# SOCIAL WELFARE MEASURES FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES IN TAMIL NADU A STUDY

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## Abstract

Generally speaking, a tribe is a human social group that primarily inhabits a forested area and survives by hunting animals and engaging in sporadic cultivation. The word "tribe" is derived from the Latin word "tribus." They follow distinctive social and economic characteristics and practice various ethnic, linguistic, and religious traditions. There are 370 million tribal people in the world, according to an International Labor Organization (ILO) estimate. According to the 2011 census, Tamil Nadu's tribal population is 1.6% of the nation's overall population, or 8.6%. The Scheduled Tribe Peoples were unable to meet their basic necessities because of extreme poverty, harsh slavery, and discriminatory illiteracy. We shall learn about the social welfare programs that are available in Tamil Nadu for members of Scheduled Tribes and how these programs will help to improve the lot of Scheduled Tribes. Finally, this study will offer some helpful recommendations for improving the policies.

**Keywords:** Welfare measures, Education, Servitude, Macerate, Cultivation.

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## Introduction

People from Scheduled Tribes have unique cultures, religious beliefs, and customs that diverge significantly from those of other people. The majority of Tamil Nadu's tribal people works as cultivators, agricultural laborers, or rely on the forest for their living. Two hundred million tribal people, or around 14% of the world's population, live in tribal groups around the world. They can be found all over the world, and the majority of them are the poorest and least fortunate. According to Article 342 of the Indian Constitution, there are 533 tribes spread across the country's states and union territories. According to the 2011 Census, there are 7.94 lakh Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu, of which 50.50 percent are male and 49.50 percent are female. In Tamil Nadu, there are 36 sub tribal tribes. Six Tribal Communities (Toda, Kota, Kurumbas, Irulur, Paniyan, and Kattunayakan) have been identified as Primitive Tribal out of the 36 Scheduled Tribes in the state. The native population of Tamil Nadu has significantly contributed to the preservation of the forests. The federal and state governments are implementing various welfare programmes to raise people's standards of living, end poverty, lessen income inequality, and give them access to fundamental infrastructure, but they are also plagued by a number of issues and are referred to as a depressed community. Since gaining independence, the government has placed a great priority on tribal development, especially with the introduction of five-year plans. Credit for this should go to the farmers who wrote the constitution and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, our first prime minister, who not only had a keen interest in tribal development but also gave long-term directives in this area. He was adamant that cultural heritage shouldn't be sacrificed for development in indigenous areas. His ideas on tribal development make this abundantly clear.

## Methodology

Two research methods were employed to collect the data needed for the study to reach its aims and objectives. While one



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strategy relied on analytical methods, the other employed descriptive analysis. In order to offer a dispassionate assessment, I searched for and studied qualitative data. In order to evaluate the quality of secondary content from books, websites, newspaper articles, various Indian reports, and a number of international journals and publications, thematic analysis software was utilized. The researcher, who is aware with the social assistance programs created by the Tamil Nadu government for the state's poor populations because he lives in Tamil Nadu, also used some firsthand observations to inform the research.

**Result and Discussion**

**Welfare Measures for Scheduled Tribes**

A welfare measures program, sometimes known as a social welfare system, provides families or individuals in need with financial support within a society. To assist people with costs like food, housing, healthcare, and childcare, the government frequently fully or partially funds social assistance programs.(*Social Welfare System -Overview, How It Works, Examples*,)Implementing tribal welfare policies in respective nations is primarily the responsibility of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in India and the AdiDravidar and Tribal Welfare Department in Tamil Nadu. Within Tamil Nadu, other ministries manage a range of welfare programs through various channels, and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides a range of welfare programs to state governments around the world. The SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act preventive measures programs, the social inclusion policy in public employment and education, and plans for the educational, economic, and social development of the Scheduled Tribes are among the main responsibilities of the two nodal agencies. As a centrally funded programme, the Ministry Of Tribal Affairs is in charge of most of these initiatives, which are mostly carried out by state governments, federal, provincial, and nonprofit organisations. It was intended that the tribal would gain an equitable share from various programs and initiatives under each Five-Year Plan. For the tribal territories, the idea of development was welcomed, with an emphasis on the expansion of indigenous populations.

