



# ROLE OF ICT TRANSFORMATION IN BRITISH COLONIAL CRIMINAL TRIBES - A CASE STUDY FROM THE YERUKALA COMMUNITY AT STUARTPURAM ANDHRA PRADESH STATE

**DR. Dasari Rajesh Babu Ph.D. UGC-NET**

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

GRAMIN SWAROJGAR KENDRA, CHANDIGARH-160022, INDIA

## ABSTRACT

The term ICT can broadly be defined as a system or blend of subsystems that integrate necessary software, computers, telecommunication systems and host of other electronic tools for processing, storing, replicating, retrieving and sharing information. Government of Andhra Pradesh has undertaken numerous initiatives including some flagship programme for delivering various government services to the doorstep of every citizen including in rural and underserved areas through digital mode.

Tribal communities can be greatly benefitted in different aspects of their life and activities by integrating themselves with the prevailing digital world. The use of ICT in the various transactional aspects assumed more significant among the notified area tribals in Andhra Pradesh.

As per the census 2011, Total population of Stuartpuram is 8901. Males are 4383 and Females are 4,518 living in 2205 Houses. Total area of Stuartpuram is 2367 hectares. These Tribal community are distressed by the issues like poverty, illiteracy, low income, unemployment, food insecurity, lack of civic amenities, poor health and educational facilities and meagre standard of living. Many tribal localities are plagued by the absence of basic infrastructure like employment, road, communication, electricity, safe drinking water, housing and sanitation among others. Many of them are still suffering from the non-availability of proper market facilities, locational inaccessibility and lack of information about the outside world. The world is changing fast due to the swift technological advancement.

To keep pace with the ever-changing world, it has become inevitable for the tribal communities to be acquainted with the ICT skills and applications and at the same time it has become necessary for them to adopt digital means for doing activities. Especially with the Yerukala Tribal communities in Andhra Pradesh region are having higher Illiteracy rate compared to their counterpart from other region of the state which may put them in slightly disadvantageous position in terms of adopting the ICT. Yerukala tribal community living in the rural and isolated areas can take the advantage of the expanding digital services and the ICT infrastructure facilities like Mee- seva in their respective locations for connecting with the rest of the world. The government of Andhra Pradesh has undertaken one of the great step fiber optic broadband network programme for providing internet connectivity in the rural areas.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh, as part of the 2021-2022 ST sub-plan, rose to the challenge of introducing information communication and technology to invest an amount. of Rs.1224.22 Lakhs is allocated to ITE & C department during 2021-22. The following schemes are proposed as part of Information Technology, Electronics & Communications programme for 2020-21: Positioning of teams of IT professionals for Project Management Unit (PMU) in Directorate and Secretariat for TW dept. for monitoring all IT initiatives, Biometric attendance monitoring software, and maintenance. Procurement of new Computer hardware, Biometric systems, software, connectivity and up-gradation.

## KEY WORDS

Cast, Tribe, criminals, Acts, community, NGOs, Notified tribal, Denotified tribal, Schemes, sub plan.

## INTRODUCTION

For longer periods in history, tribes had little or no intercourse with people in the plains areas and were uninfluenced by the so-called civilizing influences. The relative isolation led to their backwardness as the agents of development deployed by the mainstream state could not penetrate into the deeper forest regions. The situation underwent a change with the advent of the British who saw great opportunity of exploiting the forest wealth by intruding into the private spaces hitherto inhabited by Adivasis. To avoid the problem posed by tribes, the British government passed the first Criminal Tribes Act in 1871 under the pretext of controlling the rate of crime. Under the Act, several tribes were declared criminal and settlements were started where tribesmen and women were lodged. The task of their management was entrusted to voluntary agencies such as Salvation Army, Chief Anjuman Islamia, Arya Samaj etc.

In addition, the government too at some places was directly involved in organizing reformatory settlements. Settlements were classified under agricultural, industrial, reformatory and penal settlements. Yerukala and Katheras are two ex-criminal tribes of Andhra Pradesh. These two groups are stigmatized as dacoits, burglars, pilferers, thieves and railway wagon breakers. Stuartpuram is one of the settlements established in 1914 by the colonial government. It was an agricultural settlement put under the management of Salvation Army. The organization executed

monumental development programme for the benefit and welfare of the settlers. They included agriculture, education, health and vocational training activities. Salvation Army enjoyed judicial powers while managing the settlement.

