurumbar (Kurumban)	1888	0.49	824	0.84	43.64
34	Cholanaickan	323	0.08	195	0.20	60.37
	Sub Total	22834	5.93	9127	9.28	39.97
	Others	2755	0.72	338	0.34	....
	Total	384928	100	98386	100	25.55

Source: Report on the Socio Economic Status of Scheduled Tribes 2013

177. As per the S.T. Report 2013, the educational status of Tribes is as follows:-

1. Primary	-	127344
2. Below S.S.L.C.	-	92349
3. S.S.L.C.	-	30342
4. PDC/+2.	-	16374
5. Graduates	-	4475
6. Post Graduates	-	822
7. Vocational Course	-	2775
8. Diploma Certificate	-	911
9. Professional Degree		
A) B.Tech.	-	95
B) Medical	-	65
10 Other Professional Qualifications	-	468
11. Other Technical Qualifications	-	1256
12. Others	-	328
Total	-	2,77,644

178. As per the data available with Secretary, Board of Public Examinations, Government of Kerala, 68,989 students passed S S.L.C., from 2010 March to 2021 March, in our State.

**Access to Educational Institutions.**

179. Inaccessibility to educational institutions is the primary reason for the educational backwardness of Scheduled Tribes in the State. For 117 settlements, anganawadis are more than 5 km away. For 903 settlements, Single Teacher Schools / Multi-Grade Learning Centres (M.G.L.C.s), for 576 settlements Lower Primary Schools, for 1301 settlements Upper Primary Schools, for 2197 settlements High Schools and for 2762 settlements Higher Secondary Schools are located at a distance of more than 5 km. Only for 2530 settlements Anganawadis, only for 366 settlements Single Teacher/ MultiGrade Learning Centres (M.G.L.C.s), only for 711 settlements Lower Primary Schools, only for 403 settlements Upper Primary Schools, only for 200 settlements High Schools and only for 143 settlements Higher Secondary Schools are available within the stipulated distance of one kilometre. The details on access to educational institutions are given in **Table 24**.

**Table 24:** Access to Educational Institutions.

Sl. No.	Educational Institution	Number of Settlements						
		Within Settlement	Within 0.5 km	0.5-1.0km	1.0-2.5km	2.5-5.0km	Above 5 km	Not Specified
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1	Anganwadi : Single Teacher Institute/ M.G.L.C/ Peripatetic School :	1236	356	938	1686	244	117	185
2	Continuing Education Centre :	155	69	112	629	609	1330	1858
3	Lower Primary School :	68	220	423	2046	1318	576	111
4	Upper Primary School :	26	137	240	1519	1442	1301	97
5	High School :	4	76	120	906	1394	2197	65
6	Higher Secondary School :	2	53	88	668	1123	2762	66
7	Vocational Higher Secondary School :	4	24	35	232	383	3745	339

Source: Scheduled Tribes of Kerala: Report on the Socio-Economic Status, 2013

### General Education Stream

180. The students in primary classes constitute 70.64 per cent. The students in secondary and higher secondary streams are 14.91 per cent and 7.49 per cent respectively. About 3.81 per cent of students are in graduation and post-graduation courses. The students for professional courses are only 0.35 per cent of the total. The details on class/course wise strength of students are given in Table 5.1.3. The students in primary, secondary and higher secondary classes are 84,573, registering 93.04 per cent of the total number of students. More than 80 per cent of the students under these categories are in the 5 districts, namely; Wayanad, Palakkad, Idukki, Kasaragod and Kannur. The details of students in primary, secondary and higher secondary classes in the districts are given in **Table 25**.

**Table 25:** Class/Course wise Number of Students

Sl. No.	Class/Course	Number of Student	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Primary	64216	70.64
2	Secondary	13552	14.91
3	Higher Secondary	6805	7.49
4	Graduation	3198	3.52
5	Post-Graduation	268	0.29
6	Certificate Course	629	0.69
7	Diploma Course	517	0.57
8	Professional Degrees		
	1). B Tech	234	0.26
	2). MBBS	60	0.07
	3). BAMS	19	0.02
	4). BHMS	8	0.01
	Sub Total	321	0.35
9	Other Technical Courses	440	0.48
10	Other Professional Courses	702	0.77
11	Others	254	0.28
	<b>Total</b>	<b>90902</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: STDD

**Table 26:** Students in Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Classes

Sl. No.	District	Students			Total	%
		Primary	Secondary	Higher Secondary		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	2116	881	522	3519	4.16
2	Kollam	581	179	73	833	0.98
3	Pathanamthitta	827	266	132	1225	1.45
4	Alappuzha	337	135	64	536	0.63
5	Kottayam	1785	738	362	2885	3.41
6	Idukki	7195	1652	986	9833	11.63
7	Eranakulam	1367	372	152	1891	2.24
8	Thrissur	829	228	86	1143	1.35
9	Palakkad	7726	1534	858	10118	11.96
10	Malappuram	2169	518	151	2838	3.36
11	Kozhikode	1287	410	224	1921	2.27
12	Wayanad	25852	3517	1992	31361	37.08
13	Kannur	5023	1384	446	6853	8.10
14	Kasaragod	7122	1738	757	9617	11.37
Total		64216	13552	6805	84573	100

Source: STDD

181. Obviously, the children between the ages 06-14 years are to be students in primary and secondary classes. Therefore, a comparison of the students in primary and secondary classes with the children in the age group 06-14 would be worthwhile in the context of large scale dropout in secondary and higher secondary classes. The total number of children in the age group 06-14 is 71,848. The total students in primary and secondary classes are 77,768. On verification it has been found that 6274 students studying in primary and secondary classes are above the age of 14 years. They are 8.73 per cent of the students in primary and secondary classes. As such it has been concluded that the children in the age group 06-14 studying in primary and secondary classes are only 64,845, and 7005 children (9.75%) have either discontinued their studies or have not joined the schools.

182. The proportion of children not attending schools is comparatively high among PVTGs. It is 15.55 per cent for the group as a whole. Taking into account the individual communities, Cholanaickan has 36.84 per cent followed by Koraga (23.85%), Kadar (18.07%), Kurumbar (17.80%) and Kattunayakan (14.04%). The proportion of children who have discontinued their studies or not attending school education is high among the communities such as Eravallan, Hill Pulaya, Kudiya, Malai Pandaram Malasar, Malayan,

Muthuvan, Mudugar, Paniyan. Malavettuvan etc. The community wise data on students in primary and secondary classes are given in **Annexure 7**.

183. The number of students in higher secondary (+2) course is 6305. It has been reported that the children in the age group 15-17 are 18,065. Normally, they are anticipated to be students in higher secondary classes. However, only 37.67 per cent of the populations in the age group 15-17 are students in higher secondary classes. In the case of children among PVTGs, only 20.12 per cent are students in higher secondary classes. The shortage of students in higher secondary course is high among Paniyan, Muthuvan and Malavettuvan communities. In Paniyan community only 12.38 per cent of children in the age group 15-17 students in higher secondary education, followed by Muthuvan (18.23%) and Malavettuvan (21.67%). The above facts reveal that the dropout syndrome among Scheduled Tribe students is severe at the higher secondary stage of education. The community wise data on students in higher secondary course are given in **Annexure 6**.

### Higher Education Stream

184. The number of Scheduled Tribe students for graduation and post-graduation are 3198 and 268 respectively. The total number of students in these two streams are 3466. Approximately 60 per cent of them are in three districts, namely, Wayanad, Idukki and Kottayam. About 27.07 per cent of students in graduation and 57.46 per cent of students in the post-graduation levels are from Idukki and Kottayam Districts. The details of Scheduled Tribe Students in graduation and post-graduation levels are given in Table 27.

**Table 27:** Students for Graduation and Post-Graduation

Sl. No.	District	Students		Total	%
		Graduation	Post-Graduation		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	233	21	254	7.33
2	Kollam	40	4	44	1.27
3	Pathanamthitta	40	7	47	1.36
4	Alappuzha	18	4	22	0.63
5	Kottayam	322	56	378	10.91
6	Idukki	540	98	638	18.41
7	Eranakulam	77	9	86	2.48
8	Thrissur	43	7	50	1.44
9	Palakkad	141	12	153	4.41
10	Malappuram	49	5	54	1.56

11	Kozhikode	107	8	115	3.32
12	Wayanad	1011	20	1031	29.75
13	Kannur	283	7	290	8.37
14	Kasaragod	294	10	304	8.77
<b>Total</b>		<b>3198</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>3466</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: STDD

185. The students of graduation and post-graduation courses from PVTGs, numerically smaller communities and certain backward communities which have sizable population are very poor compared to the total students. Among 3198 tribal students for graduate courses, only 473 students (14.79%) belong to the 25 communities including PVTGs, numerically smaller communities and educationally backward communities such as Eravallan, Malaipandaram, Malasar, Mudugar, Paliyan. Thachanadan, Malapanickar etc.

186. The total numbers of students in post-graduate courses are 268. Of them, only 3 students belong to PVTGs. Eleven communities such as Aranadan, Hill Pulaya, Wayanad Kadar, Kudiya, Maha Malasar. Paniyan, Malavettuvan, Thachanadan, Koraga, Kurumbar and Cholanaikkan have no representation of post graduate students. Though the post graduate students belong to 23 communities it has to be noted that 75 per cent of them belong to four communities.

187. Scheduled Tribe students in professional courses consist of 234 in Engineering degree, 60 in Medical degree, 19 in Ayurveda degree and 8 in Homeo degree. The tribal communities in Kollam and Thrissur Districts have no representation among the students for Engineering degree. The tribal students from Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Thrissur and Kozhikode have no representation among the students in Medical degree course. The tribal students from the districts of Thiruvananthapuram.,Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha, Thrissur.,Palakkad and Malappuram have not joined for Ayurveda degree course. The representation for Homeo degree course has been confined only to 5 districts, namely. Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam. Idukki, Eranakulam and Palakkad. Kollam and Thrissur Districts have not the credit of producing tribal students for professional education. Another feature of professional education is the regional concentration of the students in 5 districts Thiruvananthapuram Kottayam, Idukki, Eranakulam and Wayanad Districts together claim approximately 83 per cent of students in professional courses The details of the students for professional courses are given in table in **Table.28**

**Table.28** Students for Professional Courses

Sl. No.	District	No. of Students in;				Total	%
		B Tech	Medical	Ayurveda	Homeo		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	24	6	-	1	31	9.66
2	Kollam	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Pathanamthitta	8	-	-	-	8	2.49
4	Alappuzha	3	1	-	-	4	1.25
5	Kottayam	47	15	5	2	69	21.50
6	Idukki	51	19	5	1	76	23.68
7	Eranakulam	27	4	3	1	35	10.90
8	Thrissur	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Palakkad	7	2	-	3	12	3.74
10	Malappuram	3	1	-	-	4	1.25
11	Kozhikode	6	-	1	-	7	2.18
12	Wayanad	44	8	3	-	55	17.13
13	Kannur	9	1	1	-	11	3.43
14	Kasaragod	5	3	1	-	9	2.80
Total		234	60	19	8	321	100

Source: STDD

188. The community wise data reveal that 16 communities have no students for Engineering degree course. For Medical degree 26 communities and for Homeo degree 29 communities have no participation. Another striking feature of the professional education of tribal students is that there is only one student in the stream (engineering degree) from among the 5 communities of PVTGs. The communities like Aranadan, Eravallan. Hill Pulaya, Kudiya. Maha Malasar, Malai Pandaram. Malayan, Paliyan, Malapanickar, Kadar, Koraga, Kumumbar and Cholanaickan have not been able to send their students for professional education. Besides, 80 per cent of the seats for professional courses are shared by 5 communities of Scheduled Tribes. More data on different dimensions of S.T. education can be found in Annexures 1 to 5

### 189. Major Areas/Issues to be focused and Policy Suggestions under Education for the 14th Five Year Plan

1. Education fosters social progress; hence, it should be given primary importance in 14th Five Year Plan. The socio-economic, educational and developmental problems of the Scheduled Tribes vary within communities. Therefore, steps should be taken to identify and address these problems separately.
2. A school is a place for socialization, and as such, the S.T. students require more time for acclimatization. The curriculum should be tailored to meet the needs of Scheduled

Tribes students by adopting a holistic approach. Government Model Residential Schools, Government and Aided Schools are to be considered institutions that facilitate inclusive Education to S.T. students from the very beginning. The presence of teachers shall be ensured throughout the academic year in schools where S.T. students are studying and schools in predominant S.T. areas, from standard 1 to Plus2. The Scheduled Tribes Development Department and Local Self Governments will effectively coordinate at the district level to ensure inclusive and quality education to S.T. students from primary level onwards.

3. The introduction of Model Residential Schools (M.R.S.) for providing quality education to socially and economically backwards but talented SC/ST students, who are unable to pursue further studies, on par with the Public-School Model have delivered a paradigm shift in Tribal Education. The enrollment and retention of S.T. students of the school-going age group has increased and almost achieved 100% enrollment and reduced the dropout to below 2 per cent. However, the quality of education has not been improved as much as expected. Efforts need to be taken to upgrade the quality of Tribal Education from the pre-primary level to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal by 2030.
4. Eradication of illiteracy, imparting awareness programmes and skill up-gradation endeavour: As per the 'Scheduled Tribes of Kerala: Report on the Socio-Economic Status, 2013', (S.T.D.D., 2013), the literary rate of Scheduled Tribes of Kerala is 74.44 per cent. Illiteracy is one of the reasons for their backwardness. It is imperative to impart literacy campaigns coupled with livelihood programmes to enhance the literacy rate of entire communities above 90 per cent during the 14th F.Y.P. period. For this, we propose literacy campaigns in S.T. habitats which may include classes on legal awareness, health and additional skill acquisition programmes to expand the employability and livelihood avenues. The lack of legal awareness, for example, results in child marriages among S.T. communities, as they are unaware of this being an offence punishable under law (below 18 years). It is necessary to provide access to and awareness of their Constitutional rights and entitlements, not limiting education to texts and syllabus. The eradication of illiteracy will pave the way for paying attention to the education of their kids and the total development of the whole family. Hence, it is suggested to undertake a literacy programme coupled with the acquisition of additional skills and employment avenues to enhance the family's awareness, social consciousness, legal rights and entitlements, and income in a time-bound manner during the initial years of the 14th F.Y.P. period.
5. Pre-primary Education: It is envisioned in the Global Monitoring Report 2015 that all children should have access to quality early childhood development care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.
6. In our State, the services of I.C.D.S. through Anganwadis are not available in 3075 ST habitats, out of 4762, and two-third of children under the age group of 3-5 are not

attending Anganwadi due to non-availability, inaccessibility etc., as per the S.T. Report, 2013. Hence, it is evident that supplementary nutrition provided by I.C.D.S. Projects is not reaching the majority of the Scheduled Tribes children. Teachers from tribal communities should be appointed in Anganwadis that function in S.T. habitats and nearby areas. Opening new Anganwadis or Balawadies under the S.T. Development Department in predominantly S.T. habitats is essential for providing pre-primary education and ensuring nutritious food to the needy. Appropriate programmes shall be drawn up during the 14th Five Year Plan (F.Y.P.) to fill the gap identified.

7. Primary Education: The enrollment and 100 per cent retention of S.T. students in primary schools is a must as per Article 21 A of the Constitution of India. Participating in performing artists, of Ethnic S.T. art forms, (platform artists or encourage such art forms in school) will encourage the S.T. students in Tribal Schools. This is inevitable (Community involvement) for ensuring quality improvement of S.T. students in higher classes. S.T. students who are in the seventh standard should acquire reading, writing and basic arithmetic skills. A special tutorial system can be implemented from this level to clear their S.S.L.C. exam with commendable Grades. Suitable programmes can be formulated jointly by Grama Panchayaths and District Panchayaths to achieve this target up to S.S.L.C.
8. Secondary Education: The pass percentage of the S.S.L.C. examination held during March 2021 is 99.47 per cent whereas among S.T. students is 95.68 per cent The number of students who got A+ in all subjects is 28.91 per cent and S.T. students are 6.18 per cent This shows the wide gap in acquiring learning skills by S.T. students, which must be filled immediately.
9. In the M.R.S., run by the Scheduled Tribes Development Department, all the 648 students who appeared for the S.S.L.C. examination during March 2021 have qualified for Higher Education. Out of this, 15.45 per cent of the students got A+ in all subjects. As the accommodation pattern of students in M.R.S.s is as per ratio 60:30:10, S.T., SC and general students respectively, the entire students who got A+ may not belong to S.T. Community.
10. It can be seen from the above that the quality of Education of S.T. students is lagging behind State Total, and efforts are necessary to improve it.
11. Model Residential Schools: The Model Residential Schools are playing a pivotal role in enhancing the standard of the Education of Scheduled Tribes students in our State. The functioning of M.R.S. needs to be radically upgraded to enable the students to cope with the emerging trends in Higher Education. All M.R.S.s have to be transformed as Centre of Excellence to improve the quality of education and act as feeder institutions of I.I.T., Central Universities, and other reputed Institutions in the State, India & Abroad.
12. The functioning of Model Residential Schools has to be evaluated and improved to

suit the requirements of bringing out excellent personalities to compete in every sphere of life with their counterparts in public life. A comprehensive protocol for running M.R.S. should be developed to ensure committed and joint efforts of Teaching and Non-teaching Staff to better students in a holistic way. The curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities have to be prescribed for the overall development of the students. It is imperative to test students' aptitude, most probably in standard VIII itself, with the help of S.E.I.M.A.T. and teachers in the school, and further studies should be in accordance with the aptitude and skills of the students. Detailed programme for the overall development of M.R.S.s has to be evolved during the 14th F.Y.P. period.

