



ANNUAL REPORT

2004-2005

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
EMPOWERMENT AND WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
GANGTOK SIKKIM**

ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005

SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPOWERMENT & WELFARE DEPARTMENT **WELFARE DIVISION**

Department of SC and ST was created in 1978 to look after the welfare of SC and ST in Sikkim. The department of Women & Child Development was amalgamated with Welfare Department in 2000 and renamed as Social Welfare Department with three divisions: 1. Welfare Division 2. Social Welfare Division and 3. Women & Child Welfare Division. The department has been renamed as Department of Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare in June' 2004. This department looks after the welfare of SCs, STs, OBCs minorities, old and disabled and welfare of Women and Child. The main function of this department is as under:-

1 Welfare Division

1. All matters connected with welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes minorities, Economic Betterment Schemes, Educational Development Schemes, Facilities for Vocational Training and Voluntary organisations connected with Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Minorities.
2. Pre-Matric Scholarship schemes for SC/ST/OBC.
3. Post Matric Scholarship Schemes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
4. Tribal Sub-Plan for Scheduled Tribes..
5. Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes.
6. Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBC Welfare Boards.
7. Commission for Backward Classes.
8. Monitoring and evaluation of Schemes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and OBC.
9. Sikkim SC, ST and OBC Development Corporation (SABCCO).
10. Monitoring of Prime Minister's 20 point programs for the development of SC and ST.
11. Implementation of SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989.

2. Social Welfare Division.

- 1 Welfare of handicapped persons, old Age pension, subsistence allowance and voluntary organisations working in the field of social welfare.
- 2 Implementation of Juvenile Justice Act (Care and Protection of Children), 2000.
- 3 Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities Promotion of Rights & Full Participation) Act, 1995.
- 4 Implementation of other extended and enforced Welfare Acts.

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SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPOWERMENT & WELFARE DEPARTMENT WELFARE DIVISION

The Department of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was set-up in 1978 and renamed as Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department with the amalgamation of Women & child Development Department in 2004. The Welfare Division looks after the welfare and socio-economic and educational development of the SC & ST as notified by the Government of India vide Constitution (Sikkim) Scheduled Castes Order, 1978 and Scheduled Tribes Order, 1978. Kami/Lohar, Damai, Sarki and Majhi belonging to Nepali community of Sikkim have been notified as Scheduled Castes and Bhutias and Lepchas have been notified as Scheduled Tribes. Bhutia includes Chumbipa, Dophapa, Tromopa, Dukpa, Yolmo, Kagatey and Sherpa. Limboo and Tamang have recently been notified as ST by amending the Constitutions (Sikkim) Scheduled Tribes, order 1978 vide Government of India Gazette Notification No. 10 of 2003 dt: 7th January' 2003.

On the recommendation of the Mandal Commission the Government of Sikkim issued Notification no. dt: 2/6/1994 declaring Bhujel, Gurung, Limboo, Mangar, Rai, Sunuwar and Tamang as socially and educationally Backward Classes or Other Backward Classes (OBC). On the recommendation of the First Report of Sikkim Commission for Backward Classes set-up in 1994 Thami, Jogi and Dewan have been notified as OBC. All these communities except 'Dewan' have been notified as OBC in the Central list of OBC by Government of India.

In partial modification of Notification No. 2/WD dated 2nd June' 1994 published in Extraordinary Gazette No. 60 dated 2nd June' 1994 and Notification No. 236/SW/251 (3)/WD dated 15/6/2000 published in Extraordinary Gazette No. 94 dated 11th April' 2001 the State Government has recognized and declared the following communities as Most Backward Classes and Other Backward Classes for the State of Sikkim namely:-

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|----|------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| I | Most Backward Classes: | a) Bhujel | b) Dewan | c) Gurng | d) Jogi |
| | | e) Kirat Rai | f) Mangar | g) Sunuwar | h) Thami. |
| II | Other Backward Classes | a) Bahun | b) Chettri | c) Newar | d) Sanyasi. |

Since 1951 the Government of India Census has been ascertaining the SC/ST status of the population. The objective of doing so is to discharge the constitutional obligation towards these socially, educationally and economically backward communities. For this purpose the statutory lists of SC/ST are notified in pursuance of Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution. The criteria for specifying a Community as SC/ST are as follows:-

1. Scheduled Castes – Extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of the traditional practice of un-touchability.
2. Scheduled Tribes – Indications of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large and backwardness.