Basic approach to change and reform of the settlers adopted by the organization was religious in nature which as such had some inbuilt limitations. The Salvation Army was active for almost four decades before the tribal welfare department took over the settlement after independence. The organization continues its religious-social work till date. The second major attempt at reforming and mainstreaming inhabitants of Stuartpuram settlement was initiated in the year 1974 by a group of seculars and a religious humanist from the Atheist Centre, Vijayawada. Criminal reformation is three-dimensional process involving different kinds of actors and characters: criminals themselves, the state machinery including police/government officials and finally society at large. Of these variables, surrounding society plays a major role, either to accept or deny reformed criminals into mainstream ways of life. When this variable is in place, rest of the variables follow the suit.

Samskar (NGO) represented this important social variable in the process of social reform and rehabilitation of members of Stuartpuram colony. The organization executed its work in five phases through a strategy known as Three Generation Approach. Major emphasis of social reformers during the process had been on social integration and area development through 3G Approach. Social reform experiments in a DNT colony hint at one important historical lesson that traditional approaches to the problem of despised social heritage have reduced scope for reform of diehard avocations of hardened criminals. On the other, humanist and democratic interventions provide enough social space for bringing about the desired change.

## BACKGROUND

Stuartpuram is located in the present Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh and is named after the then acting Secretary to the government of Madras, Mr. Stuart. Stuartpuram has been primarily an agricultural settlement, even though its proximity to Chirala town where the Indian Leaf Tobacco Company is located, makes it semi urban. Stuartpuram was given to the care of salvation Army, which to help the settlers, established a school and hospital. The school has an attached hostel for children of the settlers.



In 1871 the British Raj in India enacted the Criminal Tribes Act. The Act proposed that certain Adivasi or ethnic, tribal communities in the Indian subcontinent were ‘habitually criminal’. As a consequence of the Act Criminal Tribe settlements were established with the intention of altering the behaviour of these communities. The movement of settlement inhabitants was restricted and they were subject to roll calls several times throughout the day and night.

British Colonial policies and destruction of livelihood of Aborigines the British introduced modernization in their colonies. The introduction of modern police system, railways, salt policies and forest laws, to a larger extent destroyed the traditional livelihood of the Kallars, Koravars, Yenadis, Yerukula, Yarayars, Valayars etc. During the first half of eighteenth century the Kallars played a predominant role kavalkarrar or watchman, which has been traditional among the kallars and related castes. The police Re-organization Act 1860, set the foundation of present police system and introduced a fundamental change in village Kaval system. Later enactments in 1873, 1889 upgraded the village police and introduced low level ghat, talaiyaris but traditional calling of many Kallars and their right to collect kaval fees remained illegal. Several nineteenth century reports connected to the outburst of kallar violence to the abolition of kallar kaval system. This resulted in the unemployment of Kallars and created law and order problem and increasing criminality.

The Korava community had been dealing in salt trade much before East India Company assumed Government functions. Since no cart traffic was possible and those days Koravas used bullocks and donkeys kept up considerable trading intercourse between inland districts and the coasts. The introduction of railway in 1850 was responsible for the destruction of salt trade which was traditionally practiced by the Korava community. Distribution of salt on railway all over presidency was being carried on quite efficiently. More over Government policy to introduce excise on salt manufacture as per Madras salt commission in 1876 culminated trade mechanisms in which Korava community had no place. This destroyed the traditional salt, trading process of Koravas, Koraches and Yerakalas, which resulted in unemployment and increasing criminality among these Tribes”. Apart from this the traditional grain trade of communities such as Dasaris, Rellis and Yenadis last their livelihood in nineteenth century and thus qualified as criminal tribes.



Provisions of the Act The criminal tribes act of 1911 enables the local government to declare any tribe, gang or class to be a criminal tribe, if it is satisfied that tribe, gang or class was addicted to be systematic commission of non-bailable offences. To order the registration of the members of any criminal tribe and the taking of their finger impressions, and to direct that every registered member should report himself at fixed intervals or notify his place of residence and charges thereof. The local Government can also declare with the sanction of the Government of India, that a criminal tribe should be restricted in its movements to any specified area or should be settled in any specified place of residence. But before such action was to be taken, the Government of India must be satisfied that it was expedient to restrict the movements of such tribe or settle it in a place of residence and that the means by which it was proposed that such tribe should earn its living are adequate. Another important feature of the Act was that the local Government was authorized to establish industrial, agricultural or reformatory schools, and to separate the children from their parents. This provision was a most useful portion of the act as it enables the local Government to secure the children, to educate them and to bring them up in a more wholesome atmosphere than that in which they would have been left if the tribe had been settled. It was hoped that by these means the children would grow up as honest citizens and the criminal habits of the tribe would in the course of generation or two be entirely eradicated.