**Table : Welfare Measures for Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu**(*Ministry of Tribal Affairs - Government of India*, n.d.)

| S.No | NAME OF THE SCHEME |
|---|---|
| 1. | Integrated Tribal Development Programme Areas (ITDP) |
| 2. | Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (SCA to TSP) |
| 3. | Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) |
| 4. | The Comprehensive Rural Tribal Development Program (CRTDP) |
| 5. | The Tribal Entrepreneurship Development Program (TEDP) |
| 6. | Self – Employment Programme of Scheduled Tribes<br>➢ Term Loan Scheme<br>➢ Adivasi MahilaSashktikaranYojana (AMSY)<br>➢ Micro Credit Scheme for Self Help Groups<br>➢ Adivasi ShikshaRrinnYojana<br>➢ Tribal Forest Dwellers Empowerment Scheme<br>➢ Scheme for NGOs/EVAs |



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**1. Integrated Tribal Development Programme Areas (ITDP)**

Since the execution of the Fifth Five Year Plan, the Program on Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP) under the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) has been carried out with the express objectives of easing destitution, upgrading instructive standing, and stopping the abuse of ancestral families. In 1996, the Program Evaluation Organization (PEO) directed an assessment of the program to decide the viability of the preparation and checking strategies, as well as the impact of the projects on the wellbeing and satisfaction of the Scheduled Tribes. Despite the fact that each state had the managerial cycles important to complete this program as per Central orders, there was no arrangement of decentralized arranging, execution, or checking set up. This is in spite of the way that every one of the states had the important managerial strategies. A few locale in the Indian territory of Tamil Nadu, including Salem (Yercaud, Pachamalai, Aranuthumalai, and Kalrayan Hills), Namakkal (Kolli Hills), and Villupuram (Kalrayan Hills), as well as others, partook in the execution of the drive. (ITDP).(Patel, 2019)

**2. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (SCA to TSP)**

As an assistant to the State Plan that is given to the State Governments, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs supplies SCA to TSP. The principal objective of stretching out SCA to TSP is to increment programs for request based income age to raise the financial place of ancestral individuals. A sum of 60% of the Special Central Assistance (SCA) reserves are expected to be utilized for the financial improvement of Scheduled Tribes that are deprived by executing pay creating programs with an exceptional spotlight on the most weak gatherings inside the Scheduled Tribes, 30% of the SCA assets can be utilized for the advancement of framework in Scheduled Tribe residences, and the leftover 10% can be utilized to give expertise improvement preparing to ST youth. It is basically intended for family-supporting organizations in the agrarian, plant, limited scope water system, soil protection, creature farming, woods, town, and different areas.(GoI, 2019)

**3. Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)**

On April 1, 2008, the Scheme for the Development of Primitive and Other Socially Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) became functional. PVTG means "crude and other socially weak ancestral gatherings." The Scheme pays specific accentuation to the development and security of the PVTGs, what Scheduled Tribes the public authority recognizes as being in the most unstable position. It finds 75 PVTGs nearby. The Scheme means to take on an all encompassing way to deal with the financial improvement of PVTGs and gives state legislatures the adaptability to configuration programs that take care of the particular social and social necessities of nearby networks. This will permit the Scheme to accomplish its general goal. The plan gives cash to different exercises, including those relating to lodging, the appropriation and advancement of land, agrarian and cow's improvement, the development of connection streets, the establishment of non-regular energy sources, as well as government backed retirement. Just those ventures that are vital for the upkeep, development, and progress of PVTGs and that are not covered by some other Central or State Government Scheme will qualified for store. These activities can be tracked down in the accompanying classifications. The Scheme is committed to draft a Conservation-cum-Development (CCD) plan that is substantial for a



