



Tribal development in Andhra Pradesh up to XII plan

Dr. B Rajendra Prasad

¹ Lecture in Political Science, Maris Stella College, Vijayawada, Krishna, Andhra Pradesh, India

Abstract

The Scheduled tribes, since ages, have been victims of socio-economic exploitation and have been relegated to low income generating occupations, inferior trades, unhealthy environment and unclean unskilled occupations. Tribal Development in India is a subject which is being discussed among personnel of higher ranks, statesmen, academicians and scholars for over six decades. During this period, it has become a subject which drew serious and widespread concern and pronounced attention from several quarters ranging from policy makers and development planners to academicians providing material for all of them.

Since the state is becoming increasingly important in the context of tribal development, the public policy and administrative system relating to this field have been subjected to serious intellectual scrutiny during all these years. Thus the tribal development has come to occupy very important place in the agenda of social science research in the country. Although clear untouchable practices may be declining in many parts of the country, caste rigidities continue to confine many Schedule Tribe workers in demeaning occupations, which put them at a disadvantage when compared to other communities. The forces of urbanization, social and protective legislations, positive discrimination and other measures taken by the Government, have led to gradual improvement in occupational mobility and living standards over the years, but the living conditions of the majority of Scheduled Tribes.

In this connection the researcher put concentration to examine that the tribal development measures in Andhra Pradesh (combined state) during the five year plans from 1951-56 to 2012-2017. During the twelfth five year plan the Andhra Pradesh state was divided in to two Telangana and Andhra Pradesh states.

Keywords: tribes, victims, exploitation, protective legislations, five year plans, development

1. Introduction

Welfare programmes for tribal people have to be based on respect and understanding of their culture and traditions and an appreciation of the social, psychological and economic problems with which they are faced. Details of development programmes should be formulated in consultation with members of advisory councils, leaders of tribal opinion and institutes engaged in the study of tribal problems. The tribal people should feel that these programmes are, in a real sense, a response to their own urge for better standards of living and the development of their culture. If the programmes are implemented with popular support, they will give the tribal people in all parts of the country, a sense of partnership and integration with the nations as a whole. Tribal development in Andhra Pradesh during five year plans The constitutional commitments prompted the policy makers and the planners, to accord high priority to the welfare and development of scheduled tribes right from the beginning of country developmental planning in 1951. The government of Andhra Pradesh constituted the director of social welfare to improve socioeconomic condition of the scheduled II.

2. Importance of the study

The study assumes significance in the context of diverse opinions prevailing in different quarters regarding the

effectiveness, utility and continuance of the various welfare programmes of scheduled tribes, which have been serving various needs of these people in rural areas. Besides, in view of the paucity of comprehensive micro-level, region-specific studies in the field of welfare programmes, it is hoped that the study would fill the research gap to some extent.

3. Objectives

1. Trace the origin and development of the policy framework evolved by the government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. To know the legitimate safeguards and amenities provided to the tribals in India as well as in Andhra Pradesh for the attainment of the goal of tribal development up to Twelfth Five year plan.

4. Methodology

The present study is based on survey research method. The data necessary for the study were collected from secondary sources. The main sources of data as follows. 1. Published studies on tribal development. 2. Numerous reports of the state and central governments and planning commission on tribal welfare. 3. The annual reports action plans and other documents of the ITDA. 4. The stock files the office orders, the circulars, Instructions and other records.

Table 1

Sl. No	Census Period	All India Literacy %		Andhra Pradesh Literacy %	
		General	Sch.Tribe	General	Sch.Tribe
1.	1951	18.33	5.96	15.81	3.46
2.	1961	28.30	8.54	21.19	4.41
3.	1971	34.45	11.29	24.57	5.34
4.	1981	43.57	16.35	29.94	7.82
5.	1991	52.21	29.60	44.09	17.16
6.	2001	65.38	47.09	60.47	37.04
7.	2011	74.04	59.0	67.66	49.21

Source: Census of India 2011

5. Tribal Development under Five Year Plans

The situation of Tribals and their development in Andhra Pradesh is depicted. The Five Year Plan was launched with some special priority to eradicate different handicaps and disabilities imposed by the working of the earlier governmental machinery. The under-privileged groups, such as scheduled tribes, nomadic tribes and semi-nomadic tribes lacked adequate opportunities for group and individual self-development, especially in increasing their income, employment, facilities of health, housing and education.