After the implementation of Criminal Tribes Settlement, most often the convicted criminals were brought to the settlements. They were given opportunity to do cultivation and other industrial work such as weaving, carpentry, sandal making etc. They got a skill of a particular occupation. If the settlement was not provided with agriculture or industrial opportunities, they were employed in the factories such as sugar factory, mining etc. When they got the employment, it changed their life style from criminality to lead a life by doing work and getting the wages. In this way the employment changed the life of the criminal tribes. In addition to this, the opening of elementary schools and Night schools too contributed to bring out social change among the criminal tribes. The land holding population of the settlement increased to eighty three percent during 1938-1939 against seventy five percent in the last decades which showed that the settlers which proper engagement were inclined to become regular agriculturists abandoning their old criminal pursuits.

As a crime reform measure the Government of Madras ventured on starting a school to educate the criminal tribes in all the criminal settlement. Special emphasis was given to identify youths rather than adults to get the benefit of education. The criminal tribe's population had the conviction that the act of thieving and highway robbery were not crime but a pride. They did not consider it as a sin. In order to make the criminal tribes understand the fact that these criminal activities were unconstitutional the Government wanted to educate them first to change their attitude. Young boys and girls were attracted towards schools because education was the only panacea to reform the criminal tribes from their age-old ills. In the opening years of the settlement itself, either the salvation army or the Government of Madras started primary schools from seven to four standards in all the settlements.

The chief feature of the work was imparting of elementary education to the children of criminal tribes, both boys and girls. The exclusiveness was to concentrate on the young children rather than on the old one, who had been brought up in a spirit of idleness and in an atmosphere where thieving and highway robbery were looked upon as a natural avocation.<sup>24</sup> Traditional method of teaching were imparted in every settlement schools. Since the pupils were illiterate and found it difficult to pick up the lessons. The Government changed the old method of teaching and adopted a new individual method during the late 1930s. The reading apparatus assignment and progress chart were also given to the schools. Special attention was paid to the weak pupils. The teachers were equipped with adequate knowledge through various programme like refresher course and other training programme. After the elementary education was over the young boys and girls were given training in cultivation carpentry, weaving and sandal making, thereby they got skilled in particular fields. The trained pupils forgot their criminal life and wanted to lead a honest life by doing work and get money. Added to this their style of life also changed cleanliness was taught in class rooms. They were made to dress in a proper way. They took bath and brushed teeth regularly and this helped for proper health care.

The Government also provided necessary light, books and relevant materials. As a result of efforts of Salvation army and government of Madras in the settlements, there was a gradual fall in the crime rate during 1939-1940. There was decline in dacoity and robbery in the Madras presidency due to these settlements. There was reduction of grave crimes too as a result of effective discipline maintained in the settlements.

After independence, various state governments have done little to restore their land to them. Schemes for economic uplift do not seem to have benefited them. The illiteracy rate among the Denotified and Nomadic Tribes is high, malnutrition's more frequent and provisions for education and health care is almost negligible. Above all, there is no end to the atrocities that the Denotified and Nomadic Tribes have to be face. Being illiterate and ignorant of the law, the Denotified and Nomadic Tribes know very little about the police procedures, and so often get into difficult situations. The onus of proving innocence rests with them. Many of these people are scared to wear new clothes for fear of being arrested and therefore spoil them before using them. Mob-lynched, hounded from village to village, starved of all civic amenities, deprived of the means of livelihood and gripped by the fear of police persecution, the Denotified and Nomadic Tribes are on the run. Freedom has still not reach them.

#### **Areas of intervention by Tribal Welfare Department (TWD), Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP):**

An amount of Rs.180045.83 Lakhs is allocated to Tribal Welfare Department during 2021-22. Out of which an amount of Rs.119826.52 Lakhs is allocated to APTRICOR.

**1 TRIBAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT:** Tribal Welfare Department is committed to overall development of Scheduled Tribes in the State through Promoting and developing education among ST's and thereby improvement of literacy among ST's, Assisting ST families below poverty line for their economic development, Ensuring effective implementation of constitutional safeguards STs in the State in general and the ST's in the scheduled areas in

particular and to safeguard their interests from exploitation and strive to their overall developments. The Government has accorded high priority for accelerated development of tribals by implementing socio-economic development programs focusing on education, infrastructure creation, skill development schemes and income generating schemes.

**2. Maintenance of Educational Institutions:** There are (378) Ashram Schools, (1760) Government Primary Schools and (151) Post Matric Hostels are functioning under the control of Tribal Welfare Department. This scheme is to meet the maintenance of the said educational institutions.