The Government of Sikkim has reserved 12 Assembly Constituencies for ST and 2 for SC out of 32 Assembly seats. The reservation policy for jobs in State Government and Public Sector and seats in professional Courses has been revised vide Notification No. 5/GOS/9/(15)/SWD/WD dated 19/8/2003 for SC/ST/MBC/OBC is 6%, 33% 21% & 14% respectively. Besides reservation, 5 years relaxation in age is given to SC/ST and 3 years to MBC/OBC candidates.

The Revenue Order No. 1 of 1917 restricts the alienation of land belonging to Bhutia & Lepcha communities to non-tribals. To prevent any incidence of atrocities to SC/ST the State Government has enforced the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and has issued directives to all law enforcing authorities to ensure communal harmony and provide safety protection and justice to SC/ST.

The Tribal-Sub Plan and Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being implemented in the State since 1979-80. Welfare Schemes for OBC are being implemented since 1996 only. There are three separate Welfare Boards for re-viewing the progress of various economic and educational development schemes for SC, ST & OBC. The Boards actively participate in the implementation of various schemes in close co-ordination with Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department. The Sikkim Commission for Backward Classes (SCBC) a Statutory Body has been set-up in 1994 to examine the cases of inclusion or exclusion of communities in the list of OBC.

Unlike in many of the States, the population of SC/ST are scattered all over the State except in North District. Hence the benefits received by SC/ST cannot be quantified in case of infrastructure development schemes viz. Roads, Power generation, Health and Educational facilities. Agriculture, live-stock breeding etc. have become the main occupation of the people of Sikkim. The Department of Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department (Welfare Division) is also responsible for monitoring the schemes implemented by the sectoral departments for the welfare of the SC/ST/OBC, besides implementing educational and development schemes of the State and Government of India. Such schemes are executed through the Project Director in the Head-quarters and Welfare Officer in the four districts. Implementation of schemes funded out of Special Central Assistance to TSP is done in consultation with sectoral Departments. The Monitoring Cell of the Department is responsible for collection of data and preparation of progress report on implementation of schemes by the Sectoral Departments as well as Social Welfare department.

The main limitation of the Department is the lack of adequate resources in the State Plan for taking up schemes especially vocational training and family-oriented economic development schemes for employment & income generation. The existing system does not allow the Welfare Department to utilize the funds earmarked for SC/ST by various departments, thus preventing the Welfare Department from drawing up comprehensive plan for development of the target groups as required under Maharashtra Model. During the 10th Plan (2002-03 – 2006-07) a three pronged strategy for development of SC/ST/OBC was followed. They are (a) developmental measures for education and economic development (b) Protection measures through Civil Rights Act and SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and protective discrimination in matters of employment and other facilities and (c) Intensive and integrated development of areas having substantial population of SC/ST. Family oriented schemes education and skill formation with adoption of new technological tools to enhance productive capacity were given priority. Institutional finance at concessional rate of interest was provided by Sikkim SC/ST/OBC Development corporation (SABCCO) for setting up industrial and commercial units.

ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE YEAR 2004-05

1. PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP

The main thrust of the department is to improve literacy level of both ST and SC population. In order to encourage the students from backward section, the Department has been granting scholarship to ST/SC students according to the guidelines of Government of India. Under the pre-matric scholarship scheme, the Department has covered 1587 SC students and 3215 ST students as per the slab rates given below at a total expenditure involving of Rs.23.55 /- lakhs during 2004-05.

1.	Pre-LKG to Class IV	Rs. 360/- per student per academic year.
2.	Class V to VIII	Rs. 480/- -do-
3.	Class IX & X	Rs. 850/- -do-

2. POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP

Under this scheme, the total no of students covered during 2004-2005 was 165 SC and 450 ST students involving an expenditure of Rs.2.82/- lakhs and 7.00 lakhs respectively. The prevailing rates of post matric scholarship are as follows:-

1.	Class XI & XII	Rs. 1250/- per student per academic year.
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|----|-------------------------------------|------------|------|
| 2. | Graduation degree within the State | Rs. 1850/- | -do- |
| 3. | Graduation degree outside the State | Rs. 2500/- | -do- |
| 4. | Engineering and Medical degree | Rs. 3400/- | -do- |

3. SCHOLARSHIP TO MONASTIC STUDENTS:

Beside pre-matric & post-matric scholarship, scholarship are also provided to 1446 Tribal students studying in the monastic schools spread over whole of Sikkim at the rate of Rs. 250/- per year. The actual financial involvement was Rs. 3.62 lakhs.

