

CHAPTER 3

GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMES AND SCHEMES FOR SC DEVELOPMENT

Even after about seven decades of development efforts, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes continue to constitute relatively the most backward and vulnerable section of the population in the country with the extremely weak economic base. It was to reduce this disparity that both the central and state governments have adopted several development programmes and thus to bring about their economic development and thereby increasing their capabilities and human capital formation. This chapter looks into the constitutional protection, various developmental programmes of the central and state governments which meant for enhancing their capabilities and investment in human capital.

3.1 Constitutional Provisions and Efforts of Central Government

The Constitution provides a legal framework for social transformation from a society of castes and communities to a modern society of citizens based on the equal consideration of individuals without regard for caste, creed or gender. The Constitution of India while safeguarding the fundamental rights (civil and political liberties) also safeguards the rights of the weaker sections of the society such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Castes, women, and children.

The Indian constitution endows all citizens with equal status for economic, social, cultural and political opportunities. The Article 46 gives special emphasis on the role of the state to protect the weaker sections in the country. Various safeguards relating to the protection and development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been made in the constitution as Directive principles. The following are the different safeguards of protection for development given in the constitution.

I Protective Safeguards

- (a) Social safeguards : Articles 17, 23, 24 and 25(2) (b).
- (b) Educational, Economic and Public employment related safeguards : Articles 15, 16, 46, 320, 335
- (c) Political safeguards : Articles 330, 332, 334, 243D, 243T
- (d) Service Safeguards : Articles 16(A), 335 and 338.
- (e) Agency for monitoring Safeguards : Articles 338 – National Commission for SC

II. Safeguards Relating to Development

Article 275(1) and 399(2) of the constitution give the provisions for safeguarding the economic interests of the tribes.

3.2 Developmental schemes by Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

The schemes which are being implemented by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment are basically meant to fulfill the mandate of the Department which includes the Empowerment of its target groups in economic, educational and social fields.

I. Educational Empowerment

The Schemes relating to Educational Empowerment of the SCs are:

- Scholarships Schemes
- Schemes relating to Construction of Hostels
- Schemes relating to Coaching of the students

II. Economic Empowerment

The following groups of schemes are meant for Economic Empowerment of the SCs:

- Loans at concessional rates of interest
- Microcredit
- Skill development

III. Social Empowerment

The following schemes are meant to socially empower the SCs:

- Curbing practice of untouchability, discrimination & atrocities
- Support to NGOs who work for target groups
- Recognition through National awards

Table 3.1
Scheme-wise distribution of funds during 2016-17 of department of social justice and empowerment for SC welfare

(Rs in crore)				
S. No.	Scheme and Programmes	BE 2016-17	RE 2016-17	Exp. 2016-17 31-12-2016
Scheduled Castes Development(SCD)				
1	Coaching & Allied Scheme for Weaker Sections including SCs & OBCs	25.00	2.00	0.37
2	Assistance to VOs Working for SCs.	50.00	70.00	31.66
3	National Scheduled Caste Finance Development Corporation.	139.00	138.00	138.00
4	Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan.	800.00	800.00	599.68
5	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Foundation	1.00	1.00	1.00
6	National Safaikaramcharis Finance and Development Corporation.	50.00	50.00	50.00
7	National Fellowship for SCs	200.00	200.00	196.00
8	Self Employment Scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers	10.00	1.00	0.00
9	National Overseas Scholarship for SCs	15.00	15.00	6.05
10	Top Class Education for SCs	21.00	31.00	18.08
11	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar International Center for Social Justice	100.00	100.00	49.55
12	Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana	90.00	50.00	31.18
13	Dr. Ambedkar National Memorial.	16.99	16.99	16.99
14	Implementation of PCR Act 1955 and PoA Act, 1989	150.00	228.49	138.70
15	Post Matric Scholarship for for SCs	2791.00	2820.70	2701.34
16	Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatravas Yojna Girls Hostels	40.00	30.00	23.58
17	Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatravas Yojna Boys Hostels	5.00	5.00	2.09
18	Pre-matric Scholarship for children of those engaged in unclean occupations	2.00	1.00	0.18
19	Up gradation of Merit of SC Students	3.00	1.00	0.22
20	Equity support to State Development Corporation	20.00	20.00	19.36
21	Pre Matric Scholarship for SC Students (Class IX & X)	550.00	510.00	342.65
22	Credit guarantee Fund for Scheduled Castes.	10.00	0.01	0.00
23	Venture Capital Fund for SCs.	40.00	40.00	40.00
Total Scheduled Caste Development		5128.99	5131.19	4406.68

Source: Annual report 2016-17, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

Table 3.1 shows the scheme wise distribution of funds during 2016-17 by the department of social justice and empowerment for SC welfare. ‘The budgetary estimate for the welfare of SCs in 2016-17 is Rs. 5131.19 crore and Revised Estimate counts to 5131.19 crores and total expenditure as per 31st December 2016 was about 4406.68 crores’ (Annual Plan Report 2016-17).

The main centrally sponsored Schemes for Scheduled Caste Welfare are as follows:

1. Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Caste Students (PMS-SC)

The objective of the Scheme is to provide financial assistance to scheduled caste students studying at post matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education. The Scheme is the single largest intervention by Government of India for educational empowerment of scheduled caste students. The total amount released during 2016-17 is 2703.15 and there was 41.61 lakh SC beneficiaries throughout the country.

Table 3.2

Budgetary Allocation and Central Assistance released during last three years and current financial year up to 31-12-2016:

Year	Budget allocation (Rs. in Crore)	Amount released (Rs. in Crore)	Beneficiaries (in Lakhs)
2013-14	1500.00	2153.49	49.95
2014-15	1500.00	1963.37	53.38
2015-16	1599.00	2213.88	57.59
2016-17	2791.00	2703.15*	41.61*

*as on 31/12/2016

Source: Annual report 2016-17, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

2. Pre-Matric Scholarship to the Children of those engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards

This is also a centrally sponsored scheme, which is implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which receive 100% central assistance from the Government of India for the total expenditure under the scheme, over and above their respective Committed Liability.