5.1. First five year plan period (1951-56)

Several programmes are undertaken to satisfy the tribal people in the first plan period. Propagation of education and minor irrigation aspects were considered priority areas for STs Development in the first five year plan in the state. Propagation of education and minor irrigation aspects were considered priority areas for STs Development in the First five year plan in the state. To accomplish these, an amount of Rs.256.58 lakhs was spent on them to satisfy the educational needs of 19,500 tribal people in the four agency districts of Andhra, 423 elementary schools, 15 higher secondary schools were started.

With a view of encouraging the school going tribal children mid-day meal clothing book allowance full fee concession and scholarships were granted 7 subsidized hostels 14 boarding homes were opened to solve the transport problems 58 miles of roads were graveled in addition to the 17 miles of earthen an 77.5 miles jeep roads were contracted 27 the local fund dispensaries at Rampachodavaram and Addategala were provincialised for their better health. At Dummalagudem and Pedavalsa two regular dispensaries were opened and weekly visits were arranged to the neighboring villages. Anti-malarial operations were taken up in the four agency districts. 53 new primary schools were opened in Telangana two hostels were started in Khammam % Adilabad districts and scholarships were distributed to 5,463 tribal students. In Adilabad district Marlavai and Chinnehari and Todvoi in Warangal district and Suddimalla in Khammam district. Four teacher training centres were established and 60 candidates were trained.¹ The demonstration farms continued to demonstrate the modern methods of agriculture at Adilabad and mannaur in Mahaboob Nagar district. 1630 plough bullocks were given free of cost to 1294 tribal families and seeds and implements were provided to 179 tribal families. 16 co-operative societies were started for the benefit of the tribals. At shoknagar in Warangal district a sericulture farm was opened. 18 miles road was laid from Mannaur to Vatallepalli Mahaboob Nagar district. Two mobile medical units were, started at Warangal and yellandu for providing better medical facilities^[2].

5.2. Second five year plan period (1956-1961)

The II five year plan earmarked an amount of Rs.210.06 lakhs for the implementation of various schemes such as agricultural health, education, communication co-operation industry, animal husbandry women welfare etc. Training facilities were offered to 300 tribal men in agriculture and 360 tribal men in cattle industry by the end of second plan to provide protected drinking water about 151 wells were sunk. By the end of II five year plan the target of the construction of 121 miles of roads in the tribal areas was achieved for the benefit of chenchus a mobile medical unit and one school attached with hostel were opened at Dornala. A sum of Rs.1.935 lakhs were provided in the tribal areas for improving the communication during the II five year plan 60 new wells were constructed and 70 old wells were repaired for providing drinking water. Away from deep forest areas with better facilities 20 colonies each with 50 huts and a community cattle shed were constructed and each colony was provided with a school, handicraft centre and co-operative store for the protection of the tribals from exploiters 3 forest co-operative societies each with a grant of Rs.15, 000/-towards the working capital were started in the scheduled areas³.

Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Tribes Co-operative Finance and Development corporation limited was started in April, 1956 with two centres and 6 depots to prevent exploitation of the tribal people by others and to provide them credit and market facilities and Rs.9.50 lakhs was provided to this corporation in the second plan in addition to 12 women welfare centres working in agency areas. 132 more centres of which 2 were located in the Nallamalai in Kurnool district. During the second plan period a Central Research Institute to study the pattern of life and civilization of the scheduled tribes was started through the above new institutions.

5.3. Third five year plan period (1961-66)

The III five year plan took The following as its objectives permanent upliftment resulting in higher standard of living (2) provision of education health housing facilities (3) supply of daily development like plough bullocks and other implements (5) diversification of the economy of the tribals by encouraging animal husbandry programmes.

