

Tribal Development Policy in India with Special Reference to Jharkhand

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Abstract

It has been more than 75 years of our independence and yet we have many marginalized sections of people who are struggling to get access for the basic amenities of life. Tribal community is one such marginalized section of our society. Present paper is developed with the help of secondary data sources in order to know the different Indian tribal development policies, programmes/ schemes/ plans based on the integration approach of development. Special focus has been given to the major steps like Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) taken under Five Year Plans by Indian Government for tribal development. The study reveals that expenditure pattern of tribal development is inclined towards infrastructural development in comparison to other dimensions of development in tribal areas. The paper also made an attempt to show the educational and health status of scheduled tribes in Jharkhand. The data demands special attention of tribal development policy makers towards the quality enhancement in educational, health and economical aspects of tribal community.

Key Words: *Tribal Sub Plan, Tribal Development Policy, Five Year Plans*

Introduction

India is well known for its cultural and geographical diversity. The 705 (GoI, MoTASD, 2013) tribal communities are the feathers in this diversity. As per census 2011, The total tribal population of India is 10.43 crore, which is 8.6% of total Indian population according to census 2011 and out of which 89.97% of them live in rural areas and only 10.03% in urban areas. This tribal community is defined in many ethnographic literature in Indian context as ‘a social group the members of which live in a common territory, have a common dialect, uniform social organisation and possess cultural homogeneity, having a common ancestor, and shared systems of political organization and religious pattern’ (Chaudhari, 1990). But this definition is not sufficient to describe the tremendous diversity of tribes in India (Mander, 2018).

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In year 1992, a new definition was adopted by the Indian Council of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ICITP) in a symposium as: ‘peoples whose political and social organisation [is] based primarily on moral binding among kins, real and putative, who [have] a custodial attitude towards nature and [are] outside the Jati (caste) Varna system’ (Roy Burman 2000). However Indian government uses the term Scheduled Tribe (ST) for tribal community in India. The term “Scheduled Tribes” is defined in Article 366 (25) of the Constitution as “such tribes or tribal communities or parts of, or groups within such tribes, or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution”. The Central India and the North- Eastern Area are two distinct geographical areas inhabited by STs. More than half of the Scheduled Tribe population as per census 2011 is concentrated in Central India, i.e., Madhya Pradesh (14.69%), Maharashtra (10.08%), Orissa (9.2%), Rajasthan (8.86%), Gujarat (8.55%), Jharkhand (8.29%), Chhattisgarh (7.5%) and Andhra Pradesh (5.7%). Out of these states the state of Jharkhand, the newly formed state in year 2000 with more tribal population is on 6th position. Jharkhand has a total 8,645,042 ST population which is approximately 26% of the Jharkhand total population i.e. 32,988,134 as per census 2011. There are total 32 Scheduled Tribes in Jharkhand out of these 9 are Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). These PVTGs are Birhor, Asurs, Hill Kharia, Mal Paharia, Konvas, Parhaiyas, Birjia, Sauda Paharia and Savar.

The policies formation for tribal development is basically having three approaches namely (i) policy of isolation / segregation, (ii) policy of assimilation, and (iii) policy of integration. In context of India, policy of isolation / segregation was propagated by Dr. Verrier Elwin. He opined the complete isolation of aborigines from rest of the India in order to protect them (Elwin, 1963). Many people criticized the idea of isolation comparing it to a museum for anthropologist work (Guha, 1996) later on V. Elwin also shifted his stance. Another group of researcher led by G. S. Ghure like A. V. Thakkar (Thakkar, 1941) suggested the complete opposite i.e. total assimilation of the tribals into national mainstream. The integration of tribals into the Indian society not necessarily following the assimilation is also suggested by another third school of thought for the preservation of their identity (Misal, 2016).

Tribal specific development policies in India: Pre – Independence Era

In the pre- independence period of India especially during the British Government period the policy of isolation was adopted for the tribal people of India. The difficult terrain, no approach paths, isolation and inaccessibility helped then tribal areas as these tribal areas were the lasts to come under British power

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(Misal, 2016). At that time the tribal people economic life was dependent upon their land and surrounding forest area. British Government move for a forest act with a motive to commercialize the forest produce in year 1865 gave power to British Government to declare any land covered with trees as a government forest and so the government can make rule to manage the forest (Wikipedia, 2020). The Indian Forest Act was enacted by the British Government in 1865 then amended in 1878 and finally in 1927. Britishers were least concerned about development of tribal people as they adopted the “National Park theory”, popularized by Dr. Verrier Elwin. This policy of isolation was even continued after independence for some time till the first prime minister Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru gave the principle of *Panchasheel* for tribal development in India.