13. The need for Community participation for motivation: Scheduled Tribes have immense traditional knowledge spread over traditional agriculture ensuring food security covering all nutritional requirements, ethnic food practices, collection of medicinal herbs & ethnic medical practices, understanding the environment, biodiversity and ecosystem they inhabit, traditional methods to collect Non-Timber Forest Produces. Besides, they have their language, an immense variety of traditional art forms and so on. An understanding of such heritage can instill a sense of pride in the student. Exchange of traditional knowledge engagement prominent personalities among Scheduled Tribes will undoubtedly accelerate the capacity of the students to face any challenges and self-esteem.
14. Similarly, services of scholars, eminent personalities familiar with social work and traditional agriculture, skills in making handicrafts and other prominent figures among different Scheduled Tribes communities, and experts from the academic community may also be availed to motivate them.
15. Association of Higher Academic Institutions & Eminent personalities for Quality Improvement S.T. students: The Hon. Governor of Kerala, while inaugurating the convocation of III batch of Graduates in the Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University, Pookode, Wayanad, advised the faculty members to visit the Model Residential Schools run for the benefit of Scheduled Tribes students to exchange ideas of the University. Such association in academic matters will undoubtedly lead to the improvement of the quality of functioning of the institutions. It will enhance students' awareness about the courses offered by the University and the modus operandi for getting admission to such courses, the need to acquire higher grades in qualifying examinations, etc. It will also help to enhance the capacity of students.
16. Similarly, the assistance and support of other University Departments, eminent institutions including I.I.T.s and I.I.M.s, may also be availed to improve the quality of Education, awareness of students and improve the strength of students. Programmes for developing aptitude in science and research and nurturing scientific knowledge can evolve with the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (K.S.C.S.T.E.) Thiruvananthapuram. Thus, it is necessary to draw up a detailed

curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular calendar of events for each academic year to accommodate all these programmes incorporating the entire students studying in the schools. A separate institution plan for each M.R.S. and an individual academic plan for each student are required.

17. Experts from R.I.E., Mysore, S.C.E.R.T., DIET, KITE, SIEMAT-KERALA, K.S.C.S.T.E., CREST, C-STED etc. will render proper assistance in this regard. Hence it is recommended to avail all sorts of help to impart Quality Improvement of the functioning of Model Residential Schools in our State. Such steps may also be extended to the other Government and Aided Schools in our State where S.T. students are studying as far as possible. Thus, concentrated efforts can be initiated for the overall development of the S.T. students to capacitate them to compete with their counterparts in search of sustainable employment opportunities. Suitable programmes have to be evolved in the 14th F.Y.P. to enable the implementation of the suggestion.
18. Higher Secondary Education: The entire student qualified for Higher Education is not enrolling for +1 or similar courses. The main hardship is the non-availability of seats in the nearby Schools as per online allotment based on the existing reservation system for S.T. in force. To tide over this lacuna, it may be considered to consider the total seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes in the State as a common pool and provide allotment to the entire S.T. students in schools wherever they apply, not exceeding the total number of seats available. Necessary provision may be incorporated into the allotment process and software itself to get the problem redressed immediately.
19. An analysis of the +2 result during March 2021 reveals that 87.94 per cent of the students have passed in the State. Whereas out of 5375 S.T. students appeared, only 3530 (65.67%) qualified for Higher Education. It can be seen that the pass percentage is far behind the State Total.
20. Capacity building for Higher secondary students: It is a fact that Scheduled Tribes students join Humanities subject for their Plus two courses. They have not acquired skills in Science, Mathematics etc. Even the Commerce stream is also not opted for want of proper understanding. In any circumstances, anybody getting admission in Science and Commerce streams could not be able to complete the course. This kind of problem has to be sorted out and redressed.
21. A group of selected Higher Secondary School Teachers, mainly working in Tribal areas of Wayanad, Idukki, Kasaragod and Palakkad, may be formed to sort out the problems and their remedial measures and prepare modules for imparting additional coaching to students. Training may also be imparted to the Teachers working in Schools functioning in Tribal Areas to improve the quality of Education. The selected teachers from other parts of Tribal areas may also be associated with these initiatives. A plan of action has to be evolved during the 14th F.Y.P. invariably.
22. Higher Education: Higher education sector in Kerala is striving to modernize with

new Courses and new practices to suit the current requirements. Action is also being taken to explore the possibility of developing a knowledge economy to enhance the employability of educated youths in the State. This development may also be brought to the development of educated Scheduled Tribes youths from the very beginning itself in our State.

23. 'Higher Education Plus' Scholarship: The enrollment of Students in Higher Education is very meagre. There are problems of lack of awareness, absence of proper accommodation, unavailability of money to meet the actual boarding lodging and educational expenses. The enhanced monthly stipend provided to those S.T. students who have their own accommodation facility near the institution says Rs.3000/- is insufficient to meet the actual expenses. Hence, it is inevitable to provide actual boarding lodging and educational expenses to the S.T. students who find their accommodation facility near the educational institution, either enhancing the existing Rs 3000/-or consider allowing an additional 'Higher Education Plus' scholarship during the 14th F.Y.P. period to meet the gap now experienced.
24. Establishment of Sub Centre of Sree Narayana Guru Open University at Wayanad: A section of Scheduled Tribes students in our State, especially in Wayanad, is hesitant to pursue higher studies in colleges/institutions in distant places and other districts. In any way somebody gets admission in a distant place, often they give up the studies. Moreover, a number of S.T. students qualified for Higher Studies are not willing to continue their studies as there is no facility in their proximity. This problem has to be addressed in the 14th Five Year Plan period. Now the Sree Narayana Guru Open University (S.N.G.O.U.) has been established to promote non-formal Education. As a beginning, a Sub Centre of S.N.G.O.U. may be established at Wayanad to provide Higher education facilities to the students of Wayanad District. Academic sessions incorporating eminent Faculties in Central Universities, I.I.T., T.I.S.S., J.N.U., Dr Ambedkar University and so on can be arranged using online platforms to acquire exemplary knowledge, awareness, capacity building to the students studying under Wayanad Centre of S.N.G.O.U. Such arrangements may pave the way for establishing a university exclusively for Scheduled Tribes in Kerala in future.
25. Establishment of Satellite Division of K.I.R.T.A.D.S. at Agali: A Satellite Division of Kerala Institute for Research, Training and Development Studies for S.C/S. T (K.I.R.T.A.D.S.)can be set up at Agaly to bridge up the gap caused by the abolition of the Attappady Hill Area Development Scheme (A.H.A.D.S.). This Division will facilitate the study of language, culture, development initiatives meant for S.T., etc. This multidisciplinary research Institute will also create job opportunities for educated S.T. Youth.
26. Establishment of District Level Education Assistance, Career Guidance & Facilitation Centre: The S.T. students have no information on various courses offered by different Colleges, Universities and their benefits. A supporting system with a responsible

designated Officer at the district level is necessary to coordinate the career guidance programme for Scheduled Tribes students. They shall facilitate the students to get admission to the courses according to their wishes, arranging accommodation and extending adequate support to pursue studies to the S.T. students where they got admission.

27. To enhance the enrollment of S.T. students to higher education courses, there is a need for constant support till the completion of the course. The S.T. students are facing acculturative stress whenever they are exposed to non-Tribes. Students coming from remote areas to Cities to pursue their Higher Education, especially Professional Courses, take much time for acclimatization and sometimes end up in a defeatist mental state. The services of S.T. Promoters and Committed Social Worker, and other designated Officers may be arranged at each District. The District Panchayat may be authorized to undertake this task at the district level.
28. The S T students who are in Higher Education Institutions face various issues of discrimination and harassment. It is necessary to ensure the proper working of SC/ ST Cells in all the Universities and Higher Education Institutions. Govt in Higher Education Department, in association with Scheduled Tribes Development Department, can monitor the complaints received in such cells, arrange awareness and legal help programmes in collaboration with the institutions.
29. Employability of educated youths also has to be increased imparting vocational training through the course of regular programmes. Other initiatives to upgrade the skill also needs to be evolved. The establishment of Human Resources Development with a responsible designated Officer at the District level is needed.
30. Monitoring system for ensuring S.T. Education: The Welfare Standing Committee and Standing Committee for Education & Health of Grama Panchayat and District Panchayat jointly monitor the Education of Scheduled Tribes students in their respective jurisdiction. If any, problems that cannot be solved at their jurisdiction may be brought to the Government to resolve the issues and ensure its timely redressal.
31. The Constitutional Scheme for the Scheduled Tribes (ST) population, with all 'development and 'protection'; has covered seven decades. Added to this, the Tribal Sub Plan(TSP) policy has been in vogue for 45 years and partnership with Local Self Government's(LSG'S) for 25 years. The National Education Policy was declared in 1968 and 1986. The National Literacy Mission (NLM), which started in 1988 for the adult members, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) launched in 2000 for Universalisation of primary education, along with two other programmes for Secondary and Higher Education, and Right to Education Act, 2009(RTE) for Free and Compulsory education between the age of 6-14 years and recently introduced New Education Policy (NEP) of 2020; have made many inroads into the education arena of the general population. Despite all these packages in a time-bound manner, an overwhelming majority of the Scheduled Tribes population in Kerala continues to

be educationally backward. Only a section of the ST population has advanced in the field of education. The Community as a whole forms, at least, into three layers, e.g.:- upper (20%), middle (40%) and lower (40%). The 14th FYP has to focus more on the lower layer. Of course, the middle layer is also fragile because it may go up or down depending on developmental inputs like education access.

32. The children should be provided with an understanding of the environment and society and choose their interests in education.
33. The infrastructure given to the educational institutions should keep minimum standards.
34. The RTE should stringently be implemented. The 14th FYP should aim to achieve this target in a time-bound manner (Article 21 A).
35. The Literacy Mission functioning in the Tribal Sub Plan area should also come up with a target-oriented programme.
36. The policy of multilingual early learning in the local language has to be promoted. A primer has to be prepared. Of late, the Scheduled Tribes Development Department has appointed Mentor teachers from among the Community to act upon in this regard. According to Article 350 A,  
  
'it will be the endeavour of every State and every Local Authority within State to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups.'
37. At the beginning of the 8th standard, a Minimum Level of Learning (MLL) Test should be conducted to know the level of the skills acquired by the student. Otherwise, at the High school level, it will become a burden for the student, leading to dropout syndrome.
38. In order to reduce dropouts, micro-projects should be implemented. The impact of the school regimen should be reduced.
39. The dropout rate in Higher education is high. A monitoring system should be devised to follow the students at least quarterly.
40. Importance may be given to Indigenous Knowledge to boost their morale and self-esteem. The cultural diversities and ethnic importance may be explained to them. The curricular projects should consider this aspect.
41. The pedagogic tools should suit their culture and ecosystem, and broaden their democratic and egalitarian vision.
42. Vocational education according to the regional demand should be promoted.

43. The Teachers posted in Tribal Sub Plan areas must be given training on the cultural traits of the Communities in the region. As far as possible trained local candidates from the ST Communities should be preferred. The module already prepared by NCERT can be utilized. There are many case studies to show how teachers' remarks have impacted the students' future adversely.

## **Work Employment & Skill Development**

### **Introduction**

190. One of the ways of conceptualizing inclusive growth is to emphasize the creation of productive jobs in economic growth, mainly keeping in view the vast supplies of an unskilled and semi-skilled variety of labour. In the face of rising inequality, growth alone is not sufficient to benefit all the sections of the society, especially those located at the lower echelons like Scheduled Tribes. While from the supply side, the quality of labour has to improve to keep pace with the requirements of the changing technology, and labour demand has to rise to bridge the gap between supply and demand. (Kumar, Mitra, & Pradhan, 2018). It is widely accepted that skill development helps to transform an economy into a more developed one by raising income, investment, saving, productivity (Rodrick, Grossman, & Norman, 1995) and trade (Epifani & Gancia, 2008). Improvements in human capital by investing in training transform the economy from labour-intensive to more capital intensive (Saner & Yiu, 2014). In fact, with increasing populations and heavy competition for employment, skill training is even more critical in today's labour market. Skill development is also identified as a potential way to enhance women empowerment (Riaz et al., 2014). Accordingly, countries are increasingly adopting it as a strategic developmental policy (Fernandez & Choi, 2012).

191. Skilling on a large scale is required to remove the disconnect between demand and supply of skilled manpower for existing jobs and new jobs. Imparting skills to the disadvantaged groups like Scheduled Tribes help to improve the standard of living that they have today via better employment. Imparting the skills, a growing economy requires to such socially disadvantaged groups should not be on a trial-and-error basis; instead, it needs a foolproof policy framework. Skill development is not a miracle that happens overnight. An individual's skill development takes place at different levels, from primary education to the time of employment. Poverty and unemployment contribute to slow progress in many spheres of our nation. In India, members in Scheduled categories have been viewed as the most distraught social group subject to age-old financial and social hardships. Among Scheduled categories, the Scheduled tribe is the most sacrificed and excluded social group (Sahoo, Pradhan, & Chandra, 2017). The Report on the Socio, Economic Status of Sch. Tribes of Kerala, 2013, published by Sch. Tribes Development Department (S.T. Report, 2013) highlights that the majority of Sch. Tribes (S.T.) living in backward, remote areas are illiterates and struggling to eke out their living. However, they are a storehouse of unique traditional knowledge and skills that other sections of society cannot claim. The traditional wisdom and indigenous knowledge of tribes on eco-friendly agricultural practices, art, craft, culture and Mother Nature still remain uncared and untapped. Their traditional methods and techniques are good enough to cope with state-of-the-art technologies of the

modern world (Varkey, 2020). To end their current predicament, they need to cultivate a work culture that utilises their unique skills. Special skills training, development, and conservation programs are required to impart, mould, and nurture those exceptional skills for the benefit of the general public

## **Socio-Economic Profile of Tribes in Kerala**

### **Demographic Features**

192. As per the S.T. Report 2013, the population of S.T. in the State is 4,26,208. Out of this, the population of these 18 Communities stakes 2,24,839 (52.75%). This comprises the majority Community of Paniya 92,787(21.77%) and numerically smallest Community of Mahamalar (143) and endangered communities like Arnadan (247) and Cholanaikken (409). There are 2,78,172 persons under the age group of 15-59, as per the S.T. Report 2013.

### **Literacy and Educational Status**

193. The literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes in the State is 74.44 per cent, which is lower than the State average literacy of 93.91 per cent (Census, 2011). The highest literacy rate is in Kottayam District, which stands at 94.31 per cent. The literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes in Palakkad is reported as 57.63 per cent, which is the lowest among the districts in the State. The Cholanaicken community in the Malappuram district also stands with the lowest literacy rate (39.90%). The literacy rate of S.T. males belonging to Kadar and Kattunayakam communities are also lower than the state average. The women literacy is 70.15 per cent against the general literacy of 74.44 per cent of Scheduled Tribes. The lowest rate of women literacy is also recorded in respect of the Cholanaicken community, which is 42.55 per cent. as per the S.T. Report 2013, the educational status of tribes is as follows:-

1. Primary	-	127344
2. Below S.S.L.C.	-	92349
3. S.S.L.C.	-	30342
4. PDC/+2.	-	16374
5. Graduates	-	4475
6. Post Graduates	-	822
7. Vocational Course	-	2775
8. Diploma Certificate	-	911
9. Professional Degree		
A) B.Tech.	-	95
B) Medical	-	65

10 Other Professional Qualifications	-	468
11. Other Technical Qualifications	-	1256
12. Others	-	328
Total	-	2,77,644

194. As per the data available with Secretary, Board of Public Examinations, Government of Kerala, 68,989 students passed S S.L.C., from 2010 March to 2021 March, in our State.

### **Employment and Unemployment Status**

195. The employment pattern of Scheduled Tribes is broadly classified into three: forestry sector, agriculture & allied sectors, and non-agriculture & allied sectors. The Scheduled Tribes Development Report (State Planning Board, 2016) states that the Scheduled Tribe population in the age group above five years are estimated as 3,84,978. Of them, 1,77,910 (46.21%) are identified as individuals having no income. The remaining 2,07,068 persons (53.79%) have some employment. It has been estimated that 17,138 persons (4.45%) of the total are engaged in the forestry sector, 1,44,264 persons (37.48%) depend on agriculture, and allied sectors and 45,666 persons (11.86%) are workers in non-agriculture and allied sectors. Of the total persons employed, 1,58,935 (76.75%) are workers in various sectors like agricultural labour (1,11,636), non-agricultural labour (19,794), MGNREGS (11,752), forest area (10,939) and other sectors (4814). The self-employed among the Scheduled Tribes are 39,167 (18.92%). Even though they are engaged in work in different sectors, their income is the bare minimum, and normally they are forced to borrow loans to meet unforeseen and unexpected expenses.

