

Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides some untied funds for medical contingencies in Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) areas. It encourages kitchen gardens, animal husbandry to supplement nutrients, growing and consumption of minor millets and locally available leafy vegetables to address malnutrition. A protocol has been laid down for giving Iron Folic Acid supplement and Deworming to part address the issue as well.

Impact of degradation of resources on livelihood of tribals

1204. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether livelihood of tribal population is under threat due to increasing degradation of resources and underutilization of Government schemes because of ineffective or faulty targeting system among tribal population;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) if not, the State-wise details with Government regarding analysis of data on the socio-economic factors of the tribal people, pattern of food consumption, extent of reduction in the share of expenditure on food among the household expenditure of the tribal people due to Targeted Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA): (a) to (c) Over the years, the Central and State Governments have been taking various initiatives for socio-economic upliftment of tribal population of the country. This includes the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) Strategy implemented since 1974-75. The efforts made through TSP Strategy have brought out some improvements for tribals in terms of various indices relating to housing, sanitation, literacy, health, livelihood, clean drinking water etc. However, as per the figures reflected in the Census 2011, there is still a gap in human development indices between Scheduled Tribes and other social group as outlined below:

| Indicators | All Social Groups | STs |
|---|-------------------|------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Rural BPL (2009-10) (Tendulkar Method) | 33.8 | 47.4 |
| Anemia in women | 55.3 | 68.5 |
| Mean Body Mass Index (BMI) of Women (age 15-49) | 20.5 | 19.1 |
| Availing health Schemes | 31.9 | 2.6 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--|-------|-------|
| Child Mortality Rates | 18.4 | 35.8 |
| Infant Mortality Rates | 57 | 62.1 |
| Literacy Rate | 72.99 | 58.9 |
| Average dropout rates (Class I – X) | 49.15 | 70.95 |
| Good Houses | 53.1 | 40.6 |
| Households availing Latrine facilities within premises | 46.9 | 22.6 |
| Households cooking with non-smoke fuel | 35.58 | 12 |
| Households availing banking services | 58.7 | 44.98 |
| Households having television | 47.2 | 21.9 |
| Households having two wheeler | 21.0 | 9.0 |
| Households with drinking water facilities at premises | 46.6 | 19.7 |
| Households using electricity as source of light | 67.2 | 51.7 |
| % households covered by a health scheme | 31.9 | 2.6 |
| Prevalence of Anemia among women | 55.3 | 68.5 |
| Per Thousand Agricultural Labourer | 256 | 334 |

The availability of funds under various components of Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) is as under:

| (₹ in crore) | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| Availability of TSP funds | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 (BE) |
| Funds under CS/CSS | 17453.61 | 20184.10 | 22029.97 | 32386.84 |
| TSP component under State Plan | 44772.42 | 55019.05 | 59937.64 | 70240.16 |
| Article 275(1) | 1015.01 | 852.54 | 1050.00 | 1317.00 |
| SCA to TSP | 1111.28 | 820.00 | 1097.14 | 1200.00 |
| TOTAL | 64352.32 | 76875.69 | 84114.75 | 105144 |

As reflected in the above table the allocation of funds under TSP has been on the increase with respect to previous year allocation.

Recently erstwhile Planning Commission got a holistic evaluation study conducted through a third party agency on impact of implementation of Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) by the State Governments in terms of delivery and goods services. Evaluation study was carried in 14 States. In each State, two districts were selected and from each district, one Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP)/Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDA) was selected for undertaking evaluation. The report of the Study was made public during May 2013. The Study, *inter alia*, reported underperformance of TSP funds in fetching tangible results and for that matter triggering development of tribals. Besides, the Ministry held several consultations with the stakeholders in the Central Governments as well as State Governments and outside experts/agencies to gauge the deficiencies confronting tribal development with the desired pace.

In nutshell, besides other things, the prominent reasons for underperformance of TSP funds have been identified as (i) Lack of unified planning, implementation and monitoring mechanism (ii) Lack of effective mechanism to get central plan TSP funds and State Plan TSP Funds (iii) Scattered financial resources used in a scattered manner (iv) Lack of location specific perspective plan (v) Lack of gap analysis (vi) Weakening of institutions specifically meant for delivery of goods and services to tribal population *i.e.* Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA)/Integrated Tribal Development Projects/Tribal Research Institutes (TRI) and other Micro Projects (vii) Utilisation of TSP funds was more ritualistic than outcome based initiative based on gap analysis in HDI (viii) Inadequate and insufficient administrative and financial powers with the Tribal Welfare Departments in the States and Ministry of Tribal Affairs at Centre.

The erstwhile Planning Commission has issued revised Guidelines during 2014 for implementation of Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) by the States/UTs and Central Government Ministries/Departments keeping in mind the holistic development of tribal people. The Guidelines, *inter alia*, reiterate the resolve of the Government for allocation of funds under TSP out of total Plan Outlays not less than the population proportion of STs in State as per 2011 census. The Guidelines further stipulates for non-diversion of funds meant for tribal areas and comprehensive monitoring framework with well-defined indicators, covering provisioning, service delivery standards as well as outcomes.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has also issued “Operational Guidelines for Formulation, Implementation and Monitoring of Tribal Sub-Plan and Article 275(1) grants” in the month of March, 2014 for effective implementation of Schemes administered by the Ministry wherein issues related to allocation of funds, priority

areas, need for nodal Department in States, judicious utilization of TSP fund, institutionalizing the instruments for ensuring transparency, accountability and social audit have been addressed. The Operational Guidelines have laid special emphasis on strengthening of institutions viz. Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA)/ Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP), Tribal Research Institutions (TRIs) through which tribal welfare programmes are implemented in the State.

Further provision has been made for appraisal and approval of the proposals received from the States by a Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) consisting of Secretary (Tribal Affairs) as chairman with representatives of NITI Aayog, Financial Advisor and representatives of the State as members/invitees. This has helped in ensuring consultation with the States, convergence of various schemes of the Ministry, transparency in the process of appraisal and fund releases and ensuring optimal utilization of limited financial resources.

During the Project Appraisal Committee meetings held during 2014-15 and the current year 2015-16, besides other things, State Governments have been impressed upon to ensure optimum utilization of financial resources available for the purpose under various schemes/programmes of Central as well as State Governments by way of appropriate convergence. They have also been sensitized for promotion of need based integrated livelihood initiatives such as Dairy development with State cooperative, horticulture, floriculture, vegetable production, apiculture, sericulture, fisheries, backyard poultries etc. without in any way disturbing the traditional agricultural practices, in order to create enabling environment for tribals to earn their livelihood at doorsteps with backward and forward linkages. The State Governments have been impressed upon the need for cultivation of traditional crops and promotion of traditional food like minor millets, green leafy vegetables and effective implementation of ongoing folic acid supplement efforts in respect of tribal population. Besides, attention have been drawn to harp on the need of job oriented skill development of tribals while ensuring due share to female population by including women centric trades. Strengthening of health institutions, measures to improve overall health of tribals including immunization have been rigorously advocated by the Ministry. Diseases like Sickle Cell Anemia, Malaria, leprosy etc. have been given attention to. Sanitation measures especially facilities of toilets with running water and electricity in residential schools have been emphasized upon.

The data regarding extent of reduction in the share of expenditure on food among the household expenditure of the tribal people due to Targeted Public Distribution System is not centrally maintained in the Ministry.