In the III plan the strategy for the development of tribals took into account the various tribal groups spread over different areas with socio economic levels, in this plan great emphasis was laid on economic upliftment programmes i.e. major economic programmes like agriculture with irrigation facilities besides providing bullocks and agricultural implements for the development of agriculture. The socio economic facilities in terms of education and housing were also taken up as basic aspects much importance was given

to housing by allocating not only the normal funds but also funds from the housing corporation for scheduled tribes for the development of education larger allocation was made for ashram schools and hostel buildings. It is significant to note that in the scheduled areas assignment of land to non tribals was prohibited the Andhra Pradesh Ryotwari settlement Regulation 1970 under took the survey of scheduled areas. By abolishing the intermediary tenure, all collectors were authorized to issue pattas to the tribals transfer of land in scheduled lands other than tribals was prohibited by the Andhra Pradesh land transfer Regulation Act 1959. The Girijan cooperative corporations were directed to buy minor forest products from the tribals and to supply them the daily requirements on non profit basis and thus prevent them from exploitation by the petty traders loans were given to the tribals by the corporation at the simple interest rates. During 1968-69 the corporation purchased minor forest produce worth Rs 22.20 and Rs 8.34 lakhs worth of agriculture produce from the tribals. The corporation sold Rs. 68.20 lakhs of daily requirements to the tribes.

5.4. Fourth Five Year Plan Period (1969-74)

An amount of Rs.1089.20 lakhs was ear marked for the economic and cultural development of tribals in the IV five year plan. major part of the plan provision was spent on the of this an amount of Rs 151.78 lakhs was allocated to minor irrigation to supply plough bullocks colonization schemes assistance to setup trades, free distribution of agricultural inputs. Housing grants financial assistance to Girijan Cooperative Corporation etc was included in the programmes of tribal upliftment intended for the betterment of the tribals. Under the education schemes provision was made for hostels Ashram schools supply of books slates etc an amount of Rs 21.23 lakhs was provided for the existing hostels and for starting 8 more new hostels in Andhra region for the construction of buildings and starting of 25 new ashram in this region an amount of Rs. 12.87 lakhs was provided an amount of Rs.2.50 lakhs was provided for the construction of the central hostels in the region.

Under the gift scheme a free supply national text books was provided in this plan with a provision of Rs 4.00 lakhs the tribal students studying in professional courses were provided financial assistance an amount of Rs. 13.01 lakhs was spent on minor irrigation schemes that do not fall in the pre view of public works department. Under the scheme colonization tribals were settled on reclaimed land and irrigation facilities were provide 5 hostels are functioning in Rayalaseema and an amount of Rs.8.33 lakhs was provided for starting 5 more hostels and an amount of Rs.6.01 lakhs was sanctioned for starting of 7 ashram schools and for the construction of building for the construction of 5 existing Ashram schools and opening of 30 ashram schools in Telangana region Rs. 27.39 lakhs was provided an amount of Rs.7.45 lakhs was provided for the supply of 1978 pairs of bullocks for cultivation to tribals for the Girijan cooperative corporation activities an amount of Rs 6.75 lakhs was provide for Telangana region. During the IV plan for starting of 6 rural veterinary dispensaries Rs. 2.60 lakhs was allotted and for starting of 3 minor veterinary dispensaries Rs. 3.50 lakhs was made. Under the economic upliftment programme 3847 cultivators were supplied ploughs and bullocks an amount of Rs 6.00lakhs was set apart for the supply of bullocks and ploughs of chenchu tribals.

Financial assistance was given to 718 tribals to setup trades. By improved agriculture implements were supplied to 19.974 tribal agriculturists who had taken the short term loans. 28 veterinary dispensaries were opened in the scheduled areas 18 roads with a length of 139 kms at a cost of Rs 150 lakhs was constructed in the IV five year plan period 1002 tribals were benefited by the housing and health schemes and three 10 bedded hospitals were opened in the scheduled areas.

5.5. Fifth Five year plan period (1974-79)

The objectives of education and economic upliftment continued to be the thrust areas even during the V five year plan. Under minimum needs programmes there was a provision for award of scholarships opening of hostels training of tribals scouting programmes for promoting cultural talents construction of ashram schools and hostel buildings hence these schemes were included in the tribal welfare plan.