Tribal specific development policies in India: Post – Independence Era

The isolation and non – interference policy adopted by Britishers for Indian STs was replaced with policy of integration through development programs after independence in India. The policy of integration was adopted by Indian government after the serious research activities undertaken by social anthropologists in India with the objective of “social integration and cultural assimilation” for tribal community (Misal, 2016).

This integration approach basics can be summarized by Nehru’s Tribal Panchasheel. Under this he gave five fundamental principles for tribal development: Non-imposition:- People should develop along the lines of their own genius, and the imposition of alien values should be avoided. Tribal rights in land and forest should be respected. Teams of tribal’s should be trained in the work of administration and development. Introducing too many outsiders into tribal territory should be avoided. Tribal areas should not be over administered or overwhelmed with a multiplicity of schemes. Results should be judged not by statistics or the amount of money spent, but by the human character that is evolved. (Misal, 2016).

The Nehru’s concept of tribal integration was reflected in the successive five-year plans. Based on reports from various appointed committees, task forces and working groups for formulation of strategies for tribal development time to time Government of India took many initiatives. Some major policies and programs under Five Year Plan strategy of India will be discussed in the subsequent sections. The integration approach of development programs for tribal in India are based on two strategies. One is protection from exploitation and another is to assist them in their economic development. P.D Kulkarni argued about the effect of the policy of protection and development on the existed harmony in tribal community life

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(Kulkarni, 1964). For addressing the issues of the Constitutional safeguards, Acts and Regulations relating to protection of the interests of tribals in forests and trade, their culture and economic life, their educational and health status, issue of social justice, inclusive growth etc the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (since its inception in 1999) have proposed and developed plans and policies from time to time on the recommendations of various committees reports. Some notable committees are Elwin Committee (1959), U.N. Dhebar Commission (1960), The Lokur Committee (1965), The Shilu Ao committee (1966), The Bhuria Committee (1991), Bhuria Commission (2002-2004), Bandopadhyay Committee (2006), Mungekar Committee (2005) and Xaxa Committee (2013). The issues that the above mentioned Committees have dealt with can be categorized under two major heads: development and protection. The committee's recommendations resulted into the development of several institutions in the states for the implementation of various schemes and programmes. These are: Autonomous District Councils in the North East, Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDA), Integrated Tribal Development Programmes (ITDP), Tribal Development Blocks (TDBs) and Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs).

Poverty among Scheduled Tribe

Any government developmental programmes are intended to reduce the poverty in the country. But due to the poor implementation of these plans in tribal areas poverty continued at an exceptionally high levels with much slower declination rate than in the entire country, as shown in Table 1. The result shows that the gap in the share of the tribals amongst the poor in the country has been increased from 15.83% of 1993-94 to 20.49% in year 2004-05.

Table 1: Rural Population Living Below Poverty Line (in %)

Category	1993-94	1999-2000	2004-05
Total	50.19	27.09	41.79
STs	66.02	45.86	62.28
GAP	15.83	18.77	20.49

Note: Estimation by Tendulkar Method using Mixed Reference Period (MRP)

Source: Documents of Planning Commission, Government of India; GoI, MoTASD, 2013.

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The poverty scenario among scheduled tribes forces the government to take new initiatives time to time and act as per the report given by different committees. But still the gap between ST and other social group exist in India with regional variation as given in table 2 with reference to Jharkhand.

Table 2: Percentage of population below poverty line (Based on MRP Consumption)

Category	2004-05			2009-10			2011-12		
	Rural	Urban	All	Rural	Urban	All	Rural	Urban	All
India	42.00	25.50	37.20	33.80	20.90	29.80	25.70	13.70	21.92
Jharkhand	51.60	23.80	45.30	41.60	31.10	39.10	40.84	24.83	36.96
GAP	9.60	-1.70	8.10	7.80	10.20	9.30	15.14	11.13	15.04

Note: MRP: Mixed Reference Period

Source: Reserve Bank of India Publication

The poverty among tribals made them an economic backward group in India and which need special attention related to development programs.