196. According to the Scheduled Tribes Development Report (2016), the unemployed persons aged 15-59 are 84,207. They constitute 30.27 per cent of the total number of 2,78,172 persons in the age group 15-59. Of them, 60,776 are women and constitute 72.17 per cent of the unemployed. The unemployed women in the age group, 15-29, are 37131, representing 61.09 per cent of the total unemployed women in the age group 15-59. Of the total unemployed persons, 55876 are (66.36 %) in the age group 15-29, 14919 are (17.72%) in the age group 30-44, and 13412 are (15.93%) in the age group 45-59. There are 2,78,172 persons under the age group of 15-59, as per the S.T. Report 2013. Of them, 84,207(30.27%) are unemployed, and their educational status is as follows: -

1. Illiterate & Neo-literate	-	15,868
2. Primary Educated	-	15,277
3. Below S.S.L.C	-	25,533
4. S.S.L.C.	-	13,587
5. P.D.C/+2.	-	10,700

6. Graduates.	-	2,6821
7. Post Graduates.	-	175
Total	-	84,207

197. In this context, the Government of Kerala proposes to provide employment to one member of each S.T. family. As per S.T. Report 2013, there are 1,07,965 S.T. families in Kerala. However, the total number of S.T. families have been increased over the last 11 years and by the inclusion of the Marathi Community in the S.T. list of Kerala. All these highlights the necessity of imparting Skill Development & providing Employment to S.T. in the State. It demands to draw up multi-level programmes for skill acquisition to enhance the employability and sustainable employment avenues to S.T. in Kerala during 14 th Five Year Plan (F.Y.P.) period.

### **Policy Recommendations for Institutional as well as Non-Institutional Changes for Skill Development of Tribes**

198. Primary Level (Basic Education)

- Plans for skill development should be formulated from the time of primary education of Scheduled Tribes.
- A mentor-mentee scheme should be started in each Oorus (tribal settlements) educational institutions to formulate and nurture the right passion and goals. Educated youth in each tribal community should be trained and appointed as 'skill promoters' of their community/ oorus
- Model residential schools require a career orientation program from 8th grade onwards. A Career Orientation Cell at 20 MRS and Tribal Hostels should be set up to provide information on future learning opportunities and fellowships to suit the children's tastes and train for entrance exams. The curriculum of school education at least in M.R.S. should be redesigned to formulate and nurture the right passion and goals. The education system should change from high school onwards in a career-oriented manner.
- An aptitude test of tribal students may be done in standard VIII itself in association with SIEMAT-KERALA or any other competing board or institutions to identify their skill and talents, which are to be moulded and nurtured.

199. Secondary Level (Higher Education)

- Multi-Purpose Orientation cum Vocational training centres should be started in each tribally populated taluks to upgrade the skills of the tribal youth in various traditional/ modern vocations depending upon their educational qualification, present economic trends and the market (it can be started in already existing institutions). These centres should be managed and run by skilled and trained tribal youth.

- Universities like Agriculture and Health should start vocational courses primarily focused on the tribe's culture and resources. Tribes' wisdom in traditional agricultural practices and systems of medicine is not yet tapped or addressed as much at its value.
- Just like the Naya Svera scheme of Central Government (The scheme aims to empower the students belonging to minority communities and prepare them for competitive examinations so that their participation in government and private jobs improves), an Integrated Tribal Coaching Centre should be established in each district in association with the major educational institution in the district (as a forerunner one should start in Attappady in Association with Attappady Government College)
- Schemes should be made to get trending (Nursing, Palliative Care etc....) jobs by doing up-skilling as well as re-skilling (for example, a project like Gramavikas in Orissa)
- Finishing schools should be started. With the help of finishing schools, students who have done advanced courses should strive to hone their skills and get the best opportunities of employment available.
- Apprenticeship should be arranged to professionally qualified including B.Tech, MBBS, MVSc, M.Sc Agriculture, BAMS, BHMS, B.D.S., BSc Nursing, T.T.C., BEd, General Nursing, Diploma and other Technical courses etc. in Government Institutions thereby they get experiences in their respective fields which will encourage them to find out suitable employment in their way
- Apprenticeship of S.T. Graduates (unemployed) to the office of the Govt Pleader/ Public Prosecutors should be ensured (Such an opportunity extended to law graduates will help to develop practical skills and sharpen their career goals)
- Learning app should be developed under the aid of NIC/CDIT for re-skilling or up skilling of tribal youths. Courses under this app should be developed and designed by the country's premier academic institutions, industrial houses, etc. An agency like State Tribal Skill Development Council should be (like National Skill Development Council) to coordinate all these programs.

## 200. Tertiary Level – Skill Development of Educated (Post Education)/ Dropouts from

Formal Education/ Uneducated

- Multi-Purpose Career Orientation cum Skill Development Centers should be set up in the Tribal areas of Attappadi, Wayanad, Idukki, Kasaragod and Nilambur. ASAP and Kudumbasree systems working in the field of skill training and development should be coordinated in this. Schemes should be formulated to hone and develop skills by offering bridge courses for dropouts. A group of tribal youth should be made its leading activists—support for various skilling activities, further studies, fellowships, preparing competitive exams etc., can be their role. The system can be run

by mentors who are highly educated among the tribal youth.

➤ Skill development training conducted by systems such as ASAP should be localized, taking into account job availability in tribal areas. Possibilities in sports, tourism (trekking, guides etc.) and forest resource management (like bird watching) should be exploited.

➤ The scope of proposed Vocational training centres should be extended to upgrade the skills of uneducated tribal youth and aged in various traditional/ modern vocations depending upon their current occupation, present economic trends and the market. It includes Acquisition of skills in Masonry, Carpentry, Electrification, Plumbing, Repair of household utensils, mobile and new areas such as gardening, and green technologies such as solar / water filters etc. through Community Polytechnic/ Nirmitikendra/ Kudumbasree etc A 'Skill Card' should be distributed to such locally trained individuals as an identity of expertise.

➤ Skill up-gradation should be ensured in Agriculture & allied sector by availing the assistance of Agriculture University, Department of Agriculture & Horticulture Corporation. The land available in resettlement areas of Suganthagiri, Pookode in Wayanad, Aralam and Alakkode in Kannur, Poomopara, Pandadikkalam, Marayur, 301 and Suryanelli in Idukki District Kuriyoyttumala in Kollam District and other parts in our State should be made available for such productive training and agricultural practices. The willing S.T. youths may be trained to undertake multiple tasks in Agriculture operations. The services of Coffee Board, Spices Board, Rubber Board, and other Central Institutions functioning in our State may also be associated with such training and skill development programmes. Similar schemes should be implemented in the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Sector by availing services of Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development, Milma, etc.

➤ The concept of Haritha Karma Sena can be piloted in Wayanad, Idukki and Palakkad districts by imparting training in modern mechanized farming.

➤ Research and other consultancy services on traditional Tribal Wisdom should be extended through locally instituted research and consultancy centres managed and run by educated and skilled tribal youth. Such centres should use the service of aged tribes, traditional healers, etc. to conserve as well as popularise their traditional knowledge without hurting the tradition and social life of Tribes'

➤ Indigenous Vocational Training cum Knowledge Sharing Centres should be started to promote and exchange traditional medicinal practices, agriculture practices etc., to the coming generation. This initiative should ensure the conservation of the rich heritage and culture of tribes' various walks of life. The proper marketing of such organic practices without hurting their tradition could give more employment opportunities.

## 201. Recommendations and Policy Proposals for Increasing Work/Employment Opportunities

- Mere through skill development, a section like the socially and economically backward Tribals could not reach the forefront of society. Such people can only thrive if they are provided with the work environment and employment opportunities to apply according to their acquired skills. The following are some practical policy suggestions and recommendations for creating a good environment and opportunities for work/employment of Scheduled Tribes.
- As a first-level inclusion, ad-hoc employment opportunities of tribal youth should be increased in other public sectors, just like temporary jobs currently available to tribal youth in the tribal areas, such as forest watchers, forest protection committee workers, tribal promoters, NRLM animators etc. As a second level inclusion, ad-hoc/temporary workers in tribal and other public sectors should be given further training to enable them to get permanent jobs in the government system
- Tribal Cooperative Labour Society (like Ooralunkal Labour Society)- Such societies should not fall within the framework of the existing cooperative system. They can only have an organised form similar to the existing self-help groups like Kudumbasree or as a subsidiary wing of Uralunkal Labour Contract Co-operative Society, if they permit, to empower educated ST. Otherwise, the misfortune of Girijan Service Co-operative Societies- established for collection and marketing of MFP to eliminate exploitation, Priyadarshini Transport in Palakkad, Wayanad and even Priyadarshini Tea Plantations, Mananthavady would repeat. It should be started to undertake all infrastructural development projects in tribal areas, in which the majority of skilled and unskilled labours should be from tribes. Further such cooperative movement is required to promote intensive farming in tribal areas. Primary Tribes' Farming Societies (PTFS) with Ultra Units (UUs) (5-10 members-preferably tribal youth) should be formed (Just like Paadashekara Samithi).
- There should be a policy for promoting heritage/ Responsible/ Eco-Tourism, exploring their traditional craft, art, agricultural practices, etc. The introduction of Tourism circuits connecting S.T. habitats in each district will create direct and indirect employment opportunities for tribes. It is noteworthy that the Scheduled Tribes Youths effectively act as Tourism Facilitators in remote areas of Parambikulam, Vazhachal, Nilambur, etc. For eg., Vinayan completed +2 in Rajiv Gandhi Ashram Higher Secondary School; Nilambur has an exceptional understanding of the ecosystem he inhabits and acts as a Guide to Researchers and others coming to his area. There are many others like him. It is essential to enumerate such dignified persons accredited with KIRTADS/ Sch. Tribes Development Department/ Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (K.S.C.S.T.E) to engage them as authorised persons to extend help to Researchers/ Nature friends etc. to derive a regular, sustainable income and lead a dignified life.

- A scheme should be devised to promote cottage industries to provide handloom fabrics, uniforms, umbrellas, bamboo products, furniture, etc., to government and quasi-government institutions, including schools and colleges in Kerala, through the initiatives of small tribal groups, especially by tribal women. Such productive activities should be scaled up by using the possibilities of online marketing. In addition, the products should be developed as a unique brand for each tribal area/community and marketed through an online marketing system.
- Separate Tribes' Start-Up Mission should be started to promote Start-up projects (lead by tribal youth in tribal farming, medicinal treatments, heritage/eco-tourism, traditional art/craft/unique tribal products etc. This will promote innovative value-added services by Agri-tech industries in tribal farming and other allied activities.
- Project Incubation cum Management Support Council should be started in association with various government institutions, P.S.U.s and Private Corporate (using C.S.R. fund). The duty of this council should be nurturing/incubating the entrepreneurial skill/business concepts of tribal youths by giving industrial support, project analysis, technical support, marketing assistance, even capital assistance during the infant stage of their ventures.
- Kerala is still dependent on other states for the availability of medicinal plants; however, many medicinal plants grow in arid/dry areas like Attappady. Promotion of such farming, which does not require much care, will ensure better returns, improve the quality of ayurvedic treatment /products in Kerala and ensure self-sufficiency. Government undertakings like OUSHADHI, Private entities like Kottakkal Arya Vaidhyasala etc., should be encouraged to enter in contract farming with tribes to promote large scale herbal farming in uplands.
- Similarly, programmes may also be drawn up in the Animal Husbandry and Dairy sector, availing services of Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development, Milma, etc.
- An online store for tribal products should be started for selling their Agri as well as forest collections. This online market should be maintained by skilled tribal youth. Promotion and marketing of Traditional Art forms, Crafts & Handicrafts, Ethnic food without hurting the social life of S.T. should be done through this.
- All tribal products should be branded and graded like 'Agmarking' to promote genuine tribal products among the public and also for their unique products efforts should be made to obtain GI tagging.
- A labour bank should be started, and karma sena (karshika) under each category of skill/employment should be formed to supply labourers wherever is required. This would help to reduce forced migration and exploitation. A 'Smart Labor Card' should be distributed to the registered tribal workers as an identity of their expertise and

willingness to work.

- A digitalised tribal land bank should be started based on land category, the status of usage etc. to consolidate and lease out unused/arid land to Ultra Units of Tribal Youth for Traditional/organic as well as intensive/modern farming.
- Banks and other funding institutions should lend interest-free loans to S.T. farmers and entrepreneurs for their productive ventures. A special assistance scheme should be implemented to promote organic farming practices (traditional) of tribes. This scheme should emphasise the preservation of primitive crops (e.g., Marathakkali -a variety of tomato (wild) usually seen in Marayoor, Attappady etc.) farming practices etc. as an initiative for conserving the rich tradition of farm and agriculture. Such conserved farm sites should be made as a centre of attraction for local and international tourists without hurting the traditional life and nature of tribes in the settlement.
- All these programmes and other initiatives are to be taken up during 14th F.Y.P. period to enhance the skill, employability, work environment, and employment opportunity of S.T. to ensure sustainable income and thereby achieve tremendous change in the Human Development Indices of S.Ts. in our State. Such deft policy measures are required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 without any innuendos.

### **Ambedkar Memorial Rural Institute of Development (AMRID)-**

#### **A Success Story to be Emulated**

202. An Institute for imparting skill up-gradation programmes to enhance the employability of Sch. Tribes (ST) under the Charitable Societies Act has been established in Wayanad District, as part of Dr. Ambedkar Centenary Celebrations by the name 'Ambedkar Memorial Rural Institute for Development (AMRID). The intention is to impart skill development programmes to enhance employability and provide appropriate employment to ST in Wayanad District, availing fund support from Sc. Tribes Development Department. Initially, the Institute started functioning in a rented campus building and is now accommodated in its own building comprising 20 cents of land at Kainatty near Kalpetta Civil Station.

203. The Institute started with imparting skill development in making Handicrafts products made from Coffee stem and roots. Another major programme is training in Motor driving (Light & Heavy, Auto rickshaw driving). Nearly 2200 ST Youths have undergone training in Motor Driving, and the trained persons are engaged in KSRTC, other Govt. Departments; private sector as well as working as Auto rickshaw drivers, Jeep, Truck drivers etc.

204. Apparel and Garment making is another potential area. Many women who have undergone training have set up self-employment units availing assistance from LSGI'S and ST Development Department; the Units are functioning efficiently. The trained persons in Printing and Book Binding are working in AMRID and Co-operative and private sector. 45

ST persons are working in this prestigious Institution with benefits of Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Bonus, and of them, 37 are women. Apart from this, more than 50 ST women are engaged seasonally for making uniforms, notebooks etc., to students studying in Model Residential Schools (MRS), Hostels under S.T. Development Department, thereby they earn ₹ 1 lakh to ₹ 2 lakhs per year. This is another achievement of AMRID.

205. Another significant intervention is imparting special coaching classes for public examinations for KPSC, UPSC, Banking Service Recruitment Board, RRB, etc. Nearly 300 educated ST Youths, including members of backward communities like Adiyas, Paniyas and Kattunaikkens got employment in various Government Departments in different Cadre/Services, Banks and other Institutions. The efforts to provide coaching to S.T.Youths who are aspiring, inculcated their inspiration and a feeling among the backward ST Communities, that Government jobs are accessible to them.

206. Thus AMRID is associated with Sch. Tribes Development Department as Special Purpose Vehicle to implement Vocational training programmes to generate permanent employment to educated ST Youths in Wayanad District in Government, Banks, Railway, etc., and provide regular and seasonal employment in the Institution itself.

207. AMRID is looking for diversification of activities in other Taluks in Wayanad District, & as such new campuses may be established in Vythiri, Mananthavady and Sulthan's Bathery taluks to impart skill up-gradation, career guidance and motivation programmes for ST Youths there. The existing Offset Printing press has a yearly turnover of more than Rs.60 lakhs per year. It has to be continued and upgraded to digital platforms. As part of modernisation and works of all Government, Semi Govt institutions, LSGI'S, Universities and University Departments functioning in Wayanad should be entrusted with AMRID exempting necessary Store Purchases Rules.

208. IT-oriented programmes in association with Centre for Development of Imaging Technology (C-DIT), Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (KDISC), KELTRON, Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology(DUK), and reputed IT firms, including Uralunkal Labour Contract Co-operative Society, have to be included to enable S.T.Youths in emerging employment avenues in IT field.

**209. The following points may be incorporated during the 14th Five Year Plan period.**

1. Establishment of production cum marketing complex at Kalpetta Municipality. Land for accommodating such complex has to be identified in the growth centre itself to get maximum attraction from local people and tourists. Moreover, as Wayanad is the only ST predominant District in the State, such an institutional arrangement will help to develop the Self Esteem of the Sch. Tribes in the District.
2. Training in Apparel and Garment Making, Offset Press, and Bookbinding benefited seasonal employment opportunities to more than 50 ST women, which enabled them to earn an income ranging from 1 lakh to 2 lakh per year. This outstanding

achievement may be diversified and sustained by establishing a permanent Apparel and Garment making Unit, Digital platforms for printing and composing at AMRID, to impart training and production of School uniforms, AMRID Notebooks etc. to Model Residential Schools, Hostels under ST Development Department and Schools under General Education Department in Wayanad District, which will provide permanent employment to many of ST women in the District.