Table 3.3**Physical and Financial Achievements**

Year	Budget Allocation	Central Assistance Released (Rs. in Crore)	No. of beneficiaries
2013-14	10.00	18.44	620000
2014-15	10.00	0.90	14000
2015-16	10.00	2.42	338000
2016-17	2.00*	0.18*	440*

* As on 31-12-2016

Source: Annual report 2016-17, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

3. Pre-Matric Scholarship for SC students studying in IX and X

The objectives of the scheme are:

- (a) To support parents of SC children for education of their wards studying in classes IX and X so that the incidence of drop-out, especially in the transition from the elementary to the secondary stage is minimized, and
- (b) To improve participation of SC children in classes IX and X of the pre-matric stage, so that they perform better and have a better chance of progressing to the post-matric stage of education.

Table 3.4**Physical and Financial Achievements of Pre-MS for SC**

Year	Budget Allocation (Rs. in Crore)	Central Assistance Released (Rs. in Crore)	No. of beneficiaries (in lakh)
2013-14	900.00	546.53	27.38
2014-15	900.00	514.03	25.13
2015-16	842.55	524.70	24.45
2016-17	550.00*	342.60*	13.44*

Source: Annual report 2016-17, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

4. National Fellowships for SC Students

The scheme provides financial assistance to Scheduled Caste students for pursuing research studies leading to M. Phil., Ph.D. and equivalent research degree in universities, research institutions, and scientific institutions.

Table 3.5
Budgetary Allocation and
Central Assistance released for National Fellowships for SC Students

Year	Budget Allocation	Fund Released (Rs. in Cr.)	Fellowships awarded		
			Male	Female	Total
2013-14	100.00	24.5	1090	910	2000
2014-15	200.00	148.84	1034	966	2000
2015-16	209.55	200.55	1090	910	2000
2016-17	200.00	100.00*	1340	660	2000

Source: Annual report 2016-17, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

5. National Overseas Scholarship

National Overseas Scholarship is meant to provide assistance to selected Scheduled Caste, Denotified, nomadic, semi-nomadic tribes, landless agricultural labourers and traditional artisans' students for pursuing higher studies of Master level courses and Ph.D. programmes abroad in specified fields of study. The current rates of allowances admissible under the Scheme are summarized below.

Table 3.6
Current rates of allowances admissible under National Overseas Scholarship for SCs

Current Rates for National Overseas Scholarship (With Effect from selection year 2013-14)		
Item	in UK (in GBP)	Amount admissible in US and other countries (in US \$)
A. Allowance/Tax/Fee etc.		
Annual Maintenance Allowance	9900	15400
Annual Contingency Allowance	1100	1500
Incidental Journey Allowance and Equipment Allowance	Equivalent to US \$ 20	
Poll Tax	Actual amount	
VISA Fee	Actual VISA fee in Indian Rupee	
Fee and Medical Insurance Premium	Actual as charged	
Local Travel	Second or coach class fare	

Source: Annual report 2016-17, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

Table 3.7**Physical and Financial Achievements of National Overseas Scholarship for SCs**

Budgetary Allocation and Central Assistance released						
(Amount in Rs crore)						
Year	Budget Allocation	Expenditure	No. of Awards	No. of finally selected candidates		
				Masters' Degree	Ph.D	Total
2013-14	6.00	6.13	60	20	19	39
2014-15	6.00	8.78	100	30	29	59
2015-16	6.12	13.45	100	17	33	50
2016-17	15.00	4.94@	100*			

Source: Annual report 2016-17, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

6. Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)

The PMAGY aims to ensure, integrated development of selected villages with more than 50% SC population into “model villages”

Table 3.8
State-wise details of villages allocated for PMAGY

Sl	State	Number of Villages				
		Pilot Phase	Extended Phase	Under Discretion	Redistributed	Total
1	Assam	100	75			175
2	Bihar	225				225
3	Himachal Pradesh	225				225
4	Rajasthan	225				225
5	Tamil Nadu	225				225
6	Uttar Pradesh		200	10	50	260
7	Madhya Pradesh		200	77	50	327
8	Karnataka		200	1		201
9	Punjab		100	12	50	162
10	Odisha		100		75	175
11	Jharkhand		100			100
12	Chhattisgarh		100		75	175
13	Haryana			12		12
14	Andhra Pradesh			7		7
15	Telangana			6		6
Total		1000	1075	125	300	2500

Source: Annual report 2016-17, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

7. Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojna

The objective of the Scheme is to provide hostel facilities to SC Boys and Girls studying in middle schools, higher secondary schools, colleges, and Universities.

Table 3.9
Physical and financial achievements of BJRNF

Scheme	Year	Budget Allocation (Rs. in crore)	Expenditure (Rs. in crore)	No of Hostels	Beneficiaries
SC Girls Hostel	2013-14	50.00	41.52	33	2919
	2014-15	50.00	18.72	14	1272
	2015-16	50.00	45.69	23	1755
	2016-17	40.00	22.68	5	500
SC Boys Hostel	2013-14	25.00	7.94	15	1181
	2014-15	25.00	4.41	4	329
	2015-16	25.00	3.28	4	472
	2016-17	5.00*	2.09	1	100

Source: Annual report 2016-17, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, New Delhi.

3.3 Development strategies under five-year plans.

Even though specific provisions for the development of SC and ST are included in the Indian Constitution, the results of the first few five years of planning revealed that the plans failed to bring any significant improvement in the living conditions of SC and ST population. During the fifth five year plan period (1974-79) the need for a new strategy of Development of Scheduled Caste was raised from several sections of Indian society. The period 1979-80 forms a landmark in the history of SC development. With a view to integrating SC population into the mainstream of national life, during 1978-79 Government of India instructed all the state governments to formulate a special component plan for SC development. Later in all plan periods, the focus was on educational empowerment, economic development, protective measures, and reservation.