In the V plan period 50 hostels were started with strength of 5000 boarders by the end of V plan 75 ashram schools at the cost of Rs.145.36 lakhs, benefiting 7500 students were established. In the fifth five year plan a sum of Rs 5 lakh was spent for the implementation of training programmes for training of tribals as village officers, drivers apprentice masons etc. during V plan 1000 tribals were trained as masons and 600 boys as drivers during the training period each trainee was paid Rs. 50/- per month towards marginal boarding charges. Further 5 units were setup to promote cultural talent among the tribal children. A package Programme with scheme like land development. Supply of short term and long term loans, electric motors and oil engines and schemes like supply of breeding bull, fodder and pasture development supply of Milch animal etc. were taken up for the development of animal husbandry for the purpose of economic development. The tribals were separated as cultivators and landless and those living in tribal areas and plain areas. Accordingly this Programme had separate schemes for a) cultivators and landless b) landless in tribal areas C) cultivators in plan areas. D) Landless in plain areas. The A.P state government assigned 34,205 acres of land to 6,811 tribal households. An amount of Rs 68.41 lakhs was provided as subsidy seeds and fertilizers were supplied to these households grants were provided to shops, tea shops sweet stalls cloth shops flour mills etc.

5.6. Sixth Five Year Plan Period (1980-85)

For this purpose of extending assistance the A.P Govt categorized the tribal Population as under. Those living in areas of concentration.2) those living outside the forest areas but still living in small pockets 3) Primitive tribal groups and 4) Dispersed population For the first category the allocations were made from general sector, central assistance institutional finance and centrally sponsored programmes modified area development programme was under implemented for the second category for the primitive tribal groups special schemes were taken up. Out of the total outlay of Rs. 4000 lakhs for the period of 11980-85 only a part of it was allotted for the dispersed population. Under the scheme of supply of note books text books and set of dress to the tribal students an amount of Rs. 137.00 lakhs was provided to benefit 2, 00,000 students. In order to provide better facilities to the bright students in the VI pan

100 hostels for boys and 50 for girls with the strength of 5,500 students were constructed an amount of Rs 163 lakhs was spent on this programme 332 mid-day meals centres were opened in the VI plan period for the benefit of 15,561 students with a sanctioned amount of Rs3.25 lakhs under the scheme.

To fast promote literacy among tribals the government started 50 ashram schools for 30000 students with strength of 60 each a sum of Rs 97.38 lakhs was spent on the implementation of this scheme. A scheme was started to assist the talented tribal boys and girls in the field of fine arts dance, drama painting etc. with an amount of Rs 1.65 lakhs the tribal welfare department provided finance to 12 secondary schools and 534 primary schools the Andhra Pradesh residential school society was started for running residential schools exclusively for tribals. In the VI plan Rs.16.25 lakhs provided for this scheme. An amount of Rs. 9.75 lakhs was earmarked for skill development of tribals through training centres. The main objectives is to improve training to schedules caste and scheduled tribes who are appearing for group I, II III and IV examinations conducted by Andhra Pradesh public service commissions. In order to improve minor irrigation sources Rs.100 lakhs was spent for the benefit of 2,700 tribals 355 works were taken up during 1974-80 under this programme to cover 5000 famines in the VI plan with a 50.per cent subsidy improved seeds and implements were supplied to the tribal cultivators.

The Andhra Pradesh scheduled tribe Co-operative finance corporation (TRICOR) extended assistance to schemes like trade assistance self-employment scheme supply of agriculture inputs land development etc. the beneficiary gets 50% subsidiary if he is a land less person. In a period of 4 years the TRICOR had sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 496.97 crores was spent including a subsidy of Rs.144.63 crores from integrated Tribal Development Agency. During the VI plan an amount of Rs 30 lakhs was sanctioned to the Girijan cooperative corporation ltd to enable it to get assistance from the National cooperative development corporation for the construction of go downs and to improve transport facilities ^[6].