3. Separate Budget provision for undertaking the Additional Skill Acquisition Programmes, imparting special coaching to Competitive examinations including KPSC, UPSC, various Banking Recruitment Boards, Railway Recruitment Board, Public undertakings, Coaching for Professional Courses, Integrated Degree Courses of various Universities including Central University, familiarize & motivate the ST students to prepare for the courses in accordance with their aptitude including different courses such as Civil Service Examinations, Kerala Administrative Service etc. from High School level onwards in association with the Faculties of Government Colleges, Aided Colleges, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University, Pookode, Krishi Vinjana Kendra of Agriculture University, Ambalavayal and Department of Tribal & Rural Studies at Edavaka in Wayanad under the University of Kannur. All these will enable them to have education on a regular basis.
4. At the same time, in the proposed Waynad Package, prime importance has to be given to Additional Skill Acquisition Programmes to educated S.T. Youths in Wayanad District, among other things. Multi-level training programmes are required for the ST youths to undertake employment, and to spread over to multiple areas. The proposed areas in all three taluks are necessary for the diversification of activities of AMRID. The following projects may be considered.
5. Establishing a Heritage Tourism Campus with Craft Village, Traditional Medicinal Practicing Centre, Garden of medicinal plants and herbs, Ethnic Food Park, Platform for the performance of Traditional Art, Cultural Activities etc. in Cheengeri. It is possible to establish a Tourism Circuit incorporating Edakkal Caves and the proposed Heritage museum at Chingeri. There is enough land at Chingeri Farm that can be utilised for this initiative.
6. The 20 acres of land available at Sugandhagiri can be brought as a Centre of Multiple Activities like promoting sports and games, imparting skill up-gradation in the IT-oriented sector and other emerging areas.
7. Another suitable Centre may also be established in Mananthavady to explore the possibilities of Devotional Tourism connected with Valliyurkavu, Kattikulam and Thirunelli Temples, coupled with Heritage Tourism and Responsible Eco-tourism Avenues such as Weaving Village & Traditional Herbal Practising Centres in the Taluk. The land required for this can be identified from Mananthavady Tribal Co-operative Society or elsewhere.

8. The success model of AMRID may be extended to Palakkad, Kannur, Kasaragod and Idukki Districts according to the local needs.

## INFRASTRUCTURE PART 1

### Introduction

210. Infrastructure represents those types of capital goods that serve the activities of many sectors, including paved roads, railroads, seaports, communication networks, financial systems, housing, energy supplies, and other basic amenities that support production and marketing for industries and humans within the country. Besides that, the quality of an Infrastructure directly affects a country's economic growth potential and the ability of human capital as well as enterprise to engage effectively. They are basic essential services that should be put in place to enable development to occur. Socio-economic development can be facilitated and accelerated by the presence of social and economic infrastructures. If these facilities and services are not in place, the development will be challenging and can be likened to a very scarce commodity that can only be secured at a very high price and cost.

211. It is reasonable to deduce the development and absorption of human capital in the marketplace crucially depends on the income generated in the productive segments of the economy. Nevertheless, the growth in GDP alone may not lead to proportionate enhancement in human development and its absorption. The higher the wealth generated in the economy, it is argued, the more is the distributive surplus available for greater investment in human capital. Hence, strong fundamentals of the economy at the aggregate level are a prerequisite for greater development in human development (Ahuja, 2000). The lack of social and physical infrastructure is a barrier to the human development of backward communities, particularly scheduled tribes.

212. As per the Report on the Socio-Economic Status of Sch. Tribes of Kerala 2013(S.T.D.D, 2013) published by Sch. Tribes Development Department, the Sch. Tribes (S.T) population in Kerala is 4,26,208 comprised in 1,07,965 families. They are mainly inhabiting in 4762 habitats/settlements, of which 948 are within the reserve forests, 948 habitats in the immediate vicinity to the reserve forests and another 1303 habitats are located infringes of forests having a frequent attack of wild animals. Thus, among the 4762 habitats, 2755(57.85%) are located within the reserve forests or in the immediate vicinity or fringes of forests. From this, it is evident that most ST habitats are located in the interior, remote areas where infrastructure facilities are very few; as such, the accessibility of public services and other facilities is also scarce. The Government Institutions also lack sufficient staff throughout the year, which adversely affects the proper implementation of development programmes. 18 Communities (2,24,839 - 52.75%) including the majority Community of Paniyan and numerically smallest Community like Malasar, Cholanaikken and Malapandaram and endangered Community like Arnadan, among S.T are having literacy ranging from 39.9per cent to 68.98 per cent almost of them are backward, landless

and homeless.

### **Major Areas/Issues to be focused and Policy Suggestions under Infrastructure Development for the 14th Five Year Plan**

213. The main occupation of STs in Kerala is Agriculture. Next to agriculture, the collection of Non-timber forest produces, and handicrafts are the other sources of income. The absence of irrigation facilities, attacks from wild animals makes agriculture highly uncertain and less productive. Ecological and environmental destruction coupled with a frequent attack from wild animals has seriously affected the Tribal economy, which existed only at the subsistence level. Low level of literacy, agriculture depended on the economy, absence of land and adequate skill training to adopt modern employment avenues forced a majority of Tribals to exist below poverty.

214. Forest-dwelling S.T in our State believes that their culture was born and nourished in the forests. Their dependence for survival upon its continued existence has imbued in them a respectful attitude to Mother Nature and given rise to the most basic forest management principles. Elements of Tribal identity have been noted as harmony with nature, equity in society and collectivism in economic activities. The ethnic systems evolved by Tribal Communities over the ages may be outdated technologically but are interwoven with the socio-dynamics of these societies. As such, Tribals' traditional wisdom and indigenous knowledge should be transformed to meet the new challenges by imparting adequate skill up-gradation programmes.

215. Distribution of Land to landless families is being undertaken in a mission mode in Kerala. With the implementation of FRA-2006, the land is to be distributed among the tribes of Kerala, who are considered to be autochthones of the forest as per the Act.

216. About 7930 families who are landless need to be given land after strictly considering the following factors that the land is suitable for living with basic amenities like drinking water, electricity and connectivity -both road & internet, agriculture etc. The successors are to be stated in the title deed. The scope of livelihood activities needs to be insured. The court cases in connection with land alienation are to be settled in favour of the tribes. Land Survey and beneficiary survey to be conducted and a data bank of land/resources of tribes to be created. The 20 tribal communities still listed as most backward among the STs with respect to allotment of land (12th Plan) need to be addressed during land distribution. These are to be done in an operational mode.

217. The practical implementation of the Land Bank scheme in various Districts is to be evaluated and closely monitored with monthly reviews. There is a speedy distribution of land to the landless Tribals. The guidelines need to be thoroughly scrutinised, and amendments need to be carried out in this plan period. A special team of dedicated officers to be entrusted with the study. A survey of utilised and unutilised land to be recorded. Medicinal plant cultivation in the abandoned land by the tribal healers of the locality to be initiated.

Timber cultivation in available land of the tribal hamlet premises is suggested.

218. It is seen that the land laws of the State often conflict with the customary law of the land of the tribes. The tribes had their customary law and territories in the forest. Hence Land Laws need to be complimentary with the customary laws of the different tribal communities. Awareness creation through the training of educated tribal youths on various land laws and rules of the State and the country is to be undertaken in this plan period, and a policy level decision in the amendment of the land laws to be undertaken. Legal experts to be appointed for settling all land-related issues writ the Scheduled Tribes.

219. Tribal settlement and rehabilitation should be planned with a holistic vision with sustainable development in perspective. This needs to be structured with the first step of land identification and acquisition to acquire the land and bring it under the freehold of the Government. The process of land identification and acquisition must be transparent to correct the previous mismanagement related to this and to start a systematic and time-bound scheme. The urgent first step regarding this is to implement the court order to give back all the lands to tribes. Survey the land owned by corporate and private companies and give the excess land to Tribes. Find the plantations owned by the Government which are no longer in use and give them to tribes.

220. The second step is to develop a holistic land design for high efficiency and quality of life. A piece of land should be developed into a self-sufficient area of tribal life and culture. For this, the following criteria should be taken care of. Green Infrastructure is proposed as the defining principle in all the following factors: ecological concerns and love towards nature are part and parcel of tribal life.

221. The Tribal Resettlement and Development Mission (TRDM) are assigned as the nodal agency to implement FRA. The primary objective of the TRDM is to provide land to landless tribes, housing, and other infrastructure facilities to the people of the Scheduled Tribes. It also implements livelihood schemes for resettled tribal families. The Comprehensive Evaluation Report of TRDM conducted by KIRTADS in 2017-2018 visiting all TRDM sites need to abide in letter and spirit while implementing new projects for TRDM.

222. Houses have been provided to almost all S.T families having land, but a good number of houses are required repair or dilapidated, and some of them are beyond repair. In most cases, the existing houses are insufficient to accommodate all family members and carry out studies for school-going children. A significant programme undertaken by the State Government is to provide housing to all families belonging to the Scheduled Tribes. The construction of new houses and housing complexes have been undertaken through the LIFE Mission from 2018-19 onwards. Financial assistance is provided from the State Plan and the local government Plan. In 2016-17, 6,709 houses were sanctioned under various schemes of the Scheduled Tribes Development Department; these 1895 houses have been completed. The remaining 4,814 houses are in various stages of completion. In the first phase of the LIFE Mission, 12,049 unfinished houses were identified; 11,216 have been

constructed. Under Phase II of LIFE Mission, 6,107 houses have been sanctioned, out of which 2001 have been constructed.

223. The policy of the State Government is to provide housing to all Scheduled Tribes so that there will be no Scheduled Tribe family without a home in the State. It is estimated that about 16,070 tribal families possessing land are houseless, and 10,944 families are landless, according to the survey conducted by ST Development Department in 2019-20 (Kerala Economic Review, 2020) Kerala State Planning Board). From 2017-18 onwards, the housing programme is implemented through LIFE Mission. Under the Mission, there should be a sub-plan for the tribal population so that no family will be left out for one reason or another. Therefore the 14th FYP should redress the grievances now faced by the tribal population in this regard. Also, it is to be noted that a large number of subfamilies have no independent houses. As per the Report on the Socio-Economic Status Survey (2013), 44,540 houses are in dilapidated condition.

224. The Governmental and Non-Governmental housing interventions need to be well designed after adequately evaluating the existing schemes. Special consideration should be given to subfamilies for the construction of houses. Guidelines should be prepared for allocating funds for constructing spacious houses according to the number of family members. Most of the Fund allocated for housing is spent on delivering construction materials. Therefore, the construction of houses cannot be completed. So, Fund should be allocated according to the geographical area of the settlements. Guidelines should be framed in the construction of houses according to the traditions of each tribe separately. It is better to incorporate ethnic approaches in the construction of houses. It is to be ensured that construction works are done in a time-bound manner. Several tribal people are experts in constructing houses according to their natural habitat and Eco specific way. Guidelines need to be put in place to utilise their skills. We should try to train and build a team of the tribal community members in a hamlet to do the construction and renovation work on their own.

225. While building houses for tribes, we should also consider the lifestyle and culture of people who live in those houses. Facilities for following their customs need to be provided along with the house to become not a space for occupying but for living. A study conducted by KIRTADS on the traditional house construction of Mudhuvan Community of Idukki District can be relied upon to plan for other areas also. Another example of this sort is the houses constructed in Attappady by AHADS.

226. A success story of Housing Scheme in Flood Affected Areas that has been implemented recently in Wayanad District is presented here as a case study. During the year 2019-20 a housing scheme called 'REHAB' was launched in Wayanad District jointly by Revenue, STDD and District Nirmiti Kendra to provide houses to 14 Paniyan community beneficiaries of Kolathara Bestippoyil settlements in Anjukunnu village in Panamaram Grama Panchayat, who are frequently affected by flood waters of Panamaram River. The Nirmiti Kendra Engineers prepared a Special Plan and estimate for this area. In Kolathara habitat there are 7 houses, the worst flood affected area, are selected to construct houses on

concrete pillars with ladder facilities to enter it at a cost of ₹ 6 lakhs. In Bastipoyil the land is little high raised and there 7 houses were constructed without erecting pillars, since flood water will not affect them. During the recent flood, water entered Kolathara area. But the beneficiaries were safe inside these new houses. The District Administration has set apart ₹ 4 Lakhs from Revenue Department and ₹ 2 lakh from STDD for this scheme. The field level officials of both the Departments, Engineers of Nirmithi Kendra worked in unison to complete this project on time. Hence it is recommended that wherever possible convergence of various Departments and agencies should be channelized to solve tribal issues like housing, providing land to landless ST families etc. during the 14th Five Year Plan.

227. The degraded environment and undulated terrain deny many families a safe drinking water supply throughout the year. In the first instance, impure drinking water is a potential source of physiological disorders. Secondly, ST people have to trudge long distances to fetch water. Thirdly even the existing source has scant supply.

228. Facilities for clean drinking water should be provided. The maximum use of the existing natural water resources like ponds and streams is proposed other than bore-wells. Revival of contaminated water sources should be included here.

229. The educated youths are trained to have sanitation facilities. In certain places, the available sanitation facilities are not put to use for want water.

230. Sports and cultural activities are essential to the overall growth and well-being of a community; facilities should be provided. This can be done by building community centres with spacious halls, libraries, and centres to develop tribal arts and crafts.

231. The basic purpose for all the schemes related to tribal development is to make communities self-reliant. It is necessary to provide business centres that can work as local markets for tribal people. This should be done according to the need of each community. Funds should be allocated to conduct marketing festivals as part of these centres, for the exhibition and sale of products made by the people.

232. We have to make sure that proper transportation facilities are available to the tribal people. The settlement area should be connected with cities, and other villages as people can access various services and connect.

### **Conclusion**

233. All these backwardness's create unhappiness among S.T as a whole and educated S.T youths in particular. It can be seen that some people exploit the sad situation for anti-social activities. Hence it is imperative to eliminate the backwardness in a time-bound manner. In our State, steps are being taken to improve infrastructure facilities on a war footing mode. It is worth mentioning that a proportionate share of general development should be ensured to improve infrastructure facilities in Tribal areas of the State. This necessitates introducing a Tribal Sub Pan component under the Rebuild Kerala Initiative (RKI) and the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) to develop infrastructure

in Tribal areas of our State. There should be a Tribal Sub Pan as part of all Major missions/Programmes of Central and State Governments. The basic principle for the plan for Infrastructure, Housing and Land should be sustainable development and self-reliant communities. In every building project related to this, we should take advice from a team of experts, including architects, to address factors like space quality, climate analysis, beneficiary needs, natural lighting, etc. The aim is not to make a number of buildings for its sake, but these buildings are to be in accordance with specific needs. Tribal resettlement in such designated, developed areas has many practical benefits like minimum cost. Staying together will help tribal communities have rich kinship ties and protect their crops from animals. In all the schemes, we need to include experts from tribal communities as representation and community participation are very important in this. All the plans drafted, funds allocated and schemes implemented are to be perceived as the right of tribal people, not as charity or generosity.

## **PART-2**

### **THE SCHEDULED TRIBES AND OTHER TRADITIONAL FOREST DWELLERS**

(Recognition Of Forest Rights) Act, 2006- A Review

234. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition Of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA) is considered a significant landmark in the history of forest resource use and management in India. The Act aims to restore traditional rights of forest dwellers on the one hand and maintain ecological balance; on the other, to provide sustainable livelihood options to forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers. The FRA recognises and vests the forest right and occupation in forest land at both the individual and community levels in Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers who have resided in forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded so far. The preamble of FRA reads that the denial of appropriate rights and records to the Forest Dwellers has resulted in 'Historical Injustice' to them who are integral to the very survival and sustainability of the forest ecosystem. In Kerala, the Government decided in 2008 that the Non-tribals are not part of this Act.

235. The important rights provided are; Individual Forest Rights (IFR) (section 3.1.a), Community Forest Resource Right (C.F.R.Right) and constitution C.F.R.Rights Management Committee. (Section 3.b,c,e,g,k, and 3.1.1 of the Act) and Development Right (section 3.m). On review of the progress of implementation of the Act in Kerala, it reveals that 36123 IFR claims received till 31-05-2011 and 16723 Records of Rights (ROR) issued covering an extent of 20502 acres (8,300.40 ha.) of land (Table 5.3.1). It is seen from records that an area of 42,984 acres of land was surveyed based on claim of applications during this period and settled only for an extent of 20502 acres of land only. This accounts for 62.6 per cent of IFR claims so far recognised.

**Table 29:** Progress of implementation of Forest Right Act 2006 as on 31-05-2011

Sl. No.	District	No. of FRA	No. of Individual Claim received	No. of claims passed by D.L.C	No. of Title deeds issued	Extent of land (In Acre)
1	TVM	36	5241	5189	3449	4863.89
2	KLM	14	1214	1162	1074	936.00
3	PTA	18	1082	718	659	415.00
4	KTYM	13	1661	1437	1232	1402.00
5	IDLI	93	11049	5368	2711	5369.00
6	EKM	14	1472	867	492	584.73
7	TCR	36	1341	741	502	667.15
8	PGT	90	3763	1137	1018	1334.52
9	MLPM	28	1306	779	622	498.20
10	KZKD	2	20	11	11	6.87
11	WYD	110	6937	4025	4025	2970.71
12	KANR	57	1037	1009	928	1454.15
<b>Total</b>		511	36123	22443	16723	20502.00

Source: Progress Report on implementation of FRA2006 as of 31-05-2011 of DSTD.

