

CHAPTER – XIII

SCHEDULED CASTE SUB PLAN

Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan concept was first introduced during the Sixth Plan to channelise the flow of benefits and outlays in Physical and financial terms from the general sectors in the Plans of the States/Union Territories for development of SCs. These plans are envisaged to help the poor SC families through composite income generating/welfare schemes. The system has evolved a useful mechanism to draw funds and physical benefits in various sectors for improving the socio-economic and living conditions of the Scheduled Castes.

Scheduled Caste Sub Plan is prepared as an integral part of Five Year Plan/Annual Plan showing sectorwise, schemewise outlays earmarked for Scheduled Castes and corresponding physical targets. According to the guidelines received from Government of India, flow of funds to SCs in States and Union Territories should be equivalent to percentage of Scheduled Castes population to total population of the States and Union Territories.

As per 2001 census, the population of SCs in this territory is 1,57,771 which is 16.19% of the total population of 9,73,345. Hence 16.19% of total Plan allocation would be earmarked for development of SCs in this Union Territory.

It may not be practicable to absorb the entire flow of funds earmarked for SCs (16.19% of Plan Allocation) under Backward Classes sector implemented by the Welfare of Scheduled Caste department. Hence it becomes necessary to identify programmes for scheduled castes in the sectors implemented by other departments and expenditure on implementing such programmes may be shown under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan.

The allocation of funds under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan during last three years are shown below:

Table 13.1

Year	State Plan Outlay	Special Component Plan Outlay	Percentage
2004-05	61500.00	9947.50	16.17
2005-06	85000.00 *	13762.00	16.19
2006-07	87345.00 *	13007.88	14.89

* Excluding allocation for Tsunami Reconstruction Projects.

Guidelines for earmarking of funds for SCs/STs

- Earmarking of funds for SCSP and TSP from total State Plan outlay should at least be proportionate to the SC and ST population of the State/UT
- Making the Social Welfare/Tribal welfare Department that are concerned with the well-being and development of SCs and STs, the nodal department for formulation and implementation of SCSP and TSP
- Placing the funds earmarked for SCSP and TSP at the disposal of the Principal Secretary/Secretary, Social Welfare/Tribal Welfare who will work as Planning Secretary and will have exclusive authority for reallocation of the funds to the other line departments for the schemes of SC and ST development
- Placing the funds earmarked for SCSP and TSP under separate budget head/sub-head for each development department.
- Backing the SCSP and TSP earmarked funds by 100 % budget provision, sanctions and timely release of funds to the line departments and implementing agencies.
- Including only those schemes under SCSP and TSP that ensure direct benefits to individuals or families belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes.
- Preparing a detailed SCSP and TSP document with physical and financial targets against each Scheme with the objective of bridging the gap between the rest of the population and the SCs and STs within 10 years.

- Ensuring that the other line departments cooperate in proper implementation of the SCSP and TSP schemes allocated to them and put up the schemes to the nodal departments for sanction and release of funds.
- To circumvent the problem of non-divisible nature of funds for certain sectors like major irrigation, power, roads etc SCSP and TSP funds may be accounted only to the extent of about 5% or the actual area being covered or benefited by the SCs and STs by the projects and not the population percentage. The percentage of SC and ST beneficiaries and the area being covered/benefited is always lesser than the population percentage of the SC and ST population in the State/UT
- Preventing the diversion and lapse of funds allocated to SCSP and TSP in the Annual Plans.
- Carrying forward the lapsed / unutilized SCSP and TSP amount to the next Annual Plan of the State/UT as an additionality of the SCSP and TSP.
- All the Centrally Sponsored (CSS) and Special Central Assistance (SCA) Schemes of the Centre necessarily should have SCSP and TSP component in them as per the proportion of SCs and STs in the State / UTs.

Planning Commission has communicated the following directions and guidelines for effective implementation of Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP).

- i) The Special Component Plan (SCP) is renamed as Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP)
- ii) Secretary (Social Welfare) shall be nodal officer and Adi Dravidar Welfare Department to be declared as nodal department for designing, implementing, monitoring and channelising SCSP funds to various line departments and implementing agencies in the Administration.
- iii) The Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister for Welfare with Secretaries in-charge of Welfare, Finance and concerned departments as members should finalise the financial sanctions in respect of SCSP.
- iv) Separate budget head and subhead have to be allotted for effective monitoring of SCSP schemes.
- v) SCSP and TSP funds have to be made as non-divertible and non-lapsable.

In view of the above, the subject “Formulation and Monitoring of Scheduled Caste Sub Plan” have been transferred to the Adi Dravidar Welfare Department from the Annual 2007-08. The Adi Dravidar Welfare Department is the nodal department and Secretary Welfare is the nodal office for all matters relating to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) which includes formulation, monitoring of scheduled Caste Sub Plan and channelising the funds allotted to Scheduled Caste Sub Plan.

Revised Annual Plan 2007-08 and Draft Annual Plan 2008-09

Planning Commission approved a Plan outlay of Rs.1455 crore for the Annual Plan 2007-08 which includes Rs.896.83 crore for General Programmes, Rs.240 crore for Tsunami Reconstruction Programme, Rs. 247 crore for the Project funded with HUDCO loan assistance and Rs.71.17 crore for JNNURM Projects for upgradation of urban infrastructure. It is proposed to earmark Rs.150.14 crore for the development of SCs which comes out to 16.74% with reference to outlay for the general programmes. It will be kept unaltered in the Revised Annual Plan 2007-08.

For the Annual Plan 2008-09, the Union Territory Administration proposed a plan outlay of Rs.2000 crore of which Rs.1409.86 crore for General Programmes, Rs.190.14 crore for the projects to be implemented with the loan assistance from HUDCO and Rs.153 crore for JNNURM projects for upgradation of urban infrastructure. It is proposed to earmark Rs.234.03 crore for the development of SCs which works out to 16.60% with reference to the outlay proposed under general programmes.