- Post-matric scholarships: To provide scholarships to the ST students studying postmatriculation courses or post-secondary stage and to provide financial assistance to the ST students desirous of pursuing higher studies in foreign countries.
- Pre-matric Scholarships: There are (2) components in this scheme. One is to provide scholarships for the meritorious students sponsored to Best Available Schools (BAS) & HPS, Begumpet, Ramanthapur and Kadapa. Another component is providing scholarship for the ST students studying in V to X classes (for Hostellers and Day Scholars).
- Quality education initiatives: Government is committed to provide quality education for all STs and to convert hostels into Residential schools in a phased manner. Government sanctioned (50) Residential Schools in non-ITDA districts. Hostels in the Scheduled Areas are converted into (30) Ashram Schools & (30) Residential Schools.
- Educational Infrastructure: This scheme is for providing educational infrastructure in TW Ashram Schools, Hostels and Post Matric Hostels etc.
- Construction of buildings for Integrated Residential Schools (RIDF): This scheme is for creation of infrastructure related works in TW educational institutions under RIDF.
- Schemes under Article 275(1): Under Article 275(i) of the Constitution of India, Government of India releases Grants-in-Aid to State Plan for development of Scheduled Tribes or Scheduled Areas. These grants are being utilized for continuation additional infrastructure in existing Eklavya Model Residential Schools (which were sanctioned before 2010), providing amenities to the newly converted Residential Schools, Strengthening ITDA Complexes, Health, Agriculture and Horticulture activities.
- Conservation cum Development Plan (CCDP): Government of India has approved Conservation Cum Development Plan for the development of PVTGs during XII Five Year Plan period starting from 2012-13. CCDP aims at planning the socio-economic development of PVTGs in a holistic manner by adopting habitat development approach and intervening in all spheres of their social and economic life to enhance the quality of life and a visible impact is made.
- Special Central Assistance to TSS: Under this scheme activities such as providing financial assistance to the ST beneficiaries for economic support in the areas of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, minor irrigation, ISB/ Self-employment schemes are being taken up.
- Reimbursement of electricity charges to ST households consuming 0-200 units: The Government of AP has taken a decision to enhancement of benefit for providing free power to ST Households in ST Colonies/ Thanda's etc. consuming power from the existing 100 units to 200 Units per month and accordingly a G.O. issued by G.O.MS.No. 94 dated 25.07.2019.

- Tribal Community Health Programme: This scheme is to ensure payment of remuneration to CHWs in time.
- Administrative support for implementation of TSP: Tribal Welfare department is the Nodal Department for implementation of Tribal Sub Plan. Administration and Monitoring of Implementation of Scheduled Tribes Component (earlier Tribal Sub Plan) is being taken up by the Nodal Department.
- Support to Tribal Cultural Research & Training Mission (TCR & TM): The key function of TCR & TM is to conduct Ethnographic studies, to carry out socio-economic and bench mark surveys, to formulate perspective plans for ITDAs and PVTGs and to organize training programme to tribal leaders and officials working on various aspects of tribal development in the State.
- Electrification of ST households, pump sets and to install transformers in TW Educational Institutions: It is proposed to provide electrification to the un-electrified ST households, for energization of pump sets of the ST beneficiaries and also to install transformers in TW Educational Institutions wherever needed.
- Construction of Buildings for Residential Junior Colleges for Girls in RIAD areas: This is scheme for creation of infrastructure in AP TW Residential Junior Colleges for girls.
- ITDA for STs in Plain areas: Government sanctioned an ITDA to cater to the developmental needs of STs living in plain areas. It is proposed to extend the infrastructure facilities like drinking water, road connectivity, houses to the eligible ST beneficiaries, educational infrastructure, health facilities etc. to the plain area habitations as part of Tribal Sub Plan.
- Broadband Connectivity in Tribal Areas: This scheme is to assist to fill the viability gap in broadband connectivity in tribal areas.

### **AP SCHEDULED TRIBES CO-OPERATIVE FINANCE CORPORATION (APTRICOR)**

Out of the budget of Rs.180045.83 Lakhs which is allocated to TW department, an amount of Rs.119826.52 Lakhs is allocated to APTRICOR. Government is committed to the welfare and development of all segments of the society and announced a flagship programme named “Navaratnalu” comprising of various welfare and development programme. These schemes, pertaining to Scheduled Tribes, are being implemented through AP ST Corporation (APTRICOR).