Tribal Specific Developmental Plan in Five Year Plan (FYP) Strategy in India

First Five Year Plan (1951-56): This plan period did not have any specific tribal development related policies or schemes. Community Development Programme (CDP) was extended for the tribal areas but the expenditures done were mainly focused on educational programs and welfare related works. It was also reported that the benefits of the establishment of eight tribal research institutes in 1st FYP were generally taken by non- tribals living in tribal areas.

Second Five Year Plan (1956-61): In this plan period for the active involvement of tribal people participatory model of development was suggested. The plan suggested for the involvement of voluntary agencies in order to strengthen the TRIs. Tribal Economy, Communication Education and Culture, Health, Housing and Water Supply are the major four heads of the tribal development programmes in the

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2nd FYP. For the collection and processing of minor forest produce cooperative model was also recommended in this plan (Suresh, 2014). The problems of CDP approach of 1st FYP faced were countered through the formation of 43 Special Multi-Purpose Tribal Blocks (SMTB) in 2nd FYP. The efforts under various programmes resulted into formation of 653 forest labour cooperatives and 312 multi-purpose cooperatives in tribal areas (GoI, 1961).

Third Five Year Plan (1961-66): This Plan was mainly focused on agricultural development, enhancement of educational and health status of tribes and also on communication. For enhancing the economic well being of tribal people, this plan concentrated efforts towards forest economy, cooperatives etc. As the ineffectiveness of implementing various programs through SMTBs were highlighted in the report of the Committee on Special Multi-Purpose Tribal Blocks, SMTBs converted into Tribal Development Blocks (TDBs).

By the end of the 3rd FYP on the basis of ‘area based development strategy’ there were 489 Tribal Development Blocks (TDBs). These TDBs were much larger than the Community Development Blocks (CDBs) in terms of their financial outlay.

Fourth Five Year Plan (1969-74): The area based development strategy was continued in the 4th FYP along with some programmes and schemes like Forestry Schemes, Cash Schemes for Rural Development and Small Farmer’s Development Agency (SFDA). Six Tribal Development Agencies focused on agriculture and allied activities has been introduced in the tribal populated identified backward areas.

Table 3 represents the expenditure done by Government of India for tribal development before the introduction of Tribal – Sub Plan (TSP) Approach. It shows that majorly education, health and economic activities related work has been done so far.

The amount increase almost 5 times in just 25 years, it shows the commitment of Indian Government towards tribal development but the developmental parameters among scheduled tribes group did not improved with same pace as for the rest social groups in India. It forces us to find the gap in planning, implementation and monitoring phase of various developmental schemes for tribal group in India.

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Table 3: Sector - Wise Outlays for Tribal Development before TSP (Rs. in Crores)

Plan Period	Education	Economic Upliftment	Health Housing etc	Total
1 st FYP (1951-56)	5.10	8.46	3.81	17.37
2 nd FYP (1956-61)	8.05	22.70	9.76	40.51
3 rd FYP (1961-66)	13.23	30.72	7.10	51.05
3 Annual Plans (1966-69)	9.32	24.07	1.93	35.32
4 th FYP (1969-74)	31.50	42.25	10.45	84.20

Source: Fourth Five Year Plan Approach Paper

Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-79): Area based approach for tribal development was questioned by the task force headed by L. P. Vidyarthi with a view that for large investments in infrastructural development or in services, TDB areas are too small. The expert committee on tribal development headed by S. C. Dubey suggested for Tribal Sub Plan (TSP). In year 1977-78, Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme (SCA to TSS) as 100% grant from Government of India has been started. This plan also introduced Group based programmes e.g. large-30 sized Agricultural Multipurpose Cooperative Societies (LAMPS) to motivate tribals for cooperative movement, and get rid of money lenders, middlemen and forest contractors etc.

Tribal Sub –Plan (TSP): The Tribal Sub Plan has the element of both strategies- protection and development. Area development strategy for tribal populated areas and for tribal population dispersed over an area family as a unit of development was suggested under this for ensuring development. The TSP strategy is based on the idea of ensuring the accountability and proper utilization of allocated fund for welfare and development of tribals with minimum diverti-fication of fund to other head/accounts. One of the most important features with respect to TSP for States is that the funds provided under the Tribal Sub Plan of the State have to be at least equal in proportion to the ST population of each State or UT. The policy has been made regarding fund to TSP in proportionate to ST population. But again when it comes to implementation and doing the actual expenditure for tribal development the scenario is different.

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Following tables put a picture of TSP allocation fund in the total state plan outlay of Jharkhand and the actual expenditure occurred against the allocated fund.