4. AWARD SCHOLARSHIP TO OBC SRUDENTS.

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India (Backward Classes Division) have introduced various schemes for educational promotion of OBC students such as:-

1. Pre-matric Scholarship : 50:50% Central State share.
2. Post-matric Scholarship : 100% CSS.

The Scheme has been started during 2001-02 for the first time in Sikkim with a provision of Rs. 10 lakhs out of which 5 lakhs will be shared by the Central Government. The scheme will be continued during 10th Five Year Plan. Accordingly a provision of Rs. 8.50 lakhs and Rs. 4.00 lakh kept aside for 480 OBC and 475 OBC students under Pre-matric and Post-matric Scheme respectively during 2004-05.

5. VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

The Welfare Division of Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department has been conducting Vocational Trainings to the educated & uneducated unemployed SC/ST/OBC candidates to update their skills for self-employment. The trainings are imparted on self-employment oriented schemes like Soft-ware & Hard-ware Computer training, Professional courses on Tourist Guide, Diploma course on Tourism, Travel management training, Motor driving training, Stuff toys making training, Repair of electronic products, Interior designing and Decoration, Hotel management etc. The Vocational Training has been playing a vital role in the economic upliftment of the un-employment youths of the State. During 2004-05 the department successfully implemented vocational training on the following trades.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON DIFFERENT TRADES IMPLEMENTED BY SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPOWERMENT & WELFARE DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM (STATE PLAN) DURING 2004-05.

S. No.	Particulars of Voactional Training	Category of Candidates sponsored					Financial Achievement
		SC	ST	OBC	MBC	Total	
1	Three months vocational training on cutting & tailoring trade at Mangshila, Kabi, Tintek, Aho, Assam-Lingzey, Singtam, Namthang, Yangang, Tarku, Radhu-Khandu, Gyalzing & Kaluk.	90	90	90	99	369	Rs. 29,00,000/-
2	Three months vocational training on Knitting trade at Arithang, Gangtok.	4	4	4	4	16	Rs. 2,74,000/-
3	Six months vocational training on Embroidery, Cutting & Tailoring at SCESCOS, Gangtok.	8	8	8	8	32	Rs. 3,75,000/-
4	Six months professional Tourist Guide training at Radiant Academy, Gangtok.	5	5	5	5	20	Rs. 6,60,000/-
5	Three months vocational training on Stuff Toys making at Jorethang.	7	7	9	7	30	Rs. 2,70,000/-
6	Three months vocational training on manufacture of Re-cycled paper product at SECSCOS, gangtok.	8	8	8	8	32	Rs. 2,31,000/-
7	Three months Motor Driving training programme at 4 district of the State.	16	16	16	16	64	Rs. 2,60,000/-
8	Nine months diploma course on Automobile/Motor mechanic training at SMTEI, Sichey, Gangtok.	4	4	4	4	16	Rs. 4,32,000/-
9	Six months diploma on Professional course on Tourism, Airlines & Hotel Management at Trade Wing, gangtok.	8	8	8	8	32	Rs. 2,00,000/-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Physical Achievement	Financial Involvement (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Conduction of Winter Coaching classes to the students belonging to SC/ST and OBC community preparing for class X and XII Board Examination.	45 SC/ 40 ST/ 25 OBC	Rs. 1.00 lakhs
2.	As per the direction of Govt. of India the Department of Social Justice, Emp. & Welfare (Welfare division) has granted Inter-caste marriage award to 7 deserving And genuine couple @ Rs. 20,000/- per couple Under the scheme implementation of (POA) Act, 1989 in the State. The scheme was introduced in order to eradicate the practice racial discrimination, untouchability and prevailing social disabilities	7 couple	Rs. 1.40 lakhs

6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR SC/ST.

The Welfare Department has been implementing various programmes in Tribal and Sheduled Caste populated areas to improve their economic conditions. These schemes are in addition to the various schemes being implemented by different Sectoral Departments.