3.3.1 Target Group-wise Approach as spelled out in the XI Five Year Plan, 2007-12

The strategy for the development of Scheduled Castes is educational and economic development and empowerment, protective measures and reservation. Details of the approach as outlined in the Eleventh Plan Document are given below:

(a) Educational Development

(i) Elementary Education:

- Incentives in the form of abolition of tuition fee, free supply of books, mid-day meals, scholarships etc.
- Revision of funding pattern of Pre-Matric Scholarship for Scavengers from 50:50 to 100%.
- Special attention to be given for retention of SC students in Schools and quality of teaching for them.

(ii) Post-Matric Education

- The issue of committed liability to be borne by States which always prevents them from coming forward to access the Central assistance under Post-Matric Scholarship for SC students for pursuing higher education in various courses needs to be addressed.
- SC students should have the opportunity to study in quality institutions.
- To enable SC students to access top class educational institutions including those in private sector, financial assistance needs to be extended.
- To encourage SC students to prepare for various competitive examinations, the existing scheme of coaching for SCs students need to be modified to cover fees charged by reputed coaching institutes.
- Reimbursement of the total fee charged by private unaided institutions in higher technical and professional education.
- Need to increase the existing number of fellowships under Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for SC students for pursuing higher studies including M.Phil and Ph.D. degrees.
- SC students who cannot continue their education after schooling be provided with vocational training/skill training programmes in ITIs, polytechnics, etc. These institutes should have adequate seats on a population basis and should be located closer to SC concentration areas.

(b) Economic Development

- Commission on Land Reforms will be set up to look into the issues continued possession and effective uses of land distributed earlier to SCs under various programmes/ legislative interventions; and (b) availability of land for distribution to SCs/STs/landless families.

- Special programmes of employment are necessary to reduce the increasing unemployment among SCs. Priority needs to be given to SCs in the Employment Guarantees Scheme with proper monitoring of coverage.
- The labour force needs to be provided with job-oriented training under the Apprentice Act to enable them to have better opportunities.
- Large numbers of SCs depend on agricultural wages to sustain themselves and thus agricultural wages need to be revised every five years.
- National Finance and Development Corporation for SCs and Safai karamcharis and State level SCDCs providing credit to SCs have been facing the problem of the low recovery rate of loans from the beneficiaries. There is need to restructure the schemes so that they become more sustainable. Further, the corporations need to be thoroughly professionalized so that programmes financed by them help develop entrepreneurial skills of the loanees. The capital available at their disposal may be increased substantially.
- A new scheme “Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers” formulated to rehabilitate scavengers through training and extension of loans and subsidies in a time-bound manner should be implemented in a missionary mode with commitment and zeal.

(c) **Protective Measures**

- There is a need to complement the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 with a promotive legislation which should cover the rights of SCs with respect to education, vocational training, higher education, and employment. Such a legislation may be drafted which clearly spells out what is to be done and who should do it.
- The implementation of the PCR Act 1955 and SC and ST (POA) Act, 1989 have to be enforced in letter and spirit to bring about speedy justice to the aggrieved.
- Elimination of caste-based discrimination and harassment in educational institutions should be ensured by institutions by establishing ‘Equal Opportunity Offices’.

(d) **Reservation for Scheduled Castes**

- Action needs to be taken to clear the backlog in filling up SC reserved posts of various categories in the government. The government shall also explore all

possibilities of introducing affirmative action including reservations in the private sector.

- There is a need to ensure effective and meaningful implementation of Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP).
- A Committee for monitoring implementation of the programmes under SCSP will be set up which will ensure that each Ministry's allocation of SCSP as indicated well in advance. If any particular Ministry is not able to utilize the earmarked allocation action should be initiated to transfer the unused fund available to those Ministries/Departments which have implemented the SCSP/TSP more effectively.

3.3.2 Target Group-wise Approach as spelled out in the XII Five Year Plan, 2012-17

Details of the approach as outlined in the Twelfth Plan Document are given below:

(a) Educational Development

- i. The 12th plan envisaged that the rates of scholarships may be revised every two years, based on the increase in the cost of living index or Consumer Price Index (CPI).
- ii. It envisaged that the Pre-Matric scholarship scheme introduced for SC students studying in Class IX and X during 2012–13, could be extended to SC students studying in Class I to VIII during the Five Year Plan period.
- iii. Special attention was needed not only for retention in schools but also to provide the children with quality education through incentives like the free supply of books, midday meals, hostels, and so on to SC children especially the SC girls.
- iv. SC students need to be encouraged more vigorously to prepare for various competitive examinations. 'Free coaching to the SC students' should be expanded to cover Premier Entrance Exams to professional institutions like IITs, JEE, AIEEE, CPMT, CLAT, CAT, and so on.

(b) Economic Development

- i. On the issue of economic development of SCs, the 12th plan states that: NSKFDC should assist at least one lakh beneficiaries under its various schemes during Twelfth Five Year Plan.
- ii. A major focus should be on organizing skill development programmes.

- iii. Towards the objective of more inclusive growth, the Twelfth Plan proposes a set of key implementation measures including earmarking of the SCSP funds from the total plan outlays well in advance of the commencement of the financial year, preparation of pro-active planning documents as Sub-Plans, an appraisal and approval mechanism for the Sub-Plans so formulated, and a robust mechanism for monitoring and evaluation of outcomes.
- iv. The 12th plan emphasizes on the need to further consolidate and improve upon the implementation of SCSP across the sectors, ensuring not only optimal earmarking of funds under SCSP as per the guidelines but also utilizing the same in achieving the outcomes in measurable terms.
- v. The Ministries of Social Justice & Empowerment and Tribal Affairs need to spearhead the task of formulation, implementation and monitoring of SCSP as nodal coordinating agencies.
- vi. The guidelines issued by the Planning Commission to be reviewed to remove any shortcomings, so as to ensure that at least 16.6% of the Central Plan outlay is earmarked under the Schemes / Programmes that benefit the SC community.