Table 4: Details of TSP allocation in Jharkhand (2009-2018)

S. No.	Annual Plan (A.P.)	ST Population % in the state	Amount (Rs. in Crore)		
			Total State Plan Outlay	TSP Allocation	% of TSP to Annual Plan
01	A.P. 2009-10	26.3	8200.00	5760.46	70.2
02	A.P. 2010-11	26.3	9240.00	4657.72	50.4
03	A.P. 2011-12	26.3	15322.75	7501.39	48.95
04	A.P. 2012-13	26.3	16300.00	8231.24	50.4
05	A.P. 2013-14	26.3	16800.00	8474.60	50.4
06	A.P. 2014-15	26.3	26250.00	11680.29	44.50
07	A.P. 2015-16	26.3	32136.84	14272.00	44.41
08	A.P. 2016-17	26.3	37065.34	16304.95	43.99
09	A.P. 2017-18	26.3	44502.61	18092.70	40.66

Sources: Annual reports of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India

Table 5: Details of TSP expenditure in Jharkhand (2011-18)

S. No.	Annual Plan (A.P.)	Amount (Rs. in Crore)				
		Total State Plan Outlay	TSP Allocation Fund	TSP Actual Expenditure	Expenditure as % of TSP	Expenditure as % of State Plan Outlay
01	A.P. 2011-12	15322.75	7501.39	5749.39	76.64	37.52
02	A.P. 2012-13	16300.00	8231.24	4458.06	54.16	27.35
03	A.P. 2013-14	16800.00	8474.60	5103.00	60.22	30.38
04	A.P. 2014-15	26250.00	11680.29	NR	NR	NR
05	A.P. 2015-16	32136.84	14272.00	7755.07	54.34	24.13
06	A.P. 2016-17	37065.34	16304.95	14935.26	91.60	40.29
07	A.P. 2017-18	44502.61	18092.70	14627.20	80.85	32.87

Note: NR: Not Reported

Source: Annual reports of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India

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It can be noticed that in the state of Jharkhand the percentage of TSP to Annual Plan has been decreased as in Annual Plan 2009-10 it was 70.2% and in Annual Plan 2017-18 it was only 40.66%. The actual expenditure is also less compared to the allocated fund for TSP in Jharkhand. Leaving behind the amount spent the scenario of development parameters in Jharkhand is also low in comparison to India. These parameters will be discussed in the subsequent sections.

Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85): This plan period is marked for the creation of laws/regulations by many states in order to prevent transfer of land from tribal to non-tribals. The lack of administrative effectiveness in tribal development in terms of number of trained staffs, delays in implementation of programs, poor monitoring and evaluation process and insufficient accounting were highlighted in this plan document. Certain tribal communities and areas having dispersed tribal population were left –out in TSP during the 5th FYP. To include the area having a minimum of 10,000 tribals with at least 50 % as ST population, an intensive integrated approach for clusters (villages) known as Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) was initiated under the TSP. In the 6th FYP period a total of 245 MADA pockets were established. Another new initiative was the inclusion of 20 point programme under the Tribal Sub – Plan as poverty alleviation mechanism has started in tribal areas in this plan.

Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90): In this plan period 12 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in different states, Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED) and National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribal Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) were established. The primary objective behind TRIFED establishment was of providing the remunerative prices to tribals for their forest and agricultural products and NSFDC was established for providing credit support in order to increase employment generation in tribal areas. Tribal Sub Plan policy approach was continued with special focus on strengthening the LAMPS to bring a change in the cultivation practices specially the shifting cultivation practices in tribal areas. Total 184 ITDPs covering 313.21 Lakh tribal population, were functioning at the end of the year 1987-88.

Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97): This plan is marked for the landmark decision of passing the panchayati (extension to the scheduled Area) act, 1996 (PESA) towards tribal development. At the macro level, the existing TSP was continued in the 8th FYP. New policies and schemes like development of primary education and women education among STs, access to credit facilities related to minor forest

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produce were started in order to bridge the gap between the levels of development of STs and other marginalized sections of the society.

Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002): Quality education and infrastructure strengthening were given more priorities under Tribal Sub – Plan of 9th FYP time - span. The three core sectors (3Es): Employment, Education and Economic Development were identified for tribal development in this plan. For effective planning and ensuring the implementation of development programmes with proper monitoring and evaluation process, the administrative and financial devolution of powers to local government bodies. Women's Component Plan was introduced as special strategy for Women empowerment in tribal areas. The National Scheduled Tribes Financial and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) for financing economically viable projects for scheduled tribes was also set up in this plan period. Various income and employment generating activities, marketing of tribal produced goods, loan provision for STs and skill development training programmes were also started in this FYP.

Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007): The milestone achievement of this plan was the finalization of National Policy for Rehabilitation of the Displaced Persons with special focus on already displaced tribals. During the period of 10th Plan, all the education related programmes like the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, District Primary Education Programme and Mid-Day Meal Programme, etc. provided special focus to tribal students. For the protection of tribal rights, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act was also enacted in the year 2006.

Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012): This plan suggested for a paradigm shift in Indian tribal development administration. It puts emphasis on making the tribal society representative as well as professional in their administration and development process. The importance and benefits of forestry on tribal lives can be maximized with women Self- Help Groups (SHGs) and through cooperatives. Development of tribal languages are also encouraged under this plan through text books and appointment of teachers skilled in tribal languages (Planning Commission, 2008). It also mentioned about improving the health care of the tribal people by setting up Auxiliary Nursing Midwifery (ANM) training centers in tribal blocks.

Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017): This plan continued the previous plan's approaches with little bit modification for tribal development with the objective of achieving overall improvement in the socio-

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economic conditions of STs. Govt. has emphasized for tribal entrepreneurship development keeping the tribal youths in focus with the help of startup and stand up programme. The plan document highlighted that govt. officials should be more sensitized towards tribal life and their traditions. For the promotion of tribal culture, government intends for the research, mass education, tribal festivals organizations, capacity building and awareness generation programmes. For more livelihood options for tribal community, convergence of MGNREGA with the tribal artisan works was also suggested in this plan document. Some new steps taken into TSP for better results like marking of funds from the total plan outlays to TSP in advance i.e. before the commencement of the financial year; an apex body formation at state level headed by chief minister and designated nodal department for appraising the TSP plan for the state .

It is important to note that TSP is the main strategy of tribal development in India specially in terms of budgeting. Some major schemes are also started by Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes like:

- ✓ Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS),
- ✓ Grants-in-aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution
- ✓ Institutional Support for Development & Marketing of Tribal Products / Produce (Central Sector Scheme)
- ✓ Support to National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)/State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations (STFDCs)
- ✓ Scheme of Grant-in-aid to voluntary organizations working for the welfare of STs
- ✓ Vocational Training in Tribal Areas:
- ✓ Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) and Tribal Festivals, Research Information and Mass Education

Following sections will deal with the status of tribal development in the state of Jharkhand based on some selected parameters.

Education

It has been said that the education is the key point of intervention to break the viscous circle of poverty. Table 6 and 7 shows the literacy rate among scheduled tribes in comparison to other social groups in India and in Jharkhand. The data shows that literacy level increased in all categories but the dream of 100% literate population is still far behind as the literacy rate among female of scheduled tribe group in India is

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just 49.4% as per census 2011. It means that almost 50% of ST females are illiterate in India. The situation is worst in case of Jharkhand as literacy rate of ST is very below than the national average literacy rate.

Table 6: Comparative table for Literacy Rate (in %)

Census Year	India				Jharkhand			
	Total Population	ST Male	ST Female	ST Total	Total Population	ST Male	ST Female	ST Total
2001	64.80	59.17	34.76	47.10	53.56	54.0	27.2	40.7
2011	73.0	68.5	49.4	59.0	66.4	68.2	46.2	57.1

Source: Census 2001 & Census 2011, Office of the Registrar General, India

Table 7: Literacy Rate of STs and Total Population in India (in %)

Category	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Total Population	29.45	36.23	52.21	64.80	73.0
Scheduled Tribes	11.30	16.35	29.60	47.10	59.0
GAP	18.15	19.88	22.61	18.28	14.0

Source: Census 2001 & Census 2011; Office of the Registrar General, India

To fill the gap shown on table 7 following initiatives has been taken by Ministry of Tribal Affairs to improve the literacy amongst STs:

1. Campaign for 100% physical enrolment
2. Special focus on ST girls in low literacy tribes, and districts

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3. Apart from upgrading the existing facilities. educational infrastructural development through constructions of Residential Schools & Hostels
4. Development of Primers in Tribal languages along with regional languages
5. Synchronization of academic sessions with Tribal Festivals
6. Schools Management committee to engage requisite teachers.
7. Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students
8. Scheme of Institute of Excellence/ Top Class Institute
9. National Overseas Scholarship Scheme
- 10. Umbrella scheme for Education of ST Children:** The following schemes for education have been merged into the umbrella scheme for providing flexibility in opting the heads of expenditure to states as needs vary from state to state:
 - a) Establishing and strengthening of Ashram Schools and Hostels.
 - b) Vocational training in tribal areas.
 - c) Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship.
 - d) Coaching & Allied Schemes