**1. YSR Pensions Kanuka:** The scheme YSR Pension Kanuka is a part of the welfare measure to ameliorate the hardships of the poor and vulnerable sections of the society particularly the old and infirm, widows, and persons with disability to secure a dignified life. The Pension Kanuka is differentiated in the following types:

- A monthly pension of Rs.2250/- is provided to Toddy Tappers, weavers, Single women, Fishermen, ART (PLHIV) Persons. Traditional Cobblers.
- Disabled persons, Transgender and Dappu Artists receive a monthly pension of Rs. 3,000/-
- People affected with chronic kidney disease who are undergoing Dialysis in both Government and network hospitals receive Rs. 10,000/- per month.



**2. Amma Vodi:** The main objective of Jagananna Amma Vodi Schemes is to provide financial assistance of Rs. 15,000/- per annum to each mother or recognized guardian who is below poverty line household and sending their children to schools /colleges i.e., from Classes I to XII (Intermediate Education). G.O.MS.No. 79 Dated: 04-11-2019. Accordingly, amount is being released to meet the expenditure to the mothers of 2,84,212 ST Students.

### **3. Fees reimbursement (Jagananna Vidya Deevena):**

This scheme is to provide reimbursement of tuition fee to eligible ST students. Government issued guidelines vide G.O. Ms. No.115, Social Welfare (Edn) Dept., Dt.30.11.2019 for sanction of Jagananna Vidya Deevena (RTF). 75,424 ST students are being benefitted under Jagananna Vidya Deevena.

### **4. Jagananna Vasathi Deevena (MTF):**

Government issued guidelines vide G.O.Ms.No.115, Social Welfare (Edn) Dept., Dt.30.11.2019 for sanction of Jagananna Vasathi Deevena (MTF). Jagananna Vidya Deevena (RTF) Schemes is to provide Rs. 10,000/- per person to ITI students, Rs. 15,000/- per person to Polytechnic students, Rs. 20,000/- per person for other Degree and above courses per year to every eligible student for food and hostel expenses. 27,607 ST Students are being benefitted under Jagananna Vasathi Deevena.

### **5. Y.S.R. Aasaraa:**

The objective of the scheme is to reimburse the entire bank outstanding loan amount as on 11.04.2019 directly to the Groups Savings accounts of the SHG women in four instalments from financial year 2020-21 through the respective welfare corporations. This will create access to enhanced livelihood opportunities, income generation and wealth creation at the household level, on a sustainable basis leading to better standards of living of poor SHG members both in rural and urban areas. (G.O.Ms. No:655 Dated:22.08.2020). 29,852 ST women are being benefitted under this scheme.

### **6. Y.S.R. Cheyutha:**

The objective of the scheme is to extend financial assistance to the women belonging to BC, SC, ST and Minority Communities who are in the age group of 45 – 60 years (except the women beneficiaries already covered under YSR Pension Kanuka) with a sum of Rs. 75,000/- in four phases (in four years) through various Welfare Corporations. This will create access to enhanced livelihood opportunities, income generation and wealth creation at the household level, on a sustainable basis leading to better standards of living. G.O.MS.No. 636 Dated: 12-06-2020. 1,30,913 ST women are getting benefitted.

### **7. Jagananna Chedodu:**

The Government of Andhra Pradesh have issued orders vide G.O.Ms.No.59, BCW (C) Department, dated 25.07.2019, sanctioning Financial Assistance to Rajakas, Nayee Brahmins and Tailors belonging to All Communities who are

living below poverty line. The financial assistance would be Rs. 10,000/- per annum to the Rajakas, Nayee Brahmins and Tailors respectively.

**8. YSR Vahana Mitra:** The main objective of YSR Vahanamitra Schemes is to provide financial assistance of Rs. 10,000/- per annum to Self-Owned Auto/Taxi Drivers for expenditure towards insurance, fitness certificate, repairs and other requirements. (G.O.MS.No. 34 Dated: 09-09-2019)

**9. YSR Nethanna Nestham:** The objective of the scheme is to providing Rs. 24,000/- per annum to every weaver family who owns a Handloom to modernize their equipment and to compete with the power looms sector. G.O.MS.No.89, Dated: 23-10-2019.

**10. YSR Matsyakara Bharosa:** Government of Andhra Pradesh has announced to sanctioned Financial Assistance @ Rs. 10,000/- for each fishermen family under YSR Matsyakara Bharosa scheme for the year 2020-21 who are depending on the Mechanized fishing vessels and those crafts fitted with outboard as well as inboard engine (motorized fishing boats) excluding the nonmotorized traditional fishing crafts, in the Territorial waters along the entire coast of Andhra Pradesh.

**11. Financial Assistance to Hawkers:** Government of Andhra Pradesh has decided to support Hawkers belonging to STs under Navaratnalu Programme.