236. Further, from 01-06-2011 to 31-05-2016, the total number of IFR claims received cumulatively increased to 37,066. Against this, ROR has been issued to 24,945 cases covering an extent of 33073 acres of land (13,389.88 ha.) (Table 5.3.2) This comes to 30.78 per cent of the total IFR claims so far recognised.

**Table 30: Progress of implementation of Forest Right Act 2006 as on 31-05-2016**

Sl. No.	District	No of FRA	No. of Individual Claim received	No. of claims passed by D.L.C	No. of Title deeds issued	Extent of land (In Acre)
1	TVM	38	5695	4794	4633	6478.38
2	KLM	14	1214	1162	1158	983.76
3	PTA	22	1130	940	847	589.30
4	KTYM	12	1704	1377	1377	1538.64
5	IDLI	93	11049	7860	7729	13670.31
6	EKM	14	1545	1127	920	1900.00
7	TCR	36	1341	816	810	805.47
8	PGT	143	3901	1302	1222	1573.00
9	MLPM	36	1493	948	945	710.36
10	KZKD	5	20	11	11	6.87
11	WYD	109	6937	4450	4262	3227.06
12	KANR	57	1037	1031	1031	1590.00
<b>Total</b>		511	37066	25818	24945	33073.00

Source: Progress Report on implementation of FRA2006 as of 31-05-2016 of DSTD

237. As per the data available with the Director, Sch. Tribes Development, the total number of claims for IFR claims received on 30-09-2012 is 43466. The number of Title deeds issued on this date is 26714 with an extent of 35405.56 acres (14,334.23 ha.) (Table 5.3.3) It reveals the slow progress of implementation of FRA during the last 5 years which strikes at 6.62 per cent of the total IFR claims settled in the State so far. The average recognised area for Individual Forest Rights is 1.32 acres, whereas the national average is 2.18. The highest average of 1.95 acres is at Ernakulum. That lowest average of 0.62 acres is at Kozhikode. 70 per cent of IFR claims are from Idukki, Thiruvananthapuram, Palakkad and Wayanad Districts and out of 24945 IFR claims, 72 per cent of the recognised claim are from these four Districts. As per Report on Socio-Economic Status of Sch. Tribes of Kerala (ST Report) there are 4,762 Sch. Tribes (ST) habitats/Settlements in Kerala. Out of this, 504 habitats are situated within the reserve forest, 948 settlements are immediate vicinity of reserve forests, and another 1303 habitats are adjoining to the forest. These areas are facing acute problems of wild animal attacks frequently. The extend of land in these habitats are not available in the S.T. Report.

238. According to the Forest Survey of India report 2009, it is estimated that FRA can benefit 725 ST settlements covering an extent of 22311.828 ha. The land comprising the total forest covers of the State, 22,144.29 sq. km. It is evident from the above that the forest

rights on ancestral lands were not adequately recognised. According to the data with Forest Department, IFR over 35.75% of the land (79,977.60 ha.) under possession and enjoyment of Sch. Tribes in the State has yet to be recognised. It is observed that the continuance of historical injustice to the forest-dwelling Sch. Tribes have to be completed, and for this, the process has to be accelerated within a reasonable time frame during 14 FYP.

**Table 31: Progress of implementation of Forest Right Act 2006 as on 30-09-2021**

Sl. No.	District	No of FRA	No. of Individual Claim received	No. of claims passed by D.L.C	No. of Title deeds issued	Extent of land (In Acre)
1	TVM	49	6060	4797	4654	6527.39
2	KLM	14	1216	1158	1158	983.76
3	PTA	22	1504	984	943	609.0
4	KTYM	13	1704	1408	1401	1560.58
5	IDKI	127	13350	8488	8488	14631.93
6	EKM	15	1691	1232	1144	2239.28
7	TCR	36	1345	870	823	899.89
8	PGT	155	5968	2038	1575	2285.68
9	MLPM	36	1493	948	945	710.36
10	KZKD	5	20	11	11	6.87
11	WYD	109	7918	4830	4541	3360.82
12	KANR	81	1197	1051	1031	1590.00
<b>Total</b>		662	43466	27815	26714	35405.56

Source: Progress Report on implementation of FRA2006 as of 30-09-2021 of DSTD

### Way Forward

239. The Sch. Tribes of Kerala practised shifting cultivation traditionally, and they used a quarter portion of land at a time for cultivation. The Other portions of land will remain untouched. During the next spell, another quarter of land will be put into use, and this cycle will go on over the years. Thus, the entire land will be used in four spells spread over 4 to 8 years. Later, the Forest Department disallowed the shifting cultivation. In the wake of the introduction of The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Forest Department altogether banned the shifting cultivation. Accordingly, that part of the land, originally being used for non-forestry purposes, during the intervening period of more than 28 years since the inception of Act during 1980, has undergone considerable changes due to jungle growth. This kind of land could have come under the FRA provisions, and that did not happen

here. The net result of this is that the average recognised land under IFR has become 1.32 acres in Kerala as against the National average of 2.18 acres. The claims of landless ST over their land and the associated political movements and assurances given to them by the Government from time to time are also worth mentioning. Hence it is essential to provide land initially occupied by their ancestors for practising traditional shifting cultivation has to be restored to the existing generation. Then only they can undertake sustainable cultivation and other productive activities without harming the ecosystem and satisfy their ethical beliefs, resulting in having an excellent bio-physical base for their livelihood. In these circumstances, the loss of land has to be restored.

240. Out of 43,466 IFR claims received, we could have settled only 26,714, and 16,752 claims are either pending or rejected. The rule envisages to intimate the claimant the reason for rejection in person to enable the individual to prefer an appeal petition to the respective Committees within 60 days, which shall be extendable to another period of 30 days, at the discretion of the above Committees. There is no evidence for such a process duly completed in our State. In February 2019, the Supreme Court of India had directed all States to review the rejected claims. The Apex Court observed that the claims of Forest Dwelling ST were rejected arbitrarily without following the due process of law and directed the State Government to review the rejected claims. As of 30 th September 2021, a total number of 16752 IFR claims were rejected across the State. The data further reveals that 1012 Community Forest Rights (CFR) claims were received as of 30-09-2021, and against this, only 174 claims were settled, 373 rejected, and the remaining 465 are pending. In Kerala, 27 per cent of claims seems to be rejected, which should be reopened immediately.

241. The Government of India have given specific directions to State Governments to take urgent steps for conversion of land for which rights recognised under FRA in Forest Villages into Revenue Villages. In Kerala strictly there is no Forest Village. However, the land allotted under IFR should cover the provisions of Revenue records in this regard and that part has not been initiated so far, which may result in the future entry into legal complications. It may be pointed out that STDD has already taken action and requested the Revenue Department to put IFR land, especially under the provisions of Revenue records, in this matter. The idea is that in future, the Revenue Authorities should not interpret it merely as a Revenue land because caution should be taken that the land under IFR is non-transferable but inheritable to legal heirs only. The Act and Rules envisage that the Forest Rights conferred under FRA cannot be challenged in any Courts in India. Nevertheless, there are complaints that cases are coming to various Courts in the State in other ways challenging the IFR. This has to be viewed seriously, and appropriate legal steps to be taken to dispose of the cases in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

242. Further, as per section 16 of the FRA Rules 2012, the State Government shall ensure that all steps be taken to improve land, its productivity, basic amenities and other livelihood measures invariably. A detailed plan of action with the convergence of programmes of LSGI's with all line Departments for the sustainable development of land provided under IFR ensuring food security and nutritious food.

243. All Committees under FRA, FRC, SDLC, DLC, State Level Monitoring Committee; should be revamped and reconstituted for its proper discharge of duties. Moreover, all Committees should meet at regular intervals as laid down in Rules to review the implementation progress and sort out the bottlenecks, if any, noticed, then and there.

244. The FRC's should be reconstituted with representatives of ST to whom Rights have yet to be recognised to speed up the democratic process of claiming their rights irrespective of the geographical disadvantage, the proximity of ST habitats.

245. The members of FRC, habitat and Grama Sabha should strictly be sensitised properly regarding various provisions of FRA and rules regulating evidence in proof of possession and enjoyment of exact boundary of ancestral land to get the rights recognised invariably.

246. Similarly, the officers of ST Development Department, Revenue, Forest and LSGI are adequately trained regarding the Act and Rules as amended during 2012 to ensure inter-departmental coordination for effective implementation of FRA as desired.

247. The members of the Sub Divisional Committee, District Level Committee are also being appropriately trained to resolve interdepartmental conflicts, ensuring coordination and speeding up the pace of recognising the rights enshrined in the Act.

248. Action should be taken at the grassroots level to survey and demarcate the land they inherited initially by generations in full and to get it recognised within a time frame. Such a piece of land will be sufficient for ST to undertake self-cultivation or other productive activities conducive to the forest ecosystem.

249. The SDLC/DLC will take appropriate action to accept the claims without much delay and issues with specific boundaries and extent included and eligible family members.

250. The Community Forest Resource Management Right (CFR Management Right) has to be recognised, taking the community into confidence and accepting the legitimate claims on the boundary, without any dispute with adjoining Communities or arriving at a consensus over conflicts through the good democratic process. The Forest, ST Development Department, Revenue, and LSGI'S have to take the lead to recognise the legitimate claims immediately jointly.

251. Community Forest Resource Management Right Committee (CFR Management Right Committee) has to be constituted and the members of such Committee and the members of the whole community itself regarding the rights conferred and duties and responsibilities to conserve the ecosystem intact and formulate conservation plans and its execution. The Committee may also be empowered to collect non-timber forest produces (NTFP) and to make value-added products, and eliminate all kinds of exploitation, if any, exists. In any way, it is worth stating that Participatory Forest Management Organizations cannot override FRA 2006. The provision of the FRA shall be in addition to and not in derogation of the provisions of any other law for the time being in force. (Section 13 of the Act). So, it is the responsibility of the Forest Department to act as a Nodal Agency for

empowering the Forest Dwelling ST Communities to exercise the right conferred to them harmoniously and generously, without giving any room for exploitation of any outsiders and keep the spirit of the Act in reality. The S T Development Department should keenly watch it and closely associate with Forest Department to ensure the proper exercise of powers conferred to Forest Dwelling ST Communities.

252. The ST Development Department and Forest Department should jointly help the CFR Management Right Committee with the active support of educated S.T. Youths to make value-added products, get it Agmarked, if possible, getting Geo Tag, to get the maximum price and to avoid the possibility of all sorts of exploitation.

253. The FRC, LSGI'S, all line departments have to be appropriately trained regarding issuance of Development Rights as provided in Section 3 m of FRA. In any way, no developmental initiatives should not be blocked for want of Development Rights in ST habitats located in Forest Areas of the State.

254. The displaced Sch. Tribes due to implementation of Hydro-electric and Irrigation projects should be properly rehabilitated providing sufficient land to such families according to the livelihood activities under provisions FRA itself, and such ST families are also Forest Dwellers, and still, they are residing in the forest, collecting NTFP, for example, Kadar families of Vachumaram, Semi-nomadic Malapandaram families in Tiger Reserve, Thekkady, Ranni, Konni and Achencovil Forest Divisions. (Section 4.8 of the Act).

255. The issues with Kurumba of Attappady regarding recognition of their ancestral lands (better known as 'Panjakkad' is to be resolved, and IFR and CFR Rights claims have to be settled harmoniously and judiciously.

256. FRA's recognition concerning paddy fields was inherited by Kadars of Kuriyarkutty in Parambikulam Forest Division, rehabilitation of landless families of Akamalavaram in Palakkad Forest Division, and similarly placed ST in all over Kerala. (Section 3.1. (a) of the Act)

257. No Forest Dwelling ST shall be evicted or removed from Forest land under his occupation till the recognition and verification procedure is completed. (Section 4.2 of the Act)

258. Separate land records for land rights recognised under FRA may be set up in Revenue records digitally to protect the chances for land alienation. (Section 3.1.h)

259. Action has to be initiated to dispose of any cases filed in any Courts regarding the land as it does not come under the preview of FRA. (Section 10 of the Act)

260. Urgent action must be taken in association with LSGI'S and all line departments to effectively use land under FRA for sustainable development programmes to ensure food security to Forest-dwelling ST in Kerala. (Section 16 of FRA, Amendment Rules 2012)

261. Offences and Penalties as laid down in Section 7 of the Act should invariably be taken to ensure the FRA's smooth implementation.

262. Given the above circumstances, the State Level Monitoring Committee has to take urgent action to review the gaps noticed in the 13th FYP so that 14th FYP can take a whole round of exercise of all the provisions of FRA within a stipulated period. Then only the statement given in the preamble as 'historical injustice' can be undone and stands close to the heart of the Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes of Kerala.

### **Land**

263. Land plays a vital role in determining the economic and social status of our society. As far as the case of ST in our State, this is the most crucial matter, and it is the primary source of their livelihood. The ST has traditionally lived as a community. All the resources belonged to the community, and they used them to meet basic human needs. Ownership of land is a matter of social status and is considered land as equal to mother.

264. The Report on Socio-Economic Survey of Tribals in Kerala, 2013 (STReport,2013) reveals that nearly 5 per cent of the 1,07,965 ST families are landless, and nearly 18.82 per cent of families have less than 5 cents of land. 34.27 per cent of families hold land ranging from 5 to 49 cents, and 12.58% possess land extending 50 to 99 cents. There are 29.33 per cent of ST families having one Acre or more than that. It is evident from this data that the deprivation of ST in Kerala is mainly due to landlessness. Another notable finding in the Survey is the leasing out of tribal lands to Non-Tribes for paltry considerations. The Survey shows that 1492.85 acres of land belonging to 1014 families are leased out all over the State. The landlessness and insufficient strip of land of ST in Kerala require special attention during the period of 14th Five Year Plan.

265. As per section 6 of "The Kerala Restriction on Transfer by, and Restoration of Land to Scheduled Tribes Act, 1999" (KST Act), a member of ST whose land is alienated between 1-1-1960 to 24-01-1986 shall be entitled to restoration of the equal extent of land by way of allotment from the Government. If the extent of land so restored is less than forty Ares, Government shall allow the rest of the land required to make the total extent equal to forty Ares(One Acre). Further, as per section 10(1) of the above Act, the Government shall assign land to the landless ST families of the State, an extent not exceeding forty Ares of land in the district they reside within two years from the date of publication of this Act in the Gazette. The Hon. Supreme Court had directed the State Government to restore alienated land by 31st March 2013. The Government have also assured the agitating members of the ST, for the allotment of land, that steps should be taken to provide not less than one Acre of land to all landless ST in the State in a time-bound manner. It may be mentioned here that all these promises are pending for realisation, which requires urgent attention and time-bound action during the 14th FYP.

266. Action must be taken to provide land to all landless ST families and those with nominal landholdings immediately. While identifying the eligible families for land distribution, the need of the subfamilies living with main families may also be considered.

267. All the land alienated or leased out by ST on or after the notification of KST Act may be restored invariably.

268. The entire land owned and occupied by ST in the State, irrespective of its status, should be surveyed, demarcated and digital records maintained in the Revenue Department, which should have access to ST Development Department and Registration Department to strictly prohibit and monitor transfer/alienation of land in future. Also, appropriate Title deeds incorporating the sketch and extent of land should be issued to all ST families having land in possession. Special preference will be arranged in the ongoing digital Survey of Villages in the State for this work and ensure that it is completed in a time-bound manner. For this purpose, a special task force consisting of the concerned departments may be constituted.

269. The ST families evicted from their traditional habitats for significant projects may be rehabilitated with land, shelter, and other amenities, including livelihood, means.

270. The ST's land under possession and enjoyment shall be used for sustainable development programmes to ensure food security, nutritional status, and regular income. It is imperative to undertake soil and water conservation works, improving irrigation facilities etc., in these lands as per integrated watershed master plans.

271. There are reports that alienation of land belonging to ST occurs in various parts of Kerala, forging documents illegally and getting legalised in the future. Proper vigilance should be taken to identify such matters and to curtail them inordinately.

272. The Registration Department should also take care to ensure that no registration of documents is done in their offices without the written consent of competent authority (as per section 4 of KST Act), the District Collector of the district.

## **Agricultural Development of Scheduled Tribes in Kerala**

### **Introduction**

273. The availability of food has always been a central preoccupation of mankind. An increase in agricultural production and the rise in the per-capita income of the rural community, together with industrialisation and urbanisation, can solve a lot of developmental issues (Dixon, Gulliver, & Gibbon, 2001). The agriculture sector is the backbone of an economy that provides the essential ingredients to mankind and raw material for other sectors in the economy. The agricultural sector can play a prominent role in Tribal development in terms of its potential to address critical challenges such as unemployment, malnutrition, poverty etc. Any improvement in this sector has the potential to reduce the socio-economic marginalities of Tribes.