Schemes implemented from Economic Development to SC during 2004-05.

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	No. of beneficiaries	Amount
1	Distribution of piglets to SC beneficiaries of Turuk-Melli, South Sikkim.	94	3.44
2	Distribution of piglets to SC beneficiaries of Rhenock.	60	2.62
3	Distribution of piglets to SC beneficiaries of Beyong (Gyalzing).	60	2.62
4	Distribution of piglets to SC beneficiaries of Yangang S. Sikkim.	40	1.81
5	Distribution of piglets to SC beneficiaries of Mangshila.	30	1.35
6	Distribution of piglets to SC beneficiaries of Pachey Khani.	35	1.54

State Plan allocation and flow to Special Component Plan (SCP) Tribal Sub-Plan and Economic Development for OBC during 2004-05 is given as follows:

Total 10 th Plan Outlay	Flow to			State Plan outlay 2004-05	Actual Exp.	Flow to			%age		
	SCP	TSP	OBC			SCP	TSP	OBC			
1800	750	1080	--	500.00	492.53	77.56	297.50	117.47	15.74	60.40	23.86

OBC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

The Central Government has directed that State Government take all steps for integration of OBCs and minorities in the National mainstream by making them equal partner in the Nation Building process. According to the programmes laid down by the Central Government for the development of OBCs, the State has to take up various programmes to improve the economic

condition of the OBCs and also provide security of life and property of these section of people. The emphasis has been laid on education and economic development by taking up schemes which could benefit the down trodden section of the population. The State Government has already identified 10 communities as OBC in the Central & State lists.

Schemes implemented to OBC/MBC beneficiaries under Economic Development during 2004-05

Sl. No.	Particulars	(Rs. in lakhs)	
		Financial	Physical
1	Distribution of piglets to MBC beneficiaries of Rewa Machong G.P.U. Barapathing Constituency.	2.32	65
2	Distribution of piglets to MBC beneficiaries at Sorak, Mikhola, Zoom G.P.U.s. Jorethang Constituency.	2.89	100
3	Distribution of piglets to MBC beneficiaries at Turuk G.P.U. Melli Constituency.	1.54	60
4	Distribution of milch cows to OBC beneficiaries of Tanak-Tarku G.P.U. Temi Tarku Constituency.	3.83	30
5	Distribution of water storage tanks to OBC/MBC beneficiaries of Gyalzing constituency.	5.39	100
6	Distribution of water storage tanks to MBC/OBC beneficiaries of (a) Heyong-Chingthang G.P.U. under Hee-Bermiok constituency. (b) Zoom G.P.U. Jorethang Constituency.	8.63	100 50
7	Distribution of piglets to MBC beneficiaries of Songmu G.P.U. – Vok Constituency.	3.76	100
8	Distribution of piglets to MBC beneficiaries of Parbing G.P.U. Ranka Constituency.	1.30	40
9	Distribution of piglets to MBC beneficiaries of Thangsing G.P.U.	0.33	14
	Total	30.99	

GUIDELINES FOR RELEASE AND UTILIZATION OF SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE (SCA) TO THE TRIBAL SUB PLAN (TSP).

In supersession of the Circulars/Letters/Guidelines issued earlier on the subject, the following guidelines are hereby laid down for the use of SCA to TSP funds.

I Introduction

Resource inadequacy affecting the effective implementation of various programmes undertaken under the Tribal Sub-plan (TSP) had prompted the Government of India to supplement the efforts of the State Government by extending Special Central Assistance (SCA) as an additive to the State TSP. Accordingly, a scheme called SCA to TSP was launched as early as in 1977-78.

II SAC to TSP and its Objective.

2. SCA to TSP has been extended by the Government of India to State Government since 1977-78, as an additive to their State Plan efforts of Tribal Development and thus constitutes part of the overall strategy of the TSP. The objective and scope of SCA to TSP which was originally meant for filling up of the critical gaps in the family-based income-generation activities of the TSP, will now be expanded to cover the employment-cum-income generation activities and the infrastructure incidental thereto not only family-based, but also run by the Self-Help Groups (SHGs)/Community. The ultimate objective of extending SCA to TSP is to boost the demand based income-generation programmes and thus raise the economic and social status of tribals.