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time of five years for each PVTG that falls under its ward. This plan should incorporate the exercises that the Scheme expects to seek after, the monetary making arrangements for those exercises, and the associations that are entrusted with undertaking the work. The Comprehensive Community Development Plan (CCD Plan) has been granted their endorsement by an Expert Committee that was comprised by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Everything related with the drive would be paid for by the national government.(*Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups — Vikaspedia*, )

4. **The Comprehensive Rural Tribal Development Program (CRTDP)**

The Comprehensive Rural Tribal Development Program (CRTDP), which was established in 1987, is a network of persons striving to fight poverty, increase public awareness of the exploitation of the weak and the poor, and enable people to affect constructive social change. In 1980, CRTDP started working in country regions. Through this program, Land advancement exercises, improvement of Katcha houses, street work, improvement of GTR schools, arrangement of drinking water offices, development of houses, ability advancement exercises for the job of Scheduled Tribes, improvement of Tribal's in Education and Sports, development of lodgings, Economic Development plans, for example, supply of force turners, assets for self improvement gatherings for beginning natural Bamboo industry, Assistance to reinforced Tribal Laborers to set up business in delivering biomass charcoal units, craftsmanship things, help to foster nursery with home grown plants and so on, for their occupation are being executed through TAHDCO for Tribal Development. (*Tribal Welfare Department - Tamilnadu*,)

5. **The Tribal Entrepreneurship Development Program (TEDP)**

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), India's fundamental business bunch, will send off another venture for the Tribal Entrepreneurship Development Program in the year 2020. This undertaking will keep going for quite some time. The goal of the Tribal Entrepreneurship Development Program (TEDP) is to work on the way of life of India's native ancestral populace. The primary objective of the initiative is to give tribal musicians access to a platform that would assist them in breaking into the international market. Another step has been taken in the direction of "Atmanirbhar Bharat." TEDP will educate a large number of tribal artists and assist them in marketing their wares in the contemporary market. This is in response to the rise of technology in the commercial sector. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in collaboration with ASSOCHAM, has been hard at work to ensure the success of this strategy, which would ultimately be beneficial to the tribal people. The Tribal Economic Development Program's (TEDP) overarching goal is to improve the quality of life for tribal members while simultaneously bolstering entrepreneurial activity within the tribes. Training for tribal entrepreneurs will begin once the training requirements, evaluation criteria, and a market needs analysis have been completed? Increasing the marketability of products will require additional training components, including skill-based training, and this evaluation will help determine whether or not these are necessary. Following discussions with both trainers and experienced artisans, decisions regarding the program's duration, methodology, and content will be made. Due to the challenges posed by COVID-19, it has been decided that online training



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would be prioritized wherever it is an option.(*The Tribal Entrepreneurship Development Program*.)

6. **Self – Employment Programme of Scheduled Tribes**

The National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), which is overseen by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, is in charge of the implementation of programs that help Scheduled Tribes members become self-employed. These programs offer people or groups of STs financial help on preferential terms so that they can participate in activities that generate income. These activities can be either individually or collectively driven. This kind of monetary assistance is doled out to Scheduled Tribe (ST) individuals who are eligible for it through the medium of channeling agencies that can be found all throughout India. The NSTFDC's initiatives will be discussed in further depth in the following paragraphs:(*Schemes for Self-Employment of Scheduled Tribes*, n.d.)

- **Term Loan scheme:** Term Loans are available from the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) for any income generation program with a price tag of up to Rs.25.00 lakhs per unit. Up to ninety percent of the total cost of the project is covered by financial support, with the remaining ten percent being covered by a subsidy, contribution, or margin paid for by the promoter. On the total amount of the loan, the interest rate charged is 6% per year if the loan is for less than Rs.5 lakhs, 8% per year if the loan is for between Rs.5 lakhs and Rs.10 lakhs, and 10% per year if the loan is for more than Rs.10 lakhs.

- **Adivasi MahilaSashaktikaranYojana (AMSY):** Women from the Scheduled Tribes are permitted to engage in any activity that could potentially generate revenue under the program. With an annual interest rate of 4% and a loan amount of up to 90%, one can finance projects with a cost of up to one lakh rupees.