274. Tribal agriculture is characterised by low technology and low input resources, and therefore, the nature of agricultural productivity of various crops in the tribal areas is not high (ICAR, 2017). However, they are a storehouse of unique knowledge and skills that other sections of society cannot claim. The traditional wisdom and indigenous knowledge

among tribes on eco-friendly agricultural practices remain uncared and untapped. Their traditional methods and practices are good enough to cope with the state-of-the-art technologies of the modern world (Varkey, 2020). They have better knowledge and practice on eco-friendly/ organic farming methods, which have disappeared from the mainstream farmers. To end their current predicament, they need to cultivate a work culture that utilises their unique skills. Investment priorities and government policies must consider the immense diversity of skills, opportunities and problems facing tribal farmers. Priority has to be assigned to tribes' agriculture development and other developmental issues like women empowerment, sustainable employment, malnutrition, health, and improving environmental and living conditions (water, sanitation and hygiene) in the tribal settlements.

#### 275. Tribal Workers in Agriculture and Allied Sectors (Age Group 15-59)

As per the Scheduled Tribes of Kerala Report on the Socio-Economic Status, 2013, the primary workers in agriculture and allied sectors in the age group 15-59 are 1,34,250. They are 69.21 per cent of the total workforce. Among them, 24,501 are farmers. They constitute 18.25 per cent of the main workers under agriculture and allied sectors. The largest number of farmers among Scheduled Tribes are found in Idukki District. There are 11,858 farmers in Idukki District, followed by Wayanad (6,504), Palakkad (2,064) and Kottayam (1,322). Animal husbandry is another sub-sector that employ 3436 farmers (2.56%). Wayanad District has 1316 farmers following animal husbandry as the main occupation. Palakkad stands next with 1139 farmers, followed by Idukki (373) and Kannur (141). Agriculture labour is the largest component under the broad category of agriculture and allied sectors. The agriculture labourers are 1,06,313 and they constitute 79.19 per cent of the main workers in agriculture and allied sectors. The major concentration of agriculture workers is in Wayanad (52,227 workers), followed by Kasaragod (17,043 workers), Kannur (12,110 workers) and Palakkad (9,832 workers) Districts. Wayanad District provides the largest number of main workers in agriculture and allied sectors in the age group 15-59. In Wayanad District, there are 60,047 workers in agriculture and allied sectors, followed by Idukki (18758 workers), Kasaragod (17304 workers) and Kannur (12863 workers). The workers in agriculture and allied sectors in Wayanad District constitute 81.36 per cent of the total workers in the district. This proportion is 77.98 per cent in Kannur, 77.29 per cent in Kasaragod and 72.92 per cent in Idukki. The details on the main workers in agriculture and allied sectors in the age group 15-59 in the districts are shown in **Table 32**.

**Table 32: Main Workers in Agriculture and Allied Sectors in the Age Group 15-59**

Sl. No.	District	Total Main Workers	Main Workers in Agriculture and Allied Sectors			% to Total Workers	
			Agriculture	Animal Husbandry	Worker-Agriculture		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	6805	1024	31	1517	2572	37.80
2	Kollam	1810	86	24	162	272	15.03
3	Pathanamthitta	2217	137	4	378	519	23.41

4	Alappuzha	1155	4	2	15	21	1.82
5	Kottayam	5545	1322	104	497	1923	34.68
6	Idukki	25716	11858	373	6527	18758	72.94
7	Eranakulam	3365	374	40	236	650	19.32
8	Thrissur	2391	142	21	307	470	19.66
9	Palakkad	22672	2064	1139	9832	13035	57.49
10	Malappuram	5596	139	48	2903	3090	55.22
11	Kozhikode	4007	98	69	2559	2726	68.03
12	Wayanad	73802	6504	1316	52227	60047	81.36
13	Kannur	16496	612	141	12110	12863	77.98
14	Kasaragod	22388	137	124	17043	17304	77.29
Total		193965	24501	3436	106313	134250	69.21

Source: Scheduled Tribes of Kerala: Report on the Socio-Economic Status, 2013

### **Tribal Workers in Agriculture and Allied Sectors Across Community (Age Group 15-59)**

276. As per the Scheduled Tribes of Kerala Report on the Socio-Economic Status, 2013, (STDD, 2013) among the farmers, the Mala Arayan community has the highest number. There are 5046 farmers in the Mala Arayan community, followed by Kurichain (4965 farmers) and Muthuvan (4308 farmers). A few farmers follow animal husbandry as the main occupation. Irular, Kurichian, Kurumar and Mala Arayan are included in the group of farmers and animal husbandry. Agricultural labourers are the largest group among the workers in Scheduled Tribes. Paniyan community provide the largest number of agricultural workers. Among the total workers in agriculture, 36,039 are (33.90%) Paniyan community. The next is Mavilan which has 10,585 agricultural workers (9.96%), followed by Malavettuvan with 7,930 workers (7.46%) and Kattunayakan with 6694 (6.30%) workers. The major contribution to the workforce in agriculture and allied sectors is from the Paniyan community. The workers in agriculture and allied sectors in the Paniyan community are 36,713 (27.35%). Kurichian community is the second-largest contributor of workers in agriculture and allied sectors. There are 12,360 (9.21%) workers in the sector belonging to the Kurichian community. Mavilan community provide 10,804 workers (8.05%), whereas the share of Mulla Kurumar is 7,000 (5.21%) workers. About 89.14 per cent of the main workers in the Adiyian community are engaged in occupations under agriculture and allied sectors. This ratio in the Eravallan community stands at 88.68 per cent and 86.57 per cent in Paniyan. Among PVTGs, Kattunayakan stands first in providing 72.84 per cent of the workforce in the agriculture and allied sectors.

**Table 33: Community Wise Data on Main Workers in Agriculture and Allied Sectors in the Age Group 15-59**

Sl. No.	Community	Total Main Workers	Main Workers in Agriculture and Allied Sectors			Total	% to Total Workers
			Agriculture	Animal Husbandry	Worker-Agriculture		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Adiyan	5533	43	51	4838	4932	89.14
2	Arandan (Aranadan)	118	14	1	19	34	28.81
3	Eravalan	2138	3	112	1781	1896	88.68
4	Hill Pulaya	1826	101	82	1396	1579	86.47
5	Irular, Irulan	13105	1508	940	4544	6992	53.35
6	Wayanad Kadar	309	22	14	191	227	73.46
7	Kanikaran (Kanikar)	7583	1060	49	1512	2621	34.56
8	Kudiya, Melakudi	337	9	-	161	170	50.45
9	Kurichchan Kurichiyan	16668	4965	575	6820	12360	74.15
10	Kurumar, Mullakurumar	10376	1316	472	5212	7000	67.46
11	Maha Malasar	66	-	-	3	3	4.55
12	Mala Arayan, Malayarayar	11056	5046	176	937	6159	55.71
13	Malai Pandaran	731	24	5	59	88	12.04
14	Malai Vedan, Mala Vedan	1679	38	-	301	339	20.19
15	Malasar	2123	7	6	1370	1383	65.14
16	Malayan	2349	35	21	931	987	42.02
17	Mannan	4455	1392	65	1612	3069	68.89
18	Muthuvan (Muduvan)	9744	4308	54	2937	7299	74.91
19	Mudugar	2053	325	58	735	1118	54.46
20	Palleyan, Palliyan, Palliyar, Palliyan	748	79	5	546	630	84.22
21	Paniyan	42408	478	196	36039	36713	86.57
22	Ulladan	6604	779	86	607	1472	22.29
23	Uraly	3617	2091	63	431	2585	71.47
24	Mala Vettuvan	9229	19	38	7930	7987	86.54
25	Thachanadan, Thachanadan Mooppan	792	10	8	640	658	83.08
26	Mavilan	14573	112	107	10585	10804	74.14
27	Karimpalan	6339	185	99	3996	4280	67.52
28	Vetta Kuruman	3211	60	27	2356	2443	76.08
29	Mala Panickar	318	7	4	158	169	53.14
	Sub Total	180088	24036	3314	98647	125997	69.97
	PVTG						

Sl. No.	Community	Total Main Workers	Main Workers in Agriculture and Allied Sectors			Total	% to Total Workers
			Agriculture	Animal Husbandry	Worker-Agriculture		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
30	Kadar	989	13	6	63	82	8.29
31	Kattunayakan	9464	128	72	6694	6894	72.84
32	Koraga	773	8	-	208	216	27.94
33	Kurumban (Kurumbas)	930	139	5	88	232	24.95
34	Cholanaickan	141	-	-	6	6	4.26
	Sub Total	12297	288	83	7059	7430	60.39
	Others	1580	177	39	607	823	52.08
	Total	193965	24501	3436	106313	134250	69.22

Source: Scheduled Tribes of Kerala: Report on the Socio-Economic Status, 2013

### 277. Major Areas / Issues to be focused for Agriculture Development during the 14th FYP.

- What are the main agriculture and horticulture crops raised in Tribal areas?
- Assessment of the region-wise variations.
- Identification of indigenous varieties.
- The total size of agricultural production
- Size of the population subsisting wholly on agriculture and horticulture.
- Size of the marginal farmers.
- Size of the agricultural workers who are also skilled in agricultural operations.
- The extent of the cultivable land available to the Tribal population.
- The extent of irrigated land.
- Is there any quantification of the produces?
- The number of households having food security.
- The number of households having surplus production.
- Types of marketing facilities available.
- Role of middlemen in the sale of their produces.
- Modus operandi of exploitation in a particular area.

- Is there any facility for a credit system?
- Is there any provision for compensation for the failure of crops?
- Occurrence of man-animal conflict and its impact on agricultural production.
- Whether the social changes like the formation of nuclear families have impacted agricultural activities.
- Biodiversity data is utilised or not.
- The agriculture calendar is utilised for the planning or not.
- Is there any correlation between organic farming and animal husbandry?
- Whether the emphasis on organic manure is still continuing or going for chemical fertilisers.
- Any research conducted on high yielding varieties.
- Farmers' connection with ICAR, Agriculture and Veterinary Universities, other research institutions etc.
- Whether the results are extended to the field level and any evaluation conducted on this aspect.
- What are the extension methods used to communicate with farmers?
- What are the potential areas for convergence?
- Climatic changes and its impact on crops assessed or not.
- Scope for the use of Information Technology.
- Whether the farmers are honoured and rewarded in any way.
- What is the system of monitoring in TSP areas.

**278. Policy Recommendations/ Suggestions for Agriculture Development during the 14th FYP.**

- There should be an approach to ensure safe employment by providing access to agricultural machinery, digital culture and training required to improve the living conditions of the ST workers in agriculture.
- There should be strategic policies to cultivate a collective approach among the Scheduled Tribes similar to the other farming communities.
- The Department of Agriculture should be entrusted with bringing the knowledge

and skills of agricultural activities to the tribal areas and implementing it locally in the Tribal Sub-Plan.

- Cultivation practices that take into account heritage, culture, area status and climatic, cultural and status should be considered in the activities for work of the Scheduled Tribes.
- Incentive schemes, including insurance and interest-free loans, should be prepared for the tribal sector. Revolving fund methodology should be used for the loans.
- Provisions should be made in the tribal sub-plan for the implementation of agriculture-related activities at the field level. Beyond subsidies, other auxiliary support to agriculture should be elevated.
- In addition to agricultural activities in the tribal areas, better support schemes such as the Tribal plus for Employment Guarantee Scheme should be promoted.
- Schemes for making them economically independent are essential. Training can be provided in various skills such as the cultivation of vegetables, tubers, cereals, pulses, millets, flowers, fruits, cattle, buffalo, goat and poultry rearing, mushroom cultivation, beekeeping in convergence with Kudumbasree JLGs, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Departments would help in this direction. In Wayanad, Kudumbasree has started schemes for crop cultivation by tribal farmers on fallow land taken on lease from private owners. Seed funding for the different steps in cultivation should be given to the participating tribal farmers from the revolving fund of the JLGs.
- Measures should be taken to promote their traditional knowledge and skills, such as cultivating traditional scented rice varieties, medicinal plant rearing, traditional medicine preparation by providing them with the required facilities and funding them for entrepreneurship activities. Production of value-added products from the traditional varieties of crops reared by them such as millets, rice, leafy vegetable varieties, medicinal products should be promoted.
- It would be helpful to constitute groups of 10 tribal farmers, each with the tribal promoter or any other resource person from the Tribal community, as the manager.
- All age groups, irrespective of gender, should be given training in different agricultural and animal husbandry activities.
- Cultivation of Foxtail millet (China), Little millet (Chama), Ragi (Muthari), Gingerly, upland paddy, maize should be given importance. There is a considerable demand for Chama and Ragi produced by tribal farmers.
- Gingerly should be processed and sold as Gingerly oil and the byproduct obtained in the process, Gingerly oil cake, used as cattle feed, will fetch additional income.

- Upland paddy can be processed with retention of 70 per cent bran, thus enhancing its cost in the market.
- Cultivation of ginger, turmeric, banana, tubers should be encouraged.
- Distribute at most minuscule 25 vegetable seedlings in earthen pots filled with potting mixture.
- Encourage cultivation of Jasmine (“Kuttimulla”) which will provide additional income.
- Cultivation of medicinal plants by ladies can be encouraged, which will provide additional income.
- An integrated farming system incorporating cultivation of crops, cattle rearing, goat rearing, fish rearing, mushroom cultivation and beekeeping should be encouraged.
- Training can be provided in the preparation of organic manure such as Coir pith compost and Vermicompost. Units can be established to start an enterprise in organic manure production.
- Training can be provided in the use of agricultural implements and supply them with agricultural implements to provide services to the farmers in tilling, harvesting etc.
- Training can be provided in nursery management, budding, grafting etc. and help them to establish a nursery for the production of planting material.
- Training can be provided in the preparation of egg amino acid, fish amino acid, “Jeevamrutham” etc., for organic farming and provide funding for starting an enterprise in the production of such preparations.
- An eco-shop can be started for the selling of products of tribal farmers.
- The production of value-added products should be encouraged from all crops so that they will get more income.
- The lack of a saving is a common characteristic of the tribal community. The current practice of giving the subsidy amount directly to the tribal farmer and the practice of beneficiary contribution will not help in the successful implementation of the schemes in the agricultural sector. Moreover, the granting of too many free schemes has made them complacent and will create dependency. The agricultural sector schemes should be implemented so that the subsidy amount is not given directly to the farmer. Funding should be allocated for each step in crop cultivation, right from land preparation to marketing. The services of Karshika Karma Sena under the respective Krishi Bhavan or Agro service centres should be used for land preparation. The farmers themselves can do other activities, and this activity can be incorporated

into the MGNREG scheme. Solar fencing is essential for preventing the destruction of crops by wild animals.

- Capacity building in Modern farming methods, hand-holding, and constant support are necessary for the successful implementation of schemes in the agricultural sector among the tribal community.
- Promotion of location-specific crops like Millet's pulses and oilseeds in Attappady, Spices and coffee, speciality rice in Wayanad, Spices and cool-season vegetables in Idukki etc.
- The focus of tribal farming should be changed to Orchard farming/ intensive farming from subsistence farming. To do this, marginal holdings should be consolidated, and they should be leased for large scale farming by cooperative societies/groups of young tribal farmers.

### **279. Objectives of Intensive/Orchard Farming in Tribal Areas**

- Water and soil conservation
- Promote farming as a means for livelihood rather than for mere subsistence
- Promote Intercropping and nutritional security (plots with mixed cropping of vegetables, grams and orchards)
- Promote Organic farming through mixed farming (cow dung/goat droppings)
- Ensure forward and backward linkage of agriculture among tribes

280. The cooperative movement is required to rejuvenate intensive farming among tribes. A State Cooperative Tribes' Farming Society (SCTFS) should be established. District level farming societies should be formed under SCTFS. Primary Tribes' Farming Societies (PTFS) with Ultra Units (UUs) (5-10 members) should be formed. (Just like Paadashekara Samithi) Under District level society.

### **Functions of SCTFS**

- Identify companies/agencies/institutions interested in contract farming and link them to farmers/UUs through PTFS.
- Integration of Agri tech innovation and the agriculture industry ecosystem to farming and food systems.
- Promote innovative Value-added services by Agri-tech industries and start-ups in tribal farming.
- Credit Planning and Monitoring, Coordination with various agencies and institutions.

- Assist in policy formulation of GoK on matters related to tribes' farming
- Promote unique tribes' agricultural products and ensure a good market at the international/national/state level.
- Collect and maintain a database on total agricultural (tribal farming) productions across crops, regions, sectors etc.
- Conduct expos at the international/national/state level to propagate tribes' traditional farming practices and their products.
- Institutional development and capacity building of fellow Cooperative institutions and their members to strengthen the agriculture and rural development in tribal areas.
- Promotional and developmental initiatives in the areas of the farm, off-farm activities like value-added products, initiatives for start-up projects, Convergence with Govt sponsored programmes.
- Supporting the rural development efforts of GoK and GoI.
- Thrust on the promotion of livelihood opportunities and Micro Enterprises in Agri farming of Tribes.
- Support and promotion to research and development, rural innovations, etc.
- All development Initiatives aimed at tribal farming should be implemented via SCTFS.
- Ultra-Units (UUs) should be encouraged to contract with Agri tech industries and start-ups to promote sustainable and intensive farming. Agencies in contract with farmers should ensure the supply of high yielding seeds, preserve traditional seeds, farm equipment, arrange training, and ensure field visits. In the contract, a prefixed minimum price should be ensured for the prospective yield of farmers. PTFS should do local Marketing.
- SCTFS should support PTFS to develop PTFS as Multi-Service Centres: Keeping in mind the comprehensive coverage of PTFS at the ground level. PTFS should be made as "One Stop Shop" unit for meeting the various requirements of the Tribal farmers.
- An online store for tribal products should be started for selling their Agri as well as forest collections. This online market should be maintained by skilled tribal youth.
- All crops and farmers should be insured.
- There should be a policy to promote herbal Farming: Kerala is still dependent on other states for the availability of medicinal plants. However, many medicinal plants grow in arid/dry areas like Attappady. Promotion of such farming, which does not

require much care, will ensure better returns, improve the quality of ayurvedic treatment /products in Kerala and ensure self-sufficiency.