3.4 National Commission for scheduled castes

The social and economic position of the Scheduled Castes had been the concern of the founding fathers of the Constitution. For providing safeguards for Scheduled Castes special provisions were made to promote the social, educational, economic and service interest of this section of the society. In order to ensure that the safeguards are properly implemented the Constitution on its inception, provided for appointment of a special office under Article 338 of the Constitution to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes and report to the President about the working of these safeguards. In pursuance of this provision a Special Officer known as the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes was appointed for the first time on 18th November 1950. The functions, duties, and power of the Commission have been laid down in clauses (5), (8) and (9) of the Article 338 of the Constitution.

- **Functions and Duties of the Commission**

The functions, duties, and power of the Commission have been laid down in clauses (5), (8) and (9) of the Article 338 of the Constitution.

Clause (5): It shall be the duty of the Commission: -

1. to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes under this Constitution or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards;
2. to inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the Scheduled Castes;
3. to participate and advise on the planning process of socio-economic development of the Scheduled Castes and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union and any State;
4. to present to the President, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;
5. to make in such reports recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or any State for the effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Castes; and
6. To discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of the Scheduled Castes as the President may, subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament, by the rule specify.

Clause (8) - The Commission shall, while investigating any matter referred to in sub-clause (a) or inquiring into any complaint referred to in sub-clause (b) of clause (5), have all the powers of a civil court trying a suit and in particular in respect of the following matters, namely:-

- (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath;
- (b) requiring the discovery and production of any documents;
- (c) receiving evidence on affidavits;
- (d) requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any court or office;
- (e) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses and documents;
- (f) any other matter which the President may by rule, determine;

Clause (9) - The Union and every State Government shall consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting Scheduled Castes

(Source: Official Website of NCSC)

3.5 Poverty Alleviation Programmes in Rural Areas(Centre-State funding)

- The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), the most important poverty alleviation programme, which was extended to the entire country in the year 1980 and continued to two decades.50 percent of the total outlay on the programme was earmarked for Scheduled Castes and tribes.
- The Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) was launched with effect from 01.04.1999 to bring assistance to poor families (swarogaries) by ensuring an appreciable sustained level of income. The physical achievements of SGSY include the number of members covered through Self Help Groups and individual Swarozgaris.
- The objective of Indira Awaas Yojana is to provide financial assistance to the rural poor living Below Poverty Line (BPL) for construction of the house. BPL rural households of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are eligible to get assistance under the programme funding of IAY is shared between the center and state in the ratio of 75:25 and grant-in-aid per house are 48500.
- The NREG Act have passed by Government of India in September 2005 and renamed the same as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA). Types of works implemented under the scheme shall be water conservation and water harvesting, drought proofing (including afforestation and tree plantation) irrigation canals, including micro and minor irrigation works, provision of irrigation facility to land owned by households belonging to the SC/ST or to land of beneficiaries of land reform

3.6 Developmental Programmes of SC in Kerala

Kerala Government allocates fund for Scheduled Caste Sub-plan (SCSP) from State Plan outlay in proportion to the percentage population of Scheduled Caste and allocates fund for Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) more than that of the population. A two branched approach is followed for the development of SC/ST in the State. One is the assistance provided through the LSGs and the other through SC/ST Development Department. Out of the total SCSP (Scheduled Caste sub-plan) /TSP (Tribal sub-plan)Plan outlay, a certain percentage of funds

are allocated to Local governments for implementation of schemes under decentralized planning and the remaining to the SC/ST Development Department. The total plan provision set apart for the development of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes during 2016-17 is 2354.40 crore and 682.80 crores respectively. Appendix

3.6.1 Schemes of Scheduled Caste Development Department of Kerala

Developmental programmes for scheduled caste population in Kerala can be categorized as Economic, Educational, Social upliftment and cultural development programmes.

❖ Educational Development Programmes

The prime concern of Scheduled Caste Development Department is the progress in education. Educational programs are being carried out on the basis that the everlasting growth of any society is possible only with its educational developments.

Achievement-During 2015-16 55.70 crore was expended in education schemes. As on October 31, 2016, 30.26 crores was expended from budget estimate 2016-17 (Economic review 2016).

• Nursery Schools

There are 90 nursery schools being run by the Department, for primary education. We follow the LKG, UKG system. The department provides daily feeding charges and learning materials including the uniforms. They are provided Rs. 30/- per day as feeding charges, Rs. 300/- for uniforms and Rs. 150/- as lump sum grant for each student. Each school has a strength of 30 students. Out of this 25% seats are reserved for children belonging to the general category.

➤ Pre Matric Education (up to 10th std)

Lump sum grant:

The lump sum grant is given to SC, OEC students studying in Government, aided and approved unaided schools through the headmasters of the schools within 15 days of starting of the academic year.

Lump sum grant rates

- Nursery school - Rs. 150/-
- * 1st to 4th STD - 250/-
- * 5th to 7th - Rs. 500/-
- * 8th to 10th - Rs. 750/-
- * Half the rate of the above is given to failed students

Stipend

The stipend is given to the students belonging to Vulnerable Communities (vedan, and nayadi communities are as follows:-

- * L.P - Rs. 100/-
- * U.P - Rs. 125/-
- * HS - Rs. 150/-

- **Pre-matric Scholarship for 9th and 10th SC students (100% CSS):**

A special scholarship under CSS is given to the students belongs to SC, studying in 9th and 10th standards. The rate of the scholarship is mentioned below:

	Hostlers	Day Scholars
Scholarships (monthly)	350/-	150/-
Book Grant (yearly)	1000/-	750/-

- **Pre-matric Scholarship to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations (100% CSS):**

The Department is providing financial assistance to children of parents who are engaged in unclean occupations, without considering their caste or religion. Application should be submitted to the concerned SC Development Officer through the head of the school along with the certificate issued by the Village Officer/Secretary LSGD for providing their eligibility

- * Monthly stipend - L.P., U.P., H.S. - 110/-
- * Adhoc Grant - 750/- (Day Scholars), Hostellers - 1000/-

- **Tuition Fees reimbursement for children studying in unaided schools:**

The Department gives the facility to reimbursement of tuition fees to students belonging to SC and other eligible communities studying up to 10th standard in Government approved unaided schools. Rates are as follows:

LP, UP - fees	-	Rs. 1000/-
Special fees	-	Rs. 333/-
H.S. fees	-	Rs. 1500/-
Special fees	-	Rs. 500/-

- **Primary Education Aid:-**

An amount of Rs. 2,000/- given to SC children from class I to IV for purchasing uniform, bag, umbrella etc. This is a new scheme started in 2014-15. Above 1,85,000 students are benefited under the scheme.