**12. Law Nestham:** The scheme is meant to provide financial assistance help to the junior advocates. Rs.5000/- per month will be sanctioned as per eligibility criteria 4.39 ADMINISTRATION, STATE ROADS & ROAD SAFETY WORKS (RSW), ENC (R&B) An amount of Rs.2000.00 Crores is allocated to EnC, R&B (State Roads) Dept. during 2021-22. 4.39.1 This budget is utilized for laying major district roads and other roads. 4.40 RURAL ROADS - ENC R & B An amount of Rs.500.00 Lakhs is allocated to EnC, R&B (Rural Roads) Dept. during 2021-22. 4.40.1 This budget is towards construction and development of Road Works under RIDF and upgradation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Project (MNREGP).

## IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

The State Government has initiated establishing elaborate and appropriate institutional mechanism to operationalize TSP tribal sub plan (present Scheduled Tribes Component) in the State. Two Apex bodies – Nodal Agency for TSP (present Scheduled Tribes Component) and the State Council for development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have already been constituted to initialize the process of planning, allocating and approving Tribal Sub-Plan. An exclusive Finance Secretary in Finance Department is nominated by the Finance Department for performing functions related to budget implementation and allocation within the overall ways and means position of the State

Based on the suggestions given for preparation of rolling plans, the schemes proposed under Scheduled Tribes Component (earlier Tribal Sub Plan) shall be demand and outcome based, and the proposed activities can be project based rather than scheme based. Based on the need assessment, the department wise, scheme wise proposals and allocations for the year 2020-21 of the line departments have been arrived.

An amount of Rs.531828.16 Lakhs has been allocated under Scheduled Tribes Component for the Financial Year 2021-22. An amount of Rs.81296.00 Lakhs is allocated through AP State Development Corporation towards Jagananna Ammavodi, YSR Aasara & YSR Cheyutha. The total amount allocated for the benefit of STs for the year 2021-22 is Rs.613124.16 Lakhs.

The allocations for 2021-22 are made for (44) Departments and the remaining departments have zero allocation as per current proposal which may change during the year. The number of beneficiaries, households and area/ habitations for each scheme will keep changing continuously as new beneficiaries may be identified as the year progresses.

The secretariat department and HoD wise allocations made for the year 2021-22 are as follows.

**(Rs. in Crores)**

S. No.	Department	BE 2021-22
<b>I</b>	<b>Agriculture, Co-operation &amp; Marketing Department</b>	
1	Agriculture Department	910.32
2	Horticulture Department	73.56
3	Sericulture Department	3.68
4	Registrar of Co-Operative Societies	10.57
<b>II</b>	<b>Animal Husbandry &amp; Fisheries Department</b>	
5	Animal Husbandry Department	20.17
6	Fisheries Department	25.57
<b>III</b>	<b>Environment, Forest, Science &amp; Technology Department</b>	
7	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests	1.52
<b>IV</b>	<b>Higher Education Department</b>	
8	Higher Education, Secretariat	19.02
9	Collegiate Education Department	2.10

S. No.	Department	BE 2021-22
<b>V</b>	<b>Energy Department</b>	
10	Energy, Secretariat	306.54
<b>VI</b>	<b>Secondary Education, Secretariat Department</b>	
11	School Education Department	203.03
12	Intermediate Education Department	9.83

<b>VI I</b>	<b>Food and Civil Supplies Department</b>	
13	Food and Civil Supplies Department	166.78
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Health, Medical &amp; Family Welfare Department</b>	
14	Medical Education Department	48.15
15	Public Health and Family Welfare Department	40.00
16	Family Welfare Department	217.05
17	Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH)	3.72
18	Drugs Control Administration	1.34
<b>IX</b>	<b>Home Department</b>	
19	Andhra Pradesh Crime Investigation Department	0.42
<b>X</b>	<b>Housing Department</b>	
20	Weaker Section Housing	192.24
<b>XI</b>	<b>Water Resources Department</b>	
21	Ground Water Department	0.01
22	Minor Irrigation Department	7.30
<b>XI I</b>	<b>Industries &amp; Commerce Department</b>	
23	Industries, Commerce and Export Promotion Department	46.16
<b>XIII</b>	<b>Information Technology &amp; Communications</b>	
24	Information Technology, Electronics & Communications, Secretariat Department	12.24
<b>XIV</b>	<b>Labour And Employment Department</b>	
25	Labour HoD	19.83
<b>XV</b>	<b>Municipal Administration and Urban Development</b>	
26	Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Secretariat	34.42
27	Municipal Administration Department	3.30
<b>XVI</b>	<b>Planning Department</b>	
28	Planning, Secretariat Department	5.50
<b>XVII</b>	<b>Panchayat Raj and Rural Development</b>	
29	Panchayat Raj Department	15.51
30	Panchayat Raj Engineering Department	82.83
31	Rural Development Department	347.36
32	Rural Water Supply Department	135.04
<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>BE 2021-22</b>
<b>XVIII</b>	<b>Revenue Department</b>	
33	Land Administration Department	55.00
34	Relief and Disaster Management Commissionerate	0.0001
<b>XIX</b>	<b>Skill Development, Entrepreneurship &amp; Innovation Department</b>	
35	Department of Skills Development and Training, Secretariat	55.30