5.7. Seventh five year plan period (1985-90)

During the VII five year plan primitive tribals were assisted under the rehabilitation scheme with 80% of the cost of schemes was sanctioned as subsidy was earmarked for the running of domestic requirements depots. Rs. 10.69 lakhs was provided to Girijan cooperative corporation for the purchase of 6 trucks out of the total sanction of Rs 143.15 lakhs to Girijan cooperative corporation an amount of Rs 457.40 lakhs was provided for the purchase of stationary and machinery for the engineering wing of tribal welfare department an amount of Rs.99872.423 lakhs was spent during the VII plan period as against the outlay of Rs.10170.00 lakhs. During 1990-91 an amount of Rs.976.201 lakhs was spent as against the outlay of Rs. 1020.00 lakhs besides Rs. 2300.00 lakhs spent for remote and interior Areas development programme during 1991-92 a sum of Rs.1404.12 lakhs was spent in full besides Rs23.00 crores expenditure for remote and interior areas development programme⁷. The major achievement during VII plan period and the Annual plan 1990-1991 and 1991-1992 are as follows.

1. Supply of text books note books dresses to 5,80,193 S.T students

2. Book grants to 200 P.G and 1394 Graduates ST students
3. Book grants and instruments to 2,852 industrial Training institute (ITI) and 2,099 polytechnic ST students
4. Pre-metric scholarships to 4,89,631 scheduled tribe day scholars, 230 public school students 3,759 best school students and 447 ITI students.
5. 25 new hostels, 16 Ashram Schools and 19 Residential Schools were opened for STs
6. Building for 263 Educational institutions and 173 Girls hostels were completed
7. 14,122 students were given post metric scholarships
8. 3, 91,762 families were given margin money
9. 4,200 families were benefited under Rehabilitation of primitive tribal group (PTG) scheme, and. Share capital subsidy was given to 3, 91,762 members During the VII five year plan 463 hostels were constructed apart from establishing 6 residential high school cum junior colleges, 23150 national text books were supplied to the hostel boarders scholarships were provided to 9.32 lakhs students and stipends to 4037 I.T.I students and 1,128 fellowships to Master of philosophy (M.Phil.) and Doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) students were provided 11 special libraries were also constructed besides establishing 15 short term training centres for tribals. Under the economic betterment schemes 2.85 lakh beneficiaries were covered pucca building were constructed for 122 hostels and financial assistance was extended to washer men and other tribals in Andhra Pradesh.

5.8 Eight five year plan period (1992-97)

The major thrust areas of development during VII five year plan period have been identified as under the following.

- a. Creation of permanent assets for generating employment to the land less tribals.
- b. Creation of infrastructure under irrigation etc. or increasing productivity for agriculture
- c. Development of horticulture and coffee plantations
- d. Special attention to poor yanadis living in Nellore and chittoor districts etc and additional funds for chenchus development
- e. Minor irrigation in Non-ITDA (Integrated Tribal Development Area) district.
- f. Issue of short and medium term credit through Girijan Cooperative Corporation
- g. Increased coverage under incentive proposed to S.T students
- h. Increased coverage under TRICOR
- i. Opening of hostels new ashram schools residential schools specially for boys and girls separately
- j. Construction of buildings for all tribal welfare educational institution and
- k. Resolving disputes regarding forest boundaries and preparation of land records.

Tribal welfare development programmes had been prepared to be in conformity with the overall development approach followed in the state. Special care has also been taken to supplement to efforts of state plan departments under tribal sub plan and centrally sponsored schemes for tribals and to propose schemes not covered by Tribal Sub-plan or centrally sponsored programmes.

Towards the economic development in the tribal areas, horticulture programmes in 4000 acres of tribal lands in Non-ITDA areas at a provision of Rs5.00 lakhs were taken up and Rs. 150 lakhs of consumption loans to the tribals during the lean rainy season who are especially dependent on the collection and sale of Minor forest products (MFP) were distributed. An amount of Rs 135.00 lakhs was provided towards financial assistance to the Girijan Co-operative Corporation to expand the activities by starting commodity cooperatives industries to process the produce brought from tribals to improve the quality and increase the value and also professionalize the corporation to meet the changing credit and marketing requirement of tribals. Rs.800.00 lakhs was provided as financial assistance through TRICOR for providing margin money to the development schemes being implemented under special central assistance and bank finance the scheme of rehabilitation of Yanadis (Rs.120 Lakhs) and Chenchus (Rs.175 lakhs) were continued in the eight-plan period also. Under education special emphasis was made on the education of tribal girls by starting 25 ashram schools, 10 residential schools and 2 industrial training institutes (I.TIs) exclusively for them with an amount of Rs.50.00 lakhs. The other programme include opening of 50 hostels for girls and boys maintenance of bifurcated oversized hostels and completion of buildings for all the educational institutions in tribal areas.