- **Boarding School Facilities:**

The Department provides Boarding School facilities to the talented SC Students. Applications should be submitted to the district secretary LSGD along with the grades received in 4th standard examinations. The annual income of the parents should not exceed 30,000.

- **UP gradation of Merit of SC students (100% C.S.S)**

An amount of Rs. 25,000/- each is provided for remedial and special coaching of 60 SC students who study in classes IX, X, XI, and XII.

- **Shri. Ayyankali talent search scholarship:**

A Scholarship of Rs. 4500/- per year is given to the students up to 10th standard on the basis of marks obtained in the 4th 7th standard. The application is to be submitted to the District Development Officer for SC along with Caste Certificate, income certificates, and grade certificates. The annual income of parents should not exceed Rs. 1,00,000/-. An amount of Rs. 2,000/- is given for purchasing furniture for study purpose, to those students whose parents annual income is less than Rs. 12,000/-

- **Model Residential School**

There are nine Model Residential Schools being run by this department for providing better education to children from standard 5. Admission of the students will be based on the marks obtained by the students in the state level examination conducted by the department. Notification regarding this will be announced during the months of January and February.

The application should be submitted to the District Development Officer with caste certificates, Income certificates along with the eligibility certificate from the head of the present institution where the student is studying. The annual income of parents not to exceed Rs. 1,00,000/-

- **Pre-Matric Hostels**

The department runs 87 Prematric hostels for providing a hostel for SC students. The Department provides food, uniform, school bags, shoes and monthly pocket money of Rs. 100/-, Travelling expenses during Onam/Christmas holidays are given. The students from standard V are admitted in these hostels.

- **Subsidised Hostels:**

The Department provides Rs. 500/- as boarding grant and Rs. 500/- as uniform allowances to those students who are the inmates of hostels run by the voluntary organizations. Nine such hostels are in the state.

- **Shri. Ayyankali Memorial Govt. Model Residential Sports School-Trivandrum:**

This sports school is located at Vellayani in Trivandrum which is established for the purpose of giving training to the students from Std 5 to those who have high talents in sports. The selections are done through event wise trials. 30 students are admitted to a class.

➤ **Post-Matric Education (after 10th std)**

- **Lumpsum grant:**

The Department provided financial assistance for educational purposes to those students studying+1 and above. At present, the Post matric Scholarships are being distributed online through E-grants systems. Online applications are to be submitted at the beginning of the year through Akshaya Kendras. Following the online application, original copies of certificates are to be submitted to the District Scheduled Caste Development Officer through the head of the institution. Caste Certificate, Income Certificate, a copy of the SSLC and certificates proving the educational qualifications of the student should be attached along with the application. The rate of Lump sum grant is stated below.

Plus two	-	Rs. 900/-
Degree	-	Rs. 950/-
PG	-	Rs. 1250/-

Professional Courses Rs. 350 to 2500 according to the course

- **Stipend:**

A monthly stipend of Rs. 500/- is given to those students within 8 Km and Rs. 600/- is given to those beyond 8 Kms.

- **Post Matric Hostels:**

There are 17 hostels being run under the department for those students admitted to the post-matric courses. Department provides free food and accommodation along with Rs. 150/- as pocket money month and TA at the time of Onam and Christmas vacation for the inmates. There are facilities for entertainment such as sports, games and library facilities. Financial assistance is provided for the inmates of Government College hostels, approved hostels of aided college and self-financed colleges. A boarding grant of Rs. 1500/- per month is given to those who are studying professional courses, who do not have hostel facilities.

- **Special Incentive to Talented SC Students.**

The cash award is given to students with high performance in annual examinations.

- **Gold Medals for Rank Holders:**

SC students who secure the 1st rank in Medical/Engineering entrance examinations, students who secured A+ in all subjects for SSLC and Plus 2 are awarded gold medals.

- **Temple Entry Proclamation Memorial Scholarship:**

The Department gives a special scholarship as Temple Entry Proclamation Memorial Scholarship for the students scoring high marks in Degree/PG/LLB/Medical/Engineering courses. The applications are invited during the month of October. The applications are to be submitted to The Director of Scheduled Caste Development along with Caste Certificate, Income Certificate and copies of the Mark list.

- **Assistance For Medical/Engineering Entrance Coaching:**

An amount of 20,000/- is given as financial assistance for long-term Medical/Engineering entrance coaching to students who have secured grades above B+ for Science subjects in SSLC Examinations. Students can select their centers for coaching. The annual income of the parents should not exceed Rs. 4.5 lakhs. Applications should be

submitted to the District Development Officer for Scheduled Castes along with caste certificate, Salary certificates and copies of the mark list.

- **Educational Assistance For Those Studying Professional Courses In Self Financing Colleges:**

The Department provides financial help to those students who got admission on merit or reservation basis in self-financing institutions and universities for professional courses. The amount of fees is on the basis of Government rates. In addition to that, stipend and Lump sum grants are also given. The online application is to be submitted through Akshaya Kendras.

- **Initial Expenses To Those Admitted To Engineering/Medical Courses:**

The Department provides financial support to students admitted to Med/Eng Courses at Rs. 10,000/- for medical students and Rs. 5000/- for engineering students. The applications are to be submitted to the District Scheduled Caste Development Officer with relevant papers showing the admission details, caste, and Income. Annual Income Limit of parents will be Rs. 1,00,000/-

- **Distribution of Stethoscopes:**

All MBBS students are provided Stethoscope under this scheme from 2014-15 onwards.

- **Distribution of Laptops:**

The Department distributed laptops to the students studying in Medical and Engineering courses admitted in merit and reservation seats in 2012-13. In 2014-15 all students of 1st and IInd year BTech and MTech, Ist year MCA are the beneficiaries of this scheme.