36	Employment and Training Department	16.63
37	Technical Education Department	4.34
<b>X X</b>	<b>Social Welfare Department</b>	
38	Tribal Welfare Department	1800.46
<b>XXI</b>	<b>Transport, Roads and Buildings Department</b>	
39	Administration, State Roads and Road Safety Works (RSW), ENC (R&B)	20.00
40	Rural Roads, ENC (R&B)	5.00
<b>XXII</b>	<b>Department for Women, Children, Disabled &amp; Senior Citizens</b>	
41	Women Development and Child Welfare Department	382.38
42	Department for Welfare of Differently Abled, Transgender and Senior Citizens	2.72
<b>XXIII</b>	<b>Youth Advancement, Tourism &amp; Culture Department</b>	
43	Cultural Affairs Department	0.33
44	Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh (SAAP)	11.00
	<b>Total allocation under STC</b>	<b>5318.28</b>
<b>45</b>	<b>Allocation to APSTFC (TRICOR) through AP State Development Corporation</b>	<b>812.96</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6131.24</b>

## CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING ST -SUB PLANS

The funds were supposed to cover buildings for schools and colleges, scholarships, adult education, libraries, free health care, drinking water facilities, agriculture and irrigation facilities, financial support for building approach roads and supporting self-employment and other programme. Contrary to the purpose it is supposed to serve, the amount allocated for these sub-plans has often been spent on general schemes.

As SCs and STs also benefit from these general schemes, successive governments have displayed administrative misleading by clubbing these SC/ST beneficiaries under sub-plan spending.

In other instances, corporations are formed with much pomp, with nothing to show in terms of schemes introduced or programme implemented. For instance, more than Rs 4,000 crore was allocated to the AP Scheduled Caste Corporation which gives poor SC households financial support for the creation of assets that can generate income to promote their socio-economic development.

During the 2019 Assembly elections, State govt vowed to implement Navaratnalu, a list of nine welfare programme widely believed to have swept him into power. The schemes are Amma Vodi (annual financial assistance of Rs 15,000 paid to mothers of school-going children), YSR Asara (outstanding loan waiver of SHGs), Alcohol ban, Jalayagnam (twin Irrigation projects on Penna River in Nellore), Reimbursement of college fees, YSR Arogyasri (health insurance scheme for BPL families), YSR Rythu Bharosa (annual financial assistance of Rs 13,500 to farmers), Pedhalandariki

Illu (housing for the poor) and the Pension scheme. In addition, there are programmes for specific communities, such as Nethanna Nestham (financial assistance to handloom weavers) and insurance for toddy tappers. These schemes for general beneficiaries are being implemented enthusiastically, while specific sub-plan schemes have fallen behind.

By not addressing the SC/ST communities through targeted long-term interventions for economic amelioration through money allocated for that specific reason, the AP government is merely casting its net wide for a vote bank. This gives only immediate financial relief, but what are the indicators that reveal that the beneficiary family has been developed in four years? Rather than making people dependent on welfare schemes, special programme should be introduced to promote self-employment and skill development.” Cabinet subcommittee, appointed by the Andhra Pradesh government to evaluate the implementation of the Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) Sub Plans, has revealed serious lapses in implementing the plans and allocating and utilizing plan funds. The committee has noted “there is no evidence of systematic planning process happening in any of the government departments in the state regarding SC/ST Sub Plans (SCSP).” The report underlines the fact that the SC/ST communities in the state do not have proper access to land, education, nutrition and healthcare.

### **Restructure SC/ST corporations**

When it comes to the SC/ST sub plans, the state lacks a coherent vision and plan of action, observes the committee. Government departments have no clarity on the status of SCs/STs, and there is no effective mechanism for collecting comprehensive data for assessing the development of these communities. “There is no serious attempt to objectively identify the impediments to evolve strategies to overcome the impediments,” says the report. Even if adequate funds are made available, in the absence of proper vision, objectives cannot be achieved, reminds the report.