- **Micro Credit Scheme for Self Help Groups**: The Corporation will loan up to Rs. 50,000/ - each individual part and Rs. 500,000/ - per Self-Help Group (SHG). The yearly rate pace of revenue that applies is 6%.

- **Adivasi ShikshaRrinnYojana**: ST students in India who are pursuing professional or technical education at any level, including doctoral degrees, are eligible to receive financial support from this program of up to Rs. 5.00 lakh at a concessionary interest rate of 6% per annum. Because of the interest subsidy that is provided by the Government of India's Ministry of Human Resource Development for this scheme, a student will not be required to make any interest payments during the course of their education or for the first year or six months after getting a job, depending on the circumstances. After the investigations have been finished, there is also a provision that allows for the allocation of additional concessional financing for any activity that generates income.

- **Tribal Forest Dwellers Empowerment Scheme**: The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act of 2006 was the regulation that gave land freedoms to individuals from the Scheduled Tribes. The plan offers monetary help to those individuals from the Scheduled Tribes. At a pace of interest of 6% per annum, credits



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concealing to 90% of the all out cost of the arrangement, which can depend on Rs. 1 lakh, are made open. This is an inventive novel thought.

- **Scheme for NGOs/ EVAs:** Through NGOs and other laid out deliberate associations, NSTFDC is currently offering a shiny new program that will consider the arrangement of credits of up to Rs. 50,000/ - every individual part and Rs. 500,000/ - per Self-Help Group (SHG). The yearly rate pace of revenue that individuals from SHGs will be expected to pay is 12%; notwithstanding, there is a premium impetus of 4% for brief installment, which brings the compelling financing cost down to 8%.

**Suggestion**

1. To create awareness among the Scheduled Tribe People about the welfare schemes.
2. Properly implementing the welfare measures for the betterment of the ST people.
3. To know about the ground reality and implement the needy welfare schemes to the Scheduled Tribe people.
4. The central and state government periodical monitors of the health condition of the people and also provide the proper medical facilities of the Scheduled Tribe people.
5. The Central and State government periodically monitor the educational level and to control the educational drop out of the Scheduled Tribe Student.
6. To develop the proper Infrastructure facilities like road connectivity, water facilities, health and sanitation and other facilities in the Scheduled Tribe areas.
7. To create proper employment opportunities and to develop employability skills among the Scheduled Tribes people.
8. To eradicate the racial discrimination against Scheduled Tribe people in the working place.
9. Create awareness and control Child Marriage among the Scheduled Tribe people.
10. To control and eradicate the corruption in the implementation of Welfare measures for the Scheduled Tribe people.



**Conclusion**

The lives and livelihood of the indigenous people are intimately connected to the resources provided by the forest. The homes of tribal peoples are typically located in remote and unreachable parts of the forest. As a consequence of this, their connections to the outside world are either established or severed depending on the circumstances. Targets have been pushed to the periphery of policymakers' social and cultural lives in an effort to save money. An idea that advances equal possibilities for economic players during the course of financial development with advantages caused by each section of society is referred to as comprehensive improvement. The welfare policies for Scheduled Tribes need to promote equitable chances for equal empowerment for all of the tribe members. The evidence of a low level of poverty, health status, and worldwide tribal educational growth of tribal children led us to discover the impact of such welfare measures. The welfare measures include the Integrated Tribal Development Programme Areas (ITDP), the Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (SCA to TSP), the Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), The Comprehensive Rural Tribal Development Programme (CRTDP), and the Self-Employment Programme of Scheduled Tribes. Together, all of these programs will have a significant effect on the people who are members of the tribal



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communities. According to the findings of the study, the empowerment of indigenous people was supported by the various developmental programs. The recognition by our planners of the need for more inclusive growth is a welcome shift in emphasis away from a simple increase in growth rates and toward an improvement in the standard of living of those less fortunate sections of the society. This will be accomplished through an increase in employment opportunities as well as improved delivery systems to ensure access to the benefits that are intended for them.

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