- Government undertakings like OUSHADHI, Private entities like Kottakkal Arya Vaidhyashala etc., should be encouraged to enter into a contract with tribes to promote large scale herbal farming in uplands.
- Agriculture/Veterinary Universities should start compulsory internship programs in tribal farming to promote and familiarise the unique farming practices, crops, methods to its students.
- Agriculture/Veterinary Universities should start short term courses on tribal farming.
- A Digital Data Bank on Tribes' agricultural land should be prepared at the district level based on its type, farming status, etc. Through this digital data bank on land, arid land should be leased to tribal farmers/UUs/ PTFS.
- Interest-free loans should be given to the framers of those who are practising organic farming.
- A Seed Bank cum Museum (heritage) should be started to conserve the traditional seeds and farming practices/methods of scheduled tribes.
- There should be a policy for Smart Farmer Assistant.
- The advancement of scientific and technological knowledge has to be democratically shared by all citizens. The Tribal farmers can also be helped in many ways.
- They can be assisted in selecting better areas for farming, identifying the correct type of crop according to soil conditions, support of multi crop farming, forewarning systems etc.
- It can also guide the farmer about soil parameters like moisture, humidity, ph (potential hydrogen), temperature etc., with the help of sensors.
- The technical assistance may help natural farming by rejuvenating the indigenous varieties, saving seeds, alerting the pest attack, and controlling mechanisms.
- The environmental and health impacts of pesticides, chemical fertilisers, and soil and water conservation will be studied.
- The farmers will also be supplied with information relating to the demand of produces, current market prices and impending fluctuations if any.
- The system can also help soil conservation, terrace cultivation and dry farming in rain shadow areas.

- Convergence with Start-up Mission in Kerala and an android application can be used.
- A network of farmers will be created, and they will get timely information on all aspects of farming.
- This system is expected to increase transparency and accountability in good governance.

## **Health**

### **Introduction**

281. Health is an important determinant of the well-being of any community. Health is considered one of the essential elements of Human Development and Progress. The health of a person is defined as a state of their physical and psychological well-being. The word health has a different sense and meaning for the individuals and the groups. Health as a word is used to denote 'a condition or a state of wellbeing' (Dolfman, 1973). The concept of health was more precisely associated with the mental and moral soundness and well-being rather only concentrating more on the physiological functions of the body of a human being. The earliest and foremost notion of health was a state of disease-free which represents the traditional medical concept. It was accepted among the physician and medical personnel. Health was defined solely in terms of the lack of diseases, symptoms, signs or problems. The World Health Organization defines health as "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely absence of disease and infirmity." i.e. health is not just the nonexistence of disease in the body but also a condition in which an individual is physically fit, mentally sound and socially active. In this connection, well-being is defined as a state of the harmonious and congenial environment and the relationship of an individual to its physical, biological and socio-cultural environments. The definition of WHO on health conceptualized and emphasized on more in terms of the presence of physical, mental and social well-being and their interrelationship. Health is a pre-requisite condition for any development and growth of human civilization. It constitutes the well-being of an individual on the account of physical, psychological and social level. Health is also a significant indicator of social development (Negi & Singh, 2019). Therefore, health is a precondition and very significant index of overall-development of the nation.

### **Tribal Health in India and Kerala**

282. The problem of lower health status of Tribal people is global. A recent international review revealed that health and social outcomes depended on nine indicators and were poorer for indigenous people than for the rest of the population in most of the countries. However, it is not nature's inviolable law. Life expectancy among indigenous people is more than 70 years in the high-income countries. Infant mortality rate for indigenous people is less than ten in the high-income countries. Nearer home, it is 6.6 in Thailand. In India during the comparable period, it was 74 (Bang, 2017). The tribal people in India form a heterogeneous group with a huge diversity. Yet, the one commonality among tribal communities in India is that they have poorer health indicators, greater burden of morbidity and

mortality and very limited access to healthcare services.

283. However, the Scheduled Tribes people in Kerala have maintained good health practices in the past. They have collected highly nutritious food materials from their surrounding forests and also cultivated cereals and millets to maintain food security and nutritional status. The indigenous health care systems prevalent among them were also helped in providing health care requirements to maintain a good physique. The depletion of forest resources and engagement as wage worker altered their health conditions tremendously. Slowly the traditional ethnic food habits have been changed and fast-food culture is occupied in its place. The consumption of illicit liquor brewed locally and other drug items etc. and apathy to undertake treatment in hospitals accelerated deterioration of their health condition. This fact is best revealed in the health status portion of the Report on the Socio-Economic Status of the Scheduled Tribes of Kerala, 2013 (S.T.D.D., 2013)

284. The Scheduled Tribes in Kerala, especially the vulnerable section, is hesitant to avail medical assistance provided by Health Institutions both under Health Services and AYUSH Departments. The role of Scheduled Tribes Development Department is that of a facilitator. The use of narcotics and psychotropic substances is also noted among Scheduled Tribes irrespective of age. There are indicators of a negative approach towards practicing good health habits is visible. The change in the food habits from traditional practices to fast food culture leads to the increase of lifestyle diseases. All these highlight the need for a comprehensive health survey of S.T. Communities in Kerala and evolving a new approach and special care to health issues facing Scheduled Tribes accordingly, during the 14th FYP period.

### **Tribal Health Issues to be Focused**

285. India's poor Tribal people have far worse health indicators than the general population. The Tribal people in Kerala are not an exception to this. Most tribal people live in remote rural hamlets in hilly or forest areas where illiteracy, trying physical environments, malnutrition, inadequate access to potable water, and lack of personal hygiene and sanitation make them more vulnerable to disease. This is compounded by the lack of awareness among these populations about the availability of modern medicine and measures needed to protect their health, their distance from medical facilities, the lack of all-weather roads and affordable transportation, insensitive and discriminatory behavior by staff at medical facilities, financial constraints and so on. Government programs to raise their health awareness and improve their accessibility to primary health care have not had the desired impact. Not surprisingly, tribal people suffer illnesses of greater severity and duration, with women and children being the most vulnerable. The starkest marker of tribal deprivation is child mortality, with under-five, mortality rates among rural tribal children remaining startlingly high, at about 100 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2005 compared with 82 among all children.

286. Though it has long been suspected that tribal people have poor health and unmet needs, health care for tribal people remained subsumed in rural health care. It was assumed that tribal people have same health problems, similar needs and hence the uniform national

pattern of rural health care would be applicable to them as well, albeit with some alteration in population: provider ratio. The different terrain and environment in which they live, different social systems, different culture and hence different health care needs were not addressed. Not surprisingly health and healthcare in tribal areas remained unsolved problems. But how would the State know? No separate data on tribal health were maintained. That permitted a blissful unawareness of tribal health.

### **Critical Areas and Policy Suggestions for Improving Tribal Health in 14th F.Y.P.**

287. Proximity of Health institutions: As per the S.T. Report, 2013, out of 4,762 ST habitats, 2,103 habitats have no proximity to any kind of Health Institutions. The services of functionaries of health services are not getting in 780 habitats. It is necessary to have a detailed study on the unavailability of the service delivery system and develop suitable intervention strategies to overcome the problem.

288. Special care to Differently Abled & Mentally Retarded patients: 19,386 people belonging to Scheduled Tribes are categorized as Differentially Abled and Mentally challenged, as per the S.T Report. The condition of certain mentally retarded persons is worse and they could not undergo proper treatment or live with family, sometimes wandering here and there including forests. The incidence of physical deformities and mental disorders among Scheduled Tribes Communities are found at a higher rate, even in educated youths. Special care is required to these persons and appropriate measures are to be extended for their treatment and care. Also, the reason for this grave situation needs detailed investigation and appropriate remedial measures to be taken during the 14th FYP period.

289. Mental and behavioral disorders are high in Vulnerable Communities. It is a fact that the percentage of alcohol abstainers is notably low. The suicide rate among S.T people are high and this shows the urgency to start programmes for mental health and well-being among S.T Communities. Counselling centres and the help of Psychiatrists should be made available to S.T dominated areas. Habitat wise micro plan in each L.S.G.I.s required for minimizing this issue.

290. Palliative care to patients suffering from chronic diseases, incapacitation and bedridden persons: There are 33,336 patients with chronic diseases and another 36,567 persons, including 713 bedridden patients due to incapacity, who required the support of others to perform their day-to-day affairs. Special arrangements to look after these aggrieved persons are necessary and appropriate programmes to be formulated during the 14th FYP period.

291. A separate Geriatric Care Policy has to be prepared for the elderly S.T. Loss of traditional social control mechanism resulted in abandoning of elderly. They required a societal intervention to support elders and the trend is more or less is diminishing. Some of the persons belonging to the new generation among Scheduled Tribes are hesitant to look after their age-old parents, grandparents and other aged relatives. On the other hand, the aged people are not willing to move away from their homes and habitats. This problem is a great challenge now experienced by ST people and they require appropriate remedial measures including awareness programmes. A detailed programme has to be formulated during the

14th FYP period.

292. Nutritional Deficiency: The nutritional deficiencies of children below 6 years, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating mothers etc. were identified in the ST Report 2013. The services of ICDS through Anganwadis are not available in 3,075 settlements and two-third of the pupils under the age group of 3-5 is not attending Anganwadi due to various reasons. It is evident from this Data that supplementary nutrition provided through ICDS Projects is not reaching the majority of Scheduled Tribes population. Alternative arrangements including the establishment of Balawadies and Community kitchens, if it is absolutely necessary, in identified habitats shall be considered and assistance should be limited to the needy persons identified in S.T Oorukoottams.

293. The ST Development Department has formulated a scheme to provide ₹ 2,000/ pm to pregnant and lactating mothers from the third month of the pregnancy till the child attain the age of one year, for meeting expenses like purchasing nutritious food items. It is reported that there is a huge delay in disbursing the amount. Thus, the very purpose of the scheme is not met. Hence it is recommended to see that the amount of assistance is disbursed during the early days of the month, to avoid the existing delay.

294. Awareness campaign for eradication of use narcotics: Consumption of narcotics is also noticed among Scheduled Tribes, especially in youths. Earnest efforts are necessary to reduce the flow of youths to this flock and promote counseling and de-addiction campaigns to bring back the drug-addicted persons to normal life.

295. The services of students and educated youths have to be put to use to promote health education. The students may be trained to undertake awareness programmes on the need to avail treatment by attending Hospitals, upkeep health and hygiene, practicing good health habits, assist health Staff in administering preventive measures including vaccination. A group of students studying in standard VIII, IX and Plusone may be formed in a brand name 'Student Doctor' on par with 'Student Police Cadet' and impart appropriate training with the help of the Department of Community Medicine of Government Medical Colleges and Field Extension Workers of Health Services Department. The trained students can be engaged to conduct awareness programmes for the benefit of their peer groups in Schools, Scheduled Tribes habitats. Their services may also be utilized for creating awareness campaign against the use of addictive drugs both in Schools and habitats. The assistance of Excise Staff may also be availed for this extension work. Moreover, the motivation efforts from their Kids will endure good results among their parents.

296. De-Addiction Mission: As the use of narcotics and addictive drugs are there among S.T, effective steps have to be evolved to prevent it. The services of N.G.O's like MUKTHI can be availed by L.S.G.Is in association with Health Services, Excise and Scheduled Tribes Development Department, for starting de-addiction centres in every district and S.T predominant Blocks/Grama Panchayaths. People who are free from addiction after treatment and therapy can be engaged as Volunteers in such Centers so that they can help the functioning of the Mission. This can be carried out as a gradual process by giving all support to

the people.

297. Motivation to ST students to undergo Medical, Para Medical Courses: The representation of Scheduled Tribes in Professional Courses including Para Medical Courses related to the medical field is very few. The employment enrollment of Scheduled Tribes in Health Services both in the Public & Private Sector is also very limited. The reluctance of Scheduled Tribes students due to various reasons can be eliminated by engaging them in health education programmes and their association with Health Staff. Hence it is recommended that suitable programmes may be brought out in the 14th FYP period to materialize the proposal.

298. Other Measures to be adopted for promotion of Health status of S.T. Rationalization of the existing Comprehensive Health care scheme is essential to ensure its outreach to the entire S.T population. The benefits of the Comprehensive Health Care Scheme implemented by the S.T Development Department should reach the needy patients in time. Proper financial assistance has also to be provided to bystanders of patients.

299. The services of Mobile Medical Units are to be extended to remote and inaccessible habitats at least once a month and whenever needed. There shall be a facility in the Unit to carry out laboratory examinations electronically, with the assistance of reputed Medical Institutions, either in the State or outside to administer required treatment accordingly.

300. Educated S.T youths may be trained and deployed in disease-prone areas to function as grassroots level links between the Scheduled Tribes and Health Care Institutions apart from existing Health Workers under S T Development Department. A new recruitment policy as done in the Department of Forest, Police and Excise has to be evolved in the selection policy, during the 14th FYP period.

301. Ensure availability of safe drinking water throughout the year and effective use of domestic latrines in all S.T habitats.

302. Emphasis is necessary for preventive measures rather than curative aspects.

303. Awareness programmes on menstrual hygiene are necessary as it will help to solve the issue of menstrual taboo and ensure women's health and wellbeing. This conscientization programme is inevitable for girl students studying in Schools and inmates of hostels. Sanitary napkins can be distributed to school-going children, women and along with this, the use and need of menstrual cups should be introduced to them.

304. Promotion of Traditional Medical Practice: There are 490 Traditional Healers and their services are available in 643 habitats. The traditional medical practices have very much acceptance among Scheduled Tribes and even the general public. It has to be promoted and need action to upkeep the traditional knowledge to the new generation. A proper scheme has to be drawn up by KIRTADS to impart training with the help of existing Traditional Healers in collection of medicinal herbs and plants, and practicing traditional methods of treatment during 14th FYP period.

305. Protection of Intellectual Property Rights: The knowledge of traditional and ethnic medicines needs to be protected and exchange with the new generation. Steps should be taken to confer the Intellectual Property Rights to Scheduled Tribes medical practitioners by adopting proper legislation.

306. Promotion of arts, sports and games to abstain the youths from the clutches of narcotics: The lack of avenues to engage leisure time fruitfully is one of the reasons for attracting ill practices such as the use of liquor and other addictive drugs by the S.T youths. The best option is to make better opportunities for recreation and promoting performance of traditional art forms, sports and games in each of the habitats in association with Local Self Governments Institutions. Separate accommodation for assembling and exchanging ideas, discussing issues in the habitat and impart special coaching to the school going students can be arranged. Library facilities may also be provided utilizing CSR funds of Companies/ Nationalized Banks and funds available with LSGIs etc. The assistance of the Sports & Youths Affairs Department may be availed to develop Mini Stadium, Playground etc. where land is available. At least one such facility may be arranged in thickly populated Grama/ Block Panchayats. The Youth Clubs of ST youths may also be organized in ST habitats wherever it is possible. In such a way the leisure time of ST youths can be utilized for creative and productive purposes. In such a way the lethargic attitude may be diverted effectively and abstaining them from the illicit use of narcotics. These tasks may be entrusted to LSGIs of the respective area, with the help of Oorukootams.

307. The health status of the ST communities results from many factors like economic status, effects of the environment, lifestyle and behaviour patterns, health care delivery services, hereditary and genetic aspects. The social determinants of health include literacy, water, sanitation, fuel, food security, dietary diversity, gender sensitivity, communication etc. Therefore, inter-sectoral convergence is absolutely necessary.

308. In the health system, the two critical areas are to be focused, firstly on the Preventive side and secondly on the Curative side, there should be a health status report at the LSGI'S level. It has to be supplemented with statistical details. A plan for improving health has to be drawn in a time-bound manner because, for all issues connected, this cannot wait for long). In fact, a Health Sub - Plan (HSP) has to be prepared. A special Oorukoottam will supply the inputs. The Tribal wisdom on both the preventive and curative aspects is precious.

309. Health Education is another crucial factor. Medical Science has advanced very much, but the ST population has not benefitted from it. So a 'health literacy' programme has to be launched in Tribal Areas to bridge this gap and to ensure participatory governance.