In sectors like health, nutrition, education, drinking water and sanitation, livelihoods, housing, access to credit, and access to dignified life, “the state needs to follow rights-based approach by clearly articulating and defining rights and entitlements to be given to SC/ST in each sector.

But the state government has not issued clear guidelines or norms to be followed for implementing schemes under the sub plans. Consequently, schemes which are not relevant to the development of SC/ST get included in the sub plans. “The allocations under SCSP and TSP appear to be more an arithmetic allocation rather than a meaningful allocation that could foster growth and development.

The committee has “noted with concern” that the existing structure and the prevailing value systems in the SC/ST Corporations in the state are not conducive to achieve the objectives of the sub-plans. It recommends major restructuring of the SC/ST Corporations. The committee underlines the urgent need for the Andhra Pradesh government to review its policies and programme for SC/ST development. The committee also recommends a robust and effective institutional mechanism for implementing the plans and a comprehensive legislation for ensuring proper fund allocation and utilization of funds as per national guidelines, and proper monitoring of the sub plan projects.

## UNRESOLVED CHALLENGES SINCE BRITISH COLONIAL CRIMINAL ACT

1. One of the main problems identified by the field experiences and the field survey is about the social treatment meted out to the families of these tribes. For generations together, the families and their members have been labeled as criminals, suffered dishonor and social negligence.
2. The stigma of criminality is still one of the major impediments in the smooth run of educational progress of children and youth.
3. The approaches of the government often times remain impersonal and lack human element and eye on social cohesiveness.
4. But mere efforts on mainstream socialization do not open wide social canvas for the children because there is already a hostile attitude in the outside society.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The school or the process of schooling in settlement areas or settlement schools may be used as instruments or tools to impart feelings of common fraternity, community approach, adjustment mentality, atmosphere of working and learning together and finally moral dynamics of social and cultural behaviour. The schools in settlement areas are to be treated or perceived from a different angle where they are expected to combine the role of an instructor, and change agent.
2. The government should provide bicycles, free transport to school going children to attend schools.
3. Girl-child friendly toilets in tribal schools.
4. Teacher skills need to be enhanced. Ensure teacher regularity in the DNT de notified tribal schools and affective monitoring system in DNT schools and community participation in DNT schools and communalization of education for NT notified/DNT children.
5. Local self-help groups, NGOs non-governmental organization intervention/help, to be extended to the education system of DNT children.
6. Household industries such as mat-making, basket making, tailoring, etc. may also be introduced in the region.
7. Government should make plans to the banks sanction loans to the settlers who are interested setting up small business-like small shops (bunks or soda shops), bunks, tea stalls etc. Self-employment schemes provide much needed to make them aware of their latent capacities in the fields like business.
8. Educated Secondary School Certificate passed un employed girls be given training in nursing, and teaching.
9. Labour contract societies should be organized to enable them to work in the construction of dams, roads, buildings and canals.
10. Since economic development is a continuous process steps must also be taken to establish a rural bank in the area for mobilizing their savings to be used again for their benefit.

11. Related to the problem of Agriculture is the question of developing dairy, poultry, piggery and allied occupations Hitherto only Sixteen people are given milking cattle. Second phase of the programme to be implemented.
12. Embracing of Digital Marketing Tribal communities are endowed with the traditional skills of producing very good quality handloom and handicrafts items, painting, plants and herbs, organic food products and beverages to bring accessibility of proper market linkages they are unable to raise the demand of the products and unable to sell their products at the appropriate price.
13. Adopting online marketing platforms will help to the tribal producers to get access to the huge online market with demand for their products from the worldwide customers. The online marketing platforms like Government e-Marketplace ([www.gem.gov.in](http://www.gem.gov.in)), Tribes India, Amazon, Flipkart are very popular where tribal products can be marketed to the wide range of customers irrespective of their locations.

## CONCLUSION

The social conditions, living standards, income and educational level of the DNT Denotified tribal people living in these settlements are much below than the conditions of tribal and non-tribal people (Dalits, OBCs) living in various parts of Andhra Pradesh. The intervention of Information and Communication Technology have been proven to be very effective to alleviate exclusion within communities. The world has become a small village and the world communities are now well connected thorough digital media. Like others, Tribal communities can also reap the benefits in the multiple aspects of life by adopting the means of ICT for raising the aspirations of the community as a whole. It is the need of the hour for the members of Tribal communities to take the advantage of various ICT schemes initiated by the government for the enhancement of digital literacy, skills, education, employment, health and income generation. However, there is a coordinated needs from all stakeholders to reach out to the tribal communities with connectivity and access to digital services.

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