5.9 Ninth five year plan period (1997-2002)

An amount of Rs.31187.19 crore was earmarked as IX Five year plan outlay in Andhra Pradesh of which Rs. 1064.68 crore was earmarked for tribal development programmes in the state. It is significant note that it was just 3.4% of the IX plan outlay that was set apart for tribal development. It is far less compared to VIII plan outlay for tribal development which was slightly over 13.3% of the total plan outlay. Further, in absolute amounts also IX plan outlay for tribal development was Rs.1063.68 crore while the same during VIII plan was RS.1399.61 crore. However the objectives of the earlier plans were planned to continue even during the IX plan period also.

5.10. Tenth Five year plan period (2002-2007)

The X five year plan has kept the following objectives to uplift the living conditions of the tribes in Andhra Pradesh.

1. Removal of gaps in infrastructure
2. Poverty amelioration by focusing on family oriented schemes.
3. Protection against exploitation
4. Human resource development by way of education and social facility
5. Low volume and high value agriculture, expansion of sericulture, introduction of new crop like castor and soya been intensive cultivation of fruit tree, adopting cluster approach using social animators for transfer of technology.
6. Afforestation and waste land development.
7. Improvement of cattle breeds and 8. Eradication of guinea worm.

5.11. Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012)

Government of India accorded top priority in respect of all the empowerment of tribal people. In this policy of

paradigm shift of empowerment of tribal people, implementation of TSP 1976, PESA 1996 and RFRA 2006 were closely monitored to facilitate tribal-centric and tribal participative development.

During Eleventh Five Year Plan period Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF) was launched in 2005-06 in order to extend scholarships to S.T students to pursue higher studies like M.Phil. and Ph.D. the scheme of National Overseas Scholarship launched in 1954-55 was converted as central sector plan whereby financial assistance is provided to meritorious S.T students for pursuing higher education abroad. The Ekalavya Model Residential Schools were started in the year 1997-98 and these schools are established on the lines of Navodaya Vidyalayas. The Government of India allocated 4059.00 crores out of which approximately 82% of the allocation was spent during Eleventh Plan Period.

5.12. Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017)

During 12th Five year plan, it is proposed to achieve comprehensive and integrated development of the tribals. The government of India and concerned governments determined for speedy implementation of PESA and FRA. It is also proposed to upgrade Vocational Training Centres in tribal areas in order to upgrade the skills of the tribal youth including PVTGs and tribal girls. It is proposed to establish at least one I.T.I/Polytechnic in each Tribal Development Block or Mandal situated in TSP area.

6. Indicators and Disparities in the Level of Development

In spite of spending large amounts in the tribal areas, wide gaps in the levels of development in tribal areas and outside are persisting. One of the most significant objective of the Fifth Five Year Plan was to bridge the gap in the levels of development between tribals and non-tribals and their respective areas of habitations. But this objective is not achieved. The disparities are very glaring in the fields of literacy, education, Health and economic conditions etc.

At the state level, the literacy rate of general population as per 2011 is 67%, whereas among STs it is 49.21% - a gap of 17.79%. Similarly in female literacy ST female literacy is 40.09% whereas among general female population it is nearly 60%.

With regard to dropout from the classes I to X it is 60.73% in general students whereas it is 81.77% among ST students. With regard to health, the infant mortality rate in general population of Andhra Pradesh, it is 136 per 1000 live births (SRS 2009). The wide spread disparities in the levels of development between the tribal communities and non-tribal communities are very conspicuous.

Conclusion

The ST community needs special empowerment programmes. As their rights were deprived decades ago by the higher communities they should be empowered now with socio-economic development. Untouchability is still meted to the community through society, as many of the ST were not given houses on rents if they reveal their caste. Diversion of funds allocated for the development of ST's will not be denial of legitimate right. A law should be brought in place having a provision to punish and make accountable the concerned authorities for diverting funds and showing bogus expenses.

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