- **Financial Help to Students in Evening Courses:**

Course fees are provided for attending evening courses in government or govt. approved institutions. The application has to be sent to the District Development Officers

through the head of the institution along with Caste Certificate, Income Certificates, and certificates proving the educational qualifications.

- **Distance Education:**

Course fees are allowed to those who study correspondence courses under the universities.

- ***Education Concessions for those Studying Outside the State:***

Education concessions are given to SC students admitted in aided colleges or central universities outside the state through merit/reservations for those courses which are not available in the state. The application should be submitted to the Director of Scheduled Caste Development through the head of the institution along with the Caste Certificate and Income Certificates.

Educational benefits are provided to SC students whose parents are residing outside as part of their jobs. The application has to be sent to the Director Scheduled Caste Development Department through the head of the institution along with the Caste Certificate and Income Certificates.

- ***Financial Assistance to Students for Studying Abroad:***

Applications of financial assistance for SC students for studying abroad are considered on Merit by the Government.

- ***Educational Assistance for Parallel College Students:***

The Department gives financial assistance to SC students studying in parallel colleges for plus two, Degree and PG Courses, who didn't get admission in government and aided colleges. They are eligible for the Lump sum grant and stipend as equal to the regular students. Tuition fees and exam fees are also provided. Applications should be submitted to the District Scheduled Caste Development Officer, along with Caste Certificate, Income Certificates, and Certificates proving the educational qualifications.

- **Construction of Hostels:**

Hostel buildings for girls and boys are being constructed by utilizing the central fund through the public works department of the State.

- **Industrial Training Institutes (I.T.Is):**

There are 44 Industrial Training Institutes all over Kerala under the department for giving training to 12 different trades in D/Civil, Electrician, MMV, Survey, and Welding. Every year 1263 trainees are admitted. Among these 41 ITI's are accredited by NCVT and the remaining three accredited by the SVT. Those who pass the All India Trade Examination after completing their training with 80% attendance receive the Professionals as well as National Trade Certificate. The Department provides fees concession, uniform allowances, lump sum grand and a monthly stipend. For admission application should be submitted to the concerned institution.

- **Pre Examination Training Centers (PETC):**

The department established Four pre-examination training centers at Trivandrum, Ernakulam, Palakkad, and Kozhikode for giving training for different competitive examinations conducted by PSC, UPSC, Banking institutions and others public sector undertakings. Stipends will be given to the selected candidates. These centers also undertake coaching classes for medical/engineering entrance examinations.

- **Institute for civil service examination training society (I-CETS) Trivandrum:**

The Department runs a civil service training institution at Trivandrum for giving training to those who are interested in civil service examinations. Admissions are given those selected in the state level preliminary examination by the department. Well established library, food and accommodation facilities, textbook allowances of Rs. 3000/- etc. are provided.

- **Centre for excellence, Kozhikode:**

CREST (Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation) has been established in the KIRTADS campus in order to increase and strengthen the competitive

capacity of the scheduled caste students. It plays an important role in making the Scheduled Caste students efficient enough for enrolment in national and international educational institutes and getting jobs in multinational corporations.

- **Para-medical Institutions:**

The Department runs two Para-medical institutes attached to the Trivandrum and Thrissur medical colleges and two other institutes in Palakkad and Kannur which provide training in D Pharm, B Pharm, DMLT and Health Inspector Course.

- **Model Residential Polytechnic, Palakkad:**

The Department runs a Model Residential Polytechnic in Palakkad District which provides admission to 30 SC students every year.

- **Book bank scheme:**

One set of textbooks are provided to two students of professional courses. Almirah for keeping the books are also provided.

- **Palakkad Medical College:**

The Department runs a medical college at Palakkad District which provides admission to 100 students out of which 70 belongs to Schedules Castes.

Table 3.10**Major educational institutions under Scheduled caste development department**

Sl No.	Name of Institution	No.
1	Nursery Schools	88
2	Model Residential schools (including Ayyankali Memorial Government Model Residential Sports School)	10
3	Pre-metric hostels for girls and boys (transferred institutions to Local Governments)	87
4	Post –metric hostels for girls and boys	17
5	Pre-Examination Training Centres	4
6	Institute of Civil service Examination Training Society (ICSET)	1
7	Industrial Training Institutes	44
8	Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation (CREST) Kozhikkode(an autonomous institution)	1
9	Medical College, Palakkad	1
10	Para medical institutes	2
11	Model Residential Polytechnic, Palakkad	1

Source: Economic Review 2016, State Planning Board Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

❖ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

• Self-Employment Scheme

The Department provides financial assistance to the individuals/ self-help groups who are interested in self-employment.

The project for self-employment is to be submitted to the bank for a loan and the Department will give 1/3 of the loans as a subsidy. The subsidy amount is limited to 1 lakh for individuals and 3.5 lakhs for groups. Any employment can be started as part of self-employment with the approval of the bank. Age limit is 18-50. Educational qualification 7th standard. There is no income limit and application should be sent to the block/municipal/corporation Scheduled Caste Development Officer along with a certificate of caste, educational qualifications, and project reports.

Achievements - During 2015-16, 3.70 crores was expended benefitting 569 persons. During 2016-17, 1.33 crore expenditure incurred (as on October 31, 2016) benefitting 309 persons. Financial Assistance provided to brilliant SC/ST students those seeking admission to national and international institutions. Students got assistance for courses like M.SC Nursing and MBA during 2015-16(Economic review 2016).

- ***Assistance for starting practice as Advocates:***

The Department provides financial assistance for practicing as Advocates to those who have passed the LLB. This assistance is given for three years, immediately after passing out.

- **Technical Apprenticeship:**

The Department provides apprenticeship assistance to those who have qualified in ITI, Diploma, and Engineering. The application should be submitted to the District Development Officer for Scheduled Castes concerned. The monthly rates are as follows:-

- ITI - 2000/-
- Diploma - 2500/-
- Engineering - 3000/-

- **Clerical apprenticeship:**

Graduates having Diploma in Computer application are given apprenticeship as clerk-typist on a monthly honorarium of Rs. 5,000/- for two years to strengthen their employability.