310. The system of Health Volunteers has to be spread in disease-affected areas.

311. ASHA WORKERS should be selected from the same Panchayat or village or big hamlet.

312. Anganwadi Workers and ANM's should also be spread in all Tribal areas.
313. AYUSH services may be extended to the major Tribal areas.
314. On the curative side, the major communicable diseases prevalent in Kerala such as tuberculosis, leprosy, skin infections, typhoid, cholera, diarrhoeal diseases, viral fevers etc. should be attended immediately.
315. Sickle Cell Anemia, a hereditary disease found in Tribal areas, has already been detected, and an action plan is already there, and it should continue.
316. The non - communicable illnesses like Hypertension, Stroke, Diabetes, Cancer, Joint Pain, Vision-Impaired Eye, ENT related etc., are also in the increase than before and there should be more programmes to control the same.
317. The Community Medicine Wing, attached with Government Medical Colleges, has to conduct a research study on the trends in the health care system in Tribal areas and suggest ameliorative measures.
318. To conclude, the utmost thrust of the 14th FYP shall be 'Health for All' focusing mainly on the children and members of the Vulnerable Communities, to achieve Sustainable Health Development, for the entire population of Indigenous people in our State.

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ANNEXURE I

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEMBER SECRETARY, STATE PLANNING BOARD  
(Present: Sri. Teeka Ram Meena IAS)**

**Sub: - Formulation of Fourteenth Five Year Plan (2022-27) – Constitution of Working Group on Scheduled Tribes Development – Reg.:-**

Read: 1. Note No. 297/2021/PCD/SPB dated: 27/08/2021.  
2. Guidelines on Working Groups.

**Order No. SPB/446/2021-DPD (1) Dated: 09/09/2021**

As part of the formulation of Fourteenth Five Year Plan, it has been decided to constitute various Working Groups under the priority sectors. Accordingly, the Working Group on Schedule Tribes Development is hereby constituted with the following members. The Working Group shall also take into consideration the guidelines read 2<sup>nd</sup> above in fulfilling the tasks outlined in the Terms of Reference for the Group.

Sl No.	Name	Designation	Remarks
<b>Co- Chairperson</b>			
1	Shri. Pranabjyoti Nath IAS	Principal Secretary to Government, SC/ST Development Department - Mob. No. 9937300864	Official
<b>Members</b>			
2	Sri.T.V.Balakrishnan	President, Thirunelli Grama Panchayath, Mob:9946929057	Elected Representative
3	Smt. Anupama IAS	Director, Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Mob: 9447702525	Official
4	Sri. Pramod Krishnan IFS	Chief Conservator of Forests (WP & R), Forest Department Mob:9447979003, 9745808109	Official
5	Sri. Narendra Babu.S IFS	Wild Life Warden, Wayanad Mob:9447979105	Official
6	Sri.V.K.Mohankumar	Director (i/c)(Rtd.),KIRTADS, Suarsha, Maduravanam Road, Civil Station P.O, Kozhikode - Mob.No.9495890015	Expert
7	Dr. M.Suresh Kumar	Chief (i/c) Rtd, State Planning Board, Mob:-9447125463	Expert
8	Dr. Bindu.S	Director, KIRTADS, Chevayur, Kozhikode- 673017, Mob. No. 9447767329	Official

Sl No.	Name	Designation	Remarks
9	Dr. M.A. Nasar	Managing Director, SC ST Corporation, Thrissur, 9846984448	Official
10	Sri. N.Radhakrishnan	Joint Director (Rtd.), State Planning Board, Uthradam, VRA 103 A, Mannamoola, Peroorkada P.O.- Mob.No.9349731378	Expert
11	Sri. G. Hrishikeshan Nair	Joint Director (Rtd.), Scheduled Tribe Development Dept, Souparnika, Mevaram, Thattamala P.O, Kollam, Mob.No.9446966082	Expert
12	Dr.Jins Varkey	Assistant Professor, Dept of Economics, St Aloysius College, Thrissur, Mob: 9497356549	Expert
13	Smt. A Latha	Assistant Director, Department of Agriculture, Attappady	Expert
14	Smt. Dhanya M. Raman	Vadakke Paravila Veedu, K.S. Road, Kovalam P.O., Thiruvananthapuram - Mob.No.9633557955	Expert
15	Shri.K.Krishna Prakash	Deputy Director, ST Development Dept, Mob-9947368568	Expert
16	Dr. Nitheesh Kumar KP	Asst. Professor, Department of Social Work, Sree Sankaracharya Sanskrit University, Kolipetta (H), Kaniyampetta, Kalpetta, Wayanad Ph.9442498197	Expert
17	Dr. Deepa Surendran	Assistant Professor, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ambalavayal, Wayanad Mob:9446128874	Expert
18	Sri. Bimal Ghosh	Managing Director, Aralam Farm, 9447007402	Official
19	Sri.Prabhakaran M	State Programme Manager, Kudumbasree Mob: 9846668279	Expert
20	Smt. Jaincy John	Research Scholar, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Central University of Kerala, Mob: 8281619275	Expert
21	Smt. C.S. Chandrika	Writer and Scholar, 9495747179	Expert
22	Dr. K.P.Manojan	Assistant Professor, TISS, Thuljapur, Ph: 9494248691 Email: manojan.kp@tiss.edu	Expert
<b>Convener</b>			

Sl No.	Name	Designation	Remarks
22	Smt. J. Josephine	Chief, Decentralised Planning Division, State Planning Board - Mob.No.9495006887	Official
<b>Co-convener</b>			
23	Sri. Mohamed Ansal Babu N.K	Assistant Director, Decentralised Planning Division, State Planning Board -Mob.No .9496361831	Official

### Terms of Reference

1. To review all the welfare and individual assistance schemes for the people of the scheduled tribes, and make suggestions, if any, to restructure and strengthen these schemes.
2. To suggest skilling for modern employment and how to provide modern employment for people of the scheduled tribes, particularly women and youth. These employment opportunities are to be in modern agriculture, industry and income-bearing services.
3. To enquire into the possibility of fostering a new green revolution on household operational holdings of scheduled tribe households and on the extensive farmland holdings of the Department of ST development in the State.
4. To review the status of availability of land for people of the scheduled tribes.
5. To suggest a comprehensive monitoring mechanism for schemes under Scheduled Tribe Sub-Plan.

### Terms of Reference (General)

1. The non-official members (and invitees) of the Working Group will be entitled to travelling allowances as per existing government norms. The Class I Officers of GoI will be entitled to travelling allowances as per rules if reimbursement is not allowed from Departments.
2. The expenditure towards TA, DA and Honorarium will be met from the following Head of Account of the State Planning Board "3451-00-101-93"- Preparation of Plans and Conduct of Surveys and Studies.

**Sd/-**  
**Member Secretary**

Forwarded/By Order



Josephine J

Chief, Decentralised Planning Division

To

The Members concerned

Copy to

PS to VC

PA to MS

CA to Member concerned

The Sr. A.O, SPB

The Accountant General, Kerala

The Finance Officer, SPB

The Publication Officer, SPB

The Sub Treasury, Vellayambalam

The Accounts Section

File/Stock File.

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**Annexure: 1**

**District wise/State wise Drop out Ratio among ST Students in Kerala:  
2019-20**

Sl. No.	Name of Course	Government School			Private Aided School			Private Un Aided School			Total ST		
		Enrol-ment	Drop Out	% Drop Out	Enrol-ment	Drop Out	% Drop Out	Enrol-ment	Drop Out	% Drop Out	Enrol-ment	Drop Out	% Drop Out
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Thiruvananthapuram	1850	7	0.38	651	6	0.92	179	1	0.56	2680	14	0.52
2	Kollam	594	1	0.17	350	1	0.29	13	0	0.00	957	2	0.21
3	Pathanamthitta	485	1	0.21	449	0	0.00	14	0	0.00	948	1	0.11
4	Alappuzha	241	0	0.00	228	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	470	0	0.00
5	Kottayam	755	2	0.26	1440	9	0.63	27	0	0.00	2222	11	0.50
6	Idukky	4003	72	1.80	1927	27	1.40	341	0	0.00	6271	99	1.58
7	Ernakulam	857	7	0.82	817	11	1.35	59	0	0.00	1733	18	1.04
8	Thrissur	802	0	0.00	542	2	0.37	24	0	0.00	1368	2	0.15
9	Palakkad	4884	49	1.00	2683	36	1.34	662	0	0.00	8229	85	1.03
10	Malappuram	1757	34	1.94	1263	37	2.93	45	0	0.00	3065	71	2.32
11	Kozhikode	657	11	1.67	1019	16	1.57	40	0	0.00	1716	27	1.57
12	Wayanad	16657	359	2.16	9515	107	1.12	192	0	0.00	26364	466	1.77
13	Kannur	3013	10	0.33	3387	12	0.35	27	0	0.00	6427	22	0.34
14	Kasaragod	6651	26	0.39	4143	9	0.22	190	0	0.00	10984	35	0.32
<b>Total</b>		<b>43206</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>28414</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>1814</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>73434</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>1.16</b>

Source: Directorate of General Education

**Annexure: 2**  
**Standard wise Strength of SC/ST Students in Kerala : 2019-20**

Stan- dard	Government School			Private Aided School			Private Un- Aided School					
	Total	Others	SC	Total	Others	SC	Total	Others	SC	ST		
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
I	102529	84285	14704	3540	165890	146487	16719	2684	48263	45690	2317	256
II	108275	88895	15654	3726	176738	155616	18323	2799	51454	48780	2451	223
III	108211	88708	15661	3842	181183	159622	18670	2891	50529	47896	2419	214
IV	105772	86519	15449	3804	180609	158932	18714	2963	49766	47114	2436	216
V	105051	87556	13541	3954	223500	197128	23305	3067	35862	34359	1348	155
VI	107122	89704	13154	4264	234114	206906	24175	3033	33310	31905	1242	163
VII	108722	91046	13353	4323	239860	212324	24371	3165	33172	31928	1078	166
VIII	140029	117585	17063	5381	247423	221408	23371	2644	29016	28026	842	148
IX	141175	119157	16783	5235	254986	228657	23739	2590	28843	27843	862	138
X	141700	119361	17202	5137	254149	228121	23450	2578	29644	28671	838	135
<b>Total</b>	<b>1168586</b>	<b>972816</b>	<b>152564</b>	<b>43206</b>	<b>2158452</b>	<b>1915201</b>	<b>214837</b>	<b>28414</b>	<b>389859</b>	<b>372212</b>	<b>15833</b>	<b>1814</b>

Source: Directorate of General Education

**Annexure: 3**  
**Details of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Students Studying in**  
**Government & Private (Aided) Arts and Science Colleges in Kerala**  
**during 2019-20**

(No. of Students)

Sl. No.	Name of Course	Scheduled Caste			Scheduled Tribe		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1	B.A	4688	9605	14293	996	2477	3473
2	B.Sc	3165	13158	16323	398	622	1020
3	B.Com	2560	3637	6197	344	514	858
4	M.A	394	2117	2511	295	663	958
5	M.Sc	353	1895	2248	251	414	665
6	M.com	442	472	914	131	206	337
<b>Total</b>		<b>11602</b>	<b>30884</b>	<b>42486</b>	<b>2415</b>	<b>4896</b>	<b>7311</b>

Source: Directorate of Collegiate Education

**Annexure: 4**  
**Outlay and Expenditure under Education Sector (Plan)**  
**(Rs. in lakh)**

Year	Outlay	Expenditure
2017-18	17090.01	14333.17
2018-19	19606.00	15903.43
2019-20	17939.50	10006.00
2020-21	16270.50	12569.70
2021-22 (as on 05/10/2021)	15924.50	4691.71

Source: Scheduled Tribes Development Department

**Annexure: 5**  
**Number of ST Students Appeared and Passed in Higher Secondary Examination 2015-2020**

Year	Number of Students Appeared			Number of Students Passed			
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2015-16	2326	2737	5063	1273	1839	3112	61.47
2016-17	3173	2548	5721	2213	1444	3657	63.92
2017-18	2978	2395	5373	2089	1341	3430	63.84
2018-19	2598	3055	5653	1460	2256	3716	65.74
2019-20	2459	2940	5399	1317	2116	3433	63.59

Source: Directorate of Higher Secondary Education

**Annexure: 6**  
**Community Wise Data on Students in Secondary Course**

Sl. No.	Community	Students			
		Children in the age 15-17	Students in +2	% to Children	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
1	Adiyan		520	116	22.31
2	Arandan (Aranadan)		3	....	...
3	Eravalan		152	58	38.16
4	Hill Pulaya		137	32	23.36
5	Irular, Irulan		1179	572	48.52
6	Wayanad Kadar		29	14	48.28
7	Kanikaran (Kanikar)		848	563	66.39
8	Kudiya, Melakudi		37	15	40.54
9	Kurichchan Kurichiyan		1673	831	49.67
10	Kurumar, Mullakurumar		852	714	83.80
11	Maha Malasar		7	1	14.29
12	Mala Arayan, Malayarayar		1115	827	74.17
13	Malai Pandaran		61	21	34.43
14	Malai Vedan, Malavedan		183	88	48.09
15	Malasar		163	40	24.54
16	Malayan		225	84	37.33

17	Mannan	434	128	29.49
18	Muthuvan (Muduvan)	1042	190	18.23
19	Mudugar	209	73	34.93
20	Palleyan, Palliyan, Palliyar, Paliyan	91	22	24.18
21	Paniyan	3627	449	12.38
22	Ulladan	687	363	52.84
23	Uraly	294	185	62.93
24	Mala Vettuvan	923	200	21.67
25	Thachanadan, Thachanan- dan Mooppan	69	22	31.88
26	Mavilan	1473	592	40.19
27	Karimpalan	589	258	43.80
28	Vetta Kuruman	251	89	35.45
29	Mala Panickar	38	20	52.63
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>16911</b>	<b>6567</b>	<b>38.83</b>
PVTG				
30	Kadar	82	24	29.27
31	Kattunayakan	828	153	18.48
32	Koraga	85	19	22.35
33	Kurumban (Kurumbas)	131	34	25.95
34	Cholanaickan	22	1	4.55
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>1148</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>20.12</b>
Others		6	7	116.67
<b>Total</b>		<b>18065</b>	<b>6805</b>	<b>37.67</b>

Source: STDD

## Annexure: 7

## Community Wise Data on Students in Primary and Secondary Classes

Sl. No.	Community	Children 6-14 years	Students in Primary & Secondary Classes	Students above 14 years age studying in Primary & Secondary Classes	Total Children	Percentage to Total Children	Students in Primary & Secondary Classes in the age group 6-14	Children in the age group 6-14 who have discontinued studies or not attending school	Percentage to Total Children
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	
1	Adiyan	2134	2231	97	4.55	1977	157	7.36	
2	Arandan (Aranadan)	39	36	-	....	31	8	20.51	
3	Eravalan	744	798	54	7.26	657	87	11.69	
4	Hill Pulaya	569	581	12	2.11	494	75	13.18	
5	Irular, Irulan	4735	5279	544	11.49	4277	458	9.67	
6	Wayanad Kadar	114	134	20	17.54	109	5	4.39	
7	Kanikaran (Kanikar)	2948	3433	585	19.84	2784	164	5.56	
8	Kudiya, Melakudi	155	164	9	5.81	139	16	10.32	
9	Kurichchan Kurichchan	5581	6594	1013	18.15	5416	165	2.96	
10	Kurumar, Mullakurumar	2742	3318	576	21.01	2692	50	1.82	
11	Maha Malasar	35	36	1	2.86	33	2	5.71	
12	Mala Arayan, Malayarayar	3722	4235	513	13.78	3427	295	7.93	
13	Malai Pandaran	277	230	-	...	197	80	28.88	
14	Malai Vedan, Mala Vedan	819	900	81	9.89	763	56	6.84	

15	Malasar	772	812	40	5.18	681	91	11.79
16	Malayan	960	1048	88	9.17	824	136	14.17
17	Mannan	1634	1926	292	17.87	1541	93	5.69
18	Muthuvan (Muduvan)	3749	3796	47	1.25	3103	646	17.23
19	Mudugar	933	962	29	3.11	803	130	13.93
20	Palleyan, Palliyan, Palliyar, Palliyan	241	289	48	19.92	225	16	6.64
21	Paniyan	17804	17668	-	...	15562	2242	12.59
22	Ulladan	2557	2967	410	16.03	2428	129	5.04
23	Uraly	1094	1227	133	12.16	1039	55	5.03
24	Mala Vettuvan	3483	3776	293	8.41	3042	441	12.66
25	Thachanadan, Thachanadan Mooppan	327	368	41	12.54	316	11	3.36
26	Mavilan	4750	5648	898	18.91	4411	339	7.14
27	Karimpalan	2237	2529	292	13.05	2090	147	6.57
28	Vetta Kuruman	1190	1285	95	7.98	1120	70	5.88
29	Mala Panickar	165	184	19	11.52	154	11	6.67
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>66510</b>	<b>72454</b>	<b>6230</b>	<b>9.37</b>	<b>60335</b>	<b>6175</b>	<b>9.28</b>
	PVTG							
30	Kadar	415	392	....	....	340	75	18.07
31	Kattunayakan	4030	4002	...	....	3464	566	14.04
32	Koraga	260	270	10	3.85	198	62	23.85
33	Kurumban (Kurumbas)	545	573	28	5.14	448	97	17.80

34	Cholanaickan	76	59	....	....	48	28	36.84
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>5326</b>	<b>5296</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>4498</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>15.55</b>
	Others	12	18	6	25.00	12	....	....
	<b>Total</b>	<b>71848</b>	<b>77768</b>	<b>6274</b>	<b>8.73</b>	<b>64845</b>	<b>7003</b>	<b>9.75</b>

Source: STDD