Health

A healthy mind resides in a healthy body. Health and Nutrition are among the important aspects to determine the quality life for human being. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has taken many special initiatives to eradicate Sickle Cell Anemia, reducing the effect of Malaria apart from other regular health schemes run by government in relation to improve the Health and Nutrition aspect of Scheduled Tribes. To address nutritional issues traditional crops and food, similarly tribal medicines and practices have also been promoted by the government for effective health service delivery in tribal areas.

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Table 8: Health status of ST in Jharkhand on various parameters

Health Indicators	NFHS – 3 (2005-06)				NFHS – 4 (2015-16)			
	All India		Jharkhand		All India		Jharkhand	
	TOTAL	ST	TOTAL	ST*	TOTAL	ST	TOTAL	ST
Neo -Natal Mortality	39.0	39.9	48.6	64.3	29.5	31.3	33.0	32.8
Post-Natal Mortality	18.0	22.3	20.2	28.7	11.3	13.1	10.8	14.0
Infant Mortality	57.0	62.1	68.7	93.0	40.7	44.4	43.8	46.8
Child Mortality	18.4	35.8	26.1	50.1	9.4	13.4	11.1	18.0
Under -5 Mortality	74.3	95.7	93.0	138.5	49.7	57.2	54.3	64.0
ANC Checkup	77.1	70.5	59.2	50.0	83.5	80.3	76.5	66.8
% of Institutional Deliveries	38.7	17.7	18.3	7.8	78.9	68	61.9	49.2
Childhood All Basic Vaccination	43.5	31.3	34.2	28.9	62.0	55.8	61.9	62.4
% of Households covered by a health scheme/ insurance	31.9	2.6	4.6	NA	28.7	30.8	13.3	NA
Prevalence of any anaemia (<12.0g/dl) in women	55.3	68.5	69.5	85.0	53.1	59.9	65.2	75.0

Note: NA: Not Available

Sources: National Family Health Survey 2005-06, 2015-16

*Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-five mortality rates has been taken for the 10-year period preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Jharkhand, 2005-06

In spite of so many health care programmes the indicators of different health parameters as represented in table 8 shows that the ST community is still lag behind from average status in our country. In case of Jharkhand some parameters status like institutional delivery, ANC Checkup needs special attention to even reach up to the national average.

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Livelihood and Employment

All schemes run by government (Central as well as state government) for skill enhancement, entrepreneurship development, credit linkages, loans etc has been extended to tribal areas for enhancing the income level of ST community. For bridging the wider gap between the tribals income and other community following are some special initiatives has been taken by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs **for**

promotion of Tribal Products and Marketing:

- a) **Scheme for Minor Forest Produce (MFP):** A web-based portal ‘MFPNET’ hosted by TRIFED has been launched in order to make sure that current price of listed MFPs can be known across important Mandis of different states.
- b) **Call Centre and Toll Free Number:** A Toll Free Number 1800- 180-1551 was started in year 2014 to provide the real time information of daily prices of MFPs in various Mandis of different states across the country
- c) **E-Commerce Portal:** In addition to the portal for direct selling of the products TRIFED has tied up with “snapdeal.com”.

Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY): For the comprehensive development of tribals, VKY inspired from Gujrat model has been started. This model emphasises on improving the working character instead of focusing only on physical and financial achievements. For example, instead of looking out for number of schools as a result, it focuses on the number of students who have passed with distinction.

Conclusion

Since the 1st Five Year Plan, the development of tribal with a need of special effort is always among the priorities of Indian Government. For ensuring the adequate budgetary allocation and flow of various benefits of programmes and policies for tribal community and regions, TSP was introduced from the Fifth Five Year Plan. However, it is critical to note that the allocated amount under TSP has not been fully spent by the States/ UTs. The situation of Jharkhand is also the same. Various reports data also shows that major portion of TSP expenditure has been done on infrastructural development and given to the service providers. The gap in the educational, health and economic indicators between total population and ST population indicate that to improve the tribal community life standards more focused and theme based approach is needed.

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