- **Tool Kit:**

The ITI certificate holders of Department ITIs are given financial assistance for purchasing toolkit in order to start their profession.

- **Exhibition cum Trade Fair (Paithrikolsavam):**

The Department conducts trade fair twice in a financial year for selling out the traditional products and the ethnic goods produced by the SC entrepreneurs and self-groups. This trade fair is organized by the Department along with Scheduled Tribe Development Department and KIRTADS. All the expenses of transportation, stall etc and TA&DA of entrepreneurs are met by the Department.

- **Self Sufficient Villages:**

"Self-sufficient Villages" is the programme for the entire development of SC habitats having more than 50 families and according to this programme, the Department provides all

the basic facilities like roads, drinking water, electricity, biogas plants, renovation of houses, waste management, drainage, footpath and income generating schemes etc. An amount of Rs. 1 Crore is being spent for each habitat. The implementation of the scheme is done under the direct supervision of the MLA.

- **Assistance for Seeking Employment Abroad:**

The Department provides assistance of Rs. 50,000/- to the job seekers who are willing to seek employment abroad. The applicant can meet both traveling and visa expenses from this amount. The applicants can submit applications to District Development Officers concerned.

- **Pooled fund:**

Training cum employment and income generating activities are provided through the projects submitted by the line departments under the pooled fund.

❖ SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

- **Purchase of land for construction of houses:**

A grant for purchasing 5 cents of land in the village area and 3 cents of land under Municipality and Corporation areas with 3.75, 4.5 and 6 lakhs rupees respectively. The beneficiaries are selected through gram sabha. During 2015-16 an amount of 149.67 crores was provided benefitting 3767 persons. An amount of 160.29 crores is provided for the scheme during 2016-17 (as on October 31, 2016)

- **Housing Grant:**

An amount of Rs. 3 lakh is given to houseless SC families for construction of houses. The amount will be given in four instalments according to the stage of construction. (1st inst. Rs. 45,000/- IInd inst. 90,000/-, IIIrd inst. Rs. 1, 20,000/- and IVth inst. Rs. 45,000/-) Beneficiaries are selected through Gramasabha. During 2015-16, altogether 5215 houses were sanctioned and 1183 houses were constructed. 7500 houses were sanctioned during 2016-17 (as on October 31, 2016) where the construction activities are under progress(ER, 2016).

- **Houses renovation/additional room grant:**

For the maintenance of houses of 7-25 years age or for the constructions of the additional room an amount of Rs. 50,000/- is given in two equal installments. The amount will be sanctioned as per the plan/estimate. Income should not exceed Rs. 50,000/-.

- **Vulnerable Community Development Programme:**

The Department provides assistance to purchase land, construction of the house and allied amenities to vulnerable communities such as Vedan, Nayadi, Kalladi, Chakliya/Arunthathiyar. An amount of Rs. 7,25,000/- is given for buying 5 cents of land and building houses (3.75 lakh for land and 3.50 lakh for house constructions). Applications can be sent to Block/Municipal/ Corporation Scheduled Caste Development Officer. Annual income should not exceed Rs. 50,000/-. An amount of 13.10 crore was expended during 2015-16 benefiting 168 persons. During 2016-17, 2.91 crore was expended October 31, 2016, which benefited 16 persons (as on October 31, 2016).

- **Marriage Grant:**

The Department provides an amount of Rs. 50,000/- as Marriage Grant for the marriage of SC girls. During 2015-16, expenditure incurred was 38.33 crore and benefitted 7667 persons. During 2016-17, 7451 families benefitted and 37.25 crores were expended under this scheme (as on October 31, 2016) (Economic Review 2016).

- **Inter Caste Marriage Grant:**

The Department provides an amount of Rs. 50,000/- to inter-caste couples (one of them should belong to SC) to overcome hard circumstances due to intercaste marriage. The application should be given after one year of marriage and before the completion of three years with a co-living certificate. Income should not exceed Rs. 40,000/-.

- **Toilet Construction Grant:**

The Department provides an amount of 25,000/- for construction of toilets with safety tanks for SC families. The amount will be distributed in two equal instalments. The application should be given to the concerned Scheduled Caste Development Officer. The income should not exceed Rs. 50,000/-.

- **The minister's distress relief fund:**

A maximum of Rs. 1 lakh/- can be given for treatment of serious diseases like cancer, heart, kidney, liver ailments and up to 50,000/- for other serious illness. The relief is also given for meeting causality, natural calamity, fire accidents etc. Income should not exceed Rs. 50,000/-

- **Vinhjan Vadi:**

These Centres provide current affairs knowledge and also helps in submitting online applications for the competitive exams. Library with a computer, internet facility along with newspapers and periodicals are provided in selected habitats. The programme meant for job seekers and students.

- **Homeo Health Centres (29):**

Homeo Health Centres are established in selected SC habitats in the state with the help of Homeopathy Department. These centres are started in areas within the radius of 2.5Kms where there are no health centres of any kind.

❖ **CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES**

- **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Media Award:**

Department gives media award of Rs. 30,000/- each in meritorious print and visual media and Rs. 15,000/- to the audio media relevant to Scheduled Caste Development.

- **Folk Arts Festival (Paithrukolsavam):**

To promote and encourage the folk art forms among various communities of Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe people, a State Level Festival in the name "Paithrukolsavam" is conducted every year with the collaboration of Tribal Development Department and KIRTADS.

- **Literary Workshop**

A literary workshop of 3 days is conducted for encouraging young and budding writers. Luminaries of different fields are invited and they provide guidance to these emerging writers.

- **Social Solidarity Fortnight Celebrations:**

Social Solidarity Fortnight Celebrations is being conducted by the Department from Gandhi Jayanthi Day ie, Oct 2nd to 16th. During the fortnight inauguration of completed projects, awareness classes in SC colonies, Hostels etc will be done. Medical camps, exhibitions, inaugurations of new projects also will be conducted during the fortnight period.

- **Books publication grant:**

For the publication of literary works of SCs a grant of Rs. 20,000/- is given to the beneficiary.

- **Sargolsvam:**

A cash award of Rs. 10,000/- is given to 'A' grade winners among Scheduled Castes Students in State level School Youth Festival to encourage them.

❖ **ENFORCEMENT OF PCR & PA Acts**

- **Protection of Civil Rights Act 1955**

PCR Act is enforced in the state in order to protect the rights of Scheduled Caste People and to eradicate the Social discrimination. For this purpose, the department conducts various awareness camps, Seminars, Processions cultural programs etc. Inter-caste Marriage grant is provided by Department under this.

- **Prevention of Atrocities Act-1989:**

As per the PA Act Department provide relief amount to victims of atrocities and rehabilitation if any needed. Awareness Camps and Seminars are also conducted in all districts for the publicity of PCR and POA Act.

3.6.2 Kerala State Development Corporation for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes

‘The Corporation, with its registered office at Thrissur, functions through 14 Regional Offices covering all the districts, is implementing various schemes for the multifaceted development of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes in the State through its intervention in different spheres of economic activity. The sources of finance for implementing various schemes are Corporation’s own share capital and assistance from other national refinancing agencies like NSFDC, NSTFDC, NSKFDC, and HUDCO. The Corporation is now concentrating more on self-employment schemes to enable the target people to engage in some innovative and viable income generating activities and earn their livelihood and thereby improve their socio-economic status in the society. The major schemes implemented by the Corporation include agricultural land purchase, micro-credit finance, mini-venture loans, small enterprise loans, housing, educational loan, marriage assistance etc.’(Economic Review 2016)

Table 3.11**Responsibilities of Local Governments on SC Development**

Local Government	Responsibilities
* Grama Panchayat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Implementation of beneficiary oriented schemes under SCP * Run nursery schools for SCs * Provide basic facilities in the residential centers of SC * Provide financial assistance for SC students * Provide assistance to discretionally to the SCs who desire.
* Block Panchayat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Run pre-matric hostels in the Block Panchayat area * Develop Scheduled Caste co-operative societies
* District Panchayat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Run post-metric hostels * Run vocational training centers for the SC
* Urban Local Bodies	* All the above said responsibilities

Source: Economic Review 2010, State Planning Board Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

3.6.3 Advances to SC/ST

An amount of 4312 crores and 1128 crore was disbursed to SC and ST persons respectively in June 2016 in the State by various banks including private sector banks, commercial banks, and cooperative banks. Compared to previous year, the advance given to the Scheduled Caste persons is less and there is a slight increase in the advances given to Scheduled Tribe persons. The bank-wise analysis of advances to SC/ST' persons shows that the commercial banks are giving more advances given to these social groups in the State. However, the credit facilities extended to marginalized sections are very less when we compare this with the total advances disbursed in the State through various banking institutions. The private banks should give more attention to rendering assistance to scheduled caste and scheduled tribes in the State. The bank group-wise advances given to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes are given in the following table 3.12

Table 3.12
Banking Group wise Details under SC/ST Advance, ₹ in crore

Bank	SC Advances		ST Advances	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
State Bank Group	219375	3468	76596	806
Nationalized Bank	67922	644	23945	248
RRB	23658	118	12738	64
Private Sector Bank	8530	82	1049	12
Total Commercial Banks	319485	4312	114328	1130

Source: Economic Review 2016, State Planning Board Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

3.6.4 Kerala Institute for Research Training and Development Studies (KIRTADS)

‘KIRTADS, an acronym when expanded leads out as Kerala Institute for Research, Training and Development Studies of SC and ST. It is purely a governmental Directorate. Its main objective is to carry out research that helps to promote development among the scheduled communities in Kerala. The institute organizes occasionally seminars and colloquiums on various issues concerning the SC/ST communities in Kerala. It offers fellowships for selected research students working on the developmental issues of SC/ST communities and is an approved center for Doctoral Programme in Anthropology and Linguists of Calicut University’.

- **Critical assessment**

The various welfare schemes and programmes of government are not always mentioned separately for the advantage of SC and ST in each region but as a whole. The issues faced by them may be different to different areas. Mostly these programmes do promote their welfare. But there is no strong and concrete mechanism to monitor the reach of each of these policies to the beneficiaries. There may be documents of fund allocation but there was hardly a record of the exact utilization and satisfaction level of recipients. Government schemes meant for rural area like housing, poverty alleviation, drinking water, construction of roads etc will be provided to the predominantly rural area but it is not always possible to identify exactly that how much SC are actually benefitted out of this in national level. Often these data are not collected on the basis of caste in all states ie state have the information of beneficiaries of rural water supply, public road etc but how many SC households are acquiring this may be not known. Even though there are many programmes

solely meant for SC development, it is not sure that all are getting the benefits. Ignorance, complicated procedures, lack of awareness etc will result in failure of the projected targets of various government schemes.

The central assistance of various schemes goes on changing each year and the burden falls on the state government which in turn cause for the reduction of allocation and thereby the number of beneficiaries. For example by assessing the budgetary Allocation and Central Assistance released for Pre-Matric Scholarship for SC students studying in IX and X during last three years and current financial year up to 31-12-2016 goes on varying in different years. In 2013-14 central assistance released was 546.53 crore and beneficiaries are 27.38 lakh but it reduced to 514.03 crores and 25 lakh respectively in 2014-15 (Annual Plan report,2016-17).Regarding the beneficiaries of National Fellowships for SC, students females are less than male students out of total two thousand SC student beneficiaries each year. The distribution of loans by Kerala state development corporation for SC/ST are made mostly for marriage assistance (844), followed by personal loans by government employees (217) and least for education loan (10) in the year 2016-17(Economic Review 2016). It is noted that least demanded loans are for educational purposes. So expenditure and plan heads for human capital formation intended to SC population is considerably low.

But as a whole, there are a lot many programmes and schemes for the emancipation of scheduled caste population from the shackles of poverty and ignorance in our country. Implementing the schemes in time without any unwanted lags for the needy and monitoring the actual progress of the process is necessary for getting better outcomes.