III Guidelines

- i) The tribal population living below the poverty lines alone be covered under SCA-financed activities, with a special emphasis on raising their socio-economic status to that of the rest of the population in the Block/District/State.

- ii) SCA to TSP should be utilized for filling up of critical gaps in both the primary schemes supporting Family/SHG/Community-based employment-cum-income generation activities and the infrastructure incidental thereto. However, not more than 30% of SCA received can be permitted for the purpose of developing infrastructure.
- iii) While planning for Family/SHG/Community-based employment-cum-income generation activities, every effort should be made to coverage the services/resources, manpower and infrastructure already available under various tribal-related sectors, as listed at Annexure 1.
- iv) While formulating SCA-funded TSP activities, priority should be given to the development of the most neglected tribals living in the Forest Villages.
- v) Innovative projects for creating employment-cum-income generation activities based on the felt needs of the local tribals should be given priority. To this effect, the ground level functionaries should also be geared up effectively so as to attract optimal institutional finance.
- vi) Long-term Area-specific micro planning be taking into consideration ITDPs/ITDSa (Annexure II) and the Blocks/Clusters therein as geographical units should be taken up under SCA to TSP. Multi-disciplinary agencies could be entrusted with the task of preparing such long term plans indicating estimates of the flow of funds from the State Plan (TSP), the central Plan (SCA to TSP) and through the Grant-in-aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution.
- vii) Since SCA to TSP is an additive to the State Plan, the State Govt./UT Admn. Should indicate the Department/Schemes-wise details of activities funded out of the Annual State Plan. As the SCA to TSP is to utilized as gap filler to the schemes being taken up out of the TSP funds earmarked under the Annual State Plan, adequate justification should be given to show that the schemes being funded out of SCA to TSP are actually supplementary to schemes being taken up out of TSP funds earmarked in the Annual State Plan.
- viii) Wherever a conjunction flow of funds can be ensured from the other ongoing development programmes of Central and State Plan activities, every effort should be made to dovetail all the ongoing programmes so as to have a better spatial and demographic coverage. The Ministry encourages a more focused approach leading to perceptible change in the tribal areas rather than resources being spread too thin under various sectors, in a disintegrated fashion.
- ix) Projects/schemes should be so drawn up that issues affecting tribal women should be brought Centre stage and their participation, right from the stage of formulation to implementation of various developmental projects needs to be ensured. To this effect, a fixed portion of SCA funds should be kept apart and shown under the “Women’s Component”.
- x) Before sanctioning the SCA to TSP, it is a pre-requisite to formulate specific schemes/programmes that have a direct bearing on the economic development of tribals as suitable to their social, economic and ecological situation. The schemes/programmes thus formulated should be sent in advance as proposals to the Ministry for examination/discussion and approval.
- xi) The special programmes/schemes thus formulated/proposed should necessary reflect physical and financial targets with a specific time frame, to facilitate monitoring in implementing of the same, from time to time.
- xii) In view of the drivers and varied physical and socio-economic conditions of the tribals, the SCA funds directed especially to the poverty alleviation programmes should necessarily support such innovation income generating and employment activities/programmes with sustainable relevance/utility to the tribal beneficiaries.

- xiii) While utilizing the SCA funds for the development of Forest Villages and the tribals living therein, it is essential not only to identify their specific problems but also to propose specific package for their development by specially formulating specific schemes that are not only suitable to the prevailing conditions but also ensuring their effective synchronization with the programmes of the Forest Department viz. JFM. Similar special attention should also be accorded to the shifting cultivators by devising suitable/alternative income generating and self-employment activities to be support with SAC funds.
- xiv) Detailed information about all the projects sanctioned/funded under SCA to TSP along with the progress of their implementation needs to be kept up to date at the Centre, from time to time to facilitating effective monitoring.
- xv) People's participation is a thread that runs across the tribal fabric and the approach towards tribal development should, therefore, ensure that their strength is harnessed.
- xvi) The ground-level mechanism should be effectively geared up so as to attract optimal institution finance for enhance income generation activities.
- xvii) Adherence to the provisions of the Panchayati Raj Act of 1992 and Act of 1996 in planning and implementation of TSP, including the SCA funds, should be ensured in letter and in spirit.
- xviii) The TSP component should be prepared along with the Five Year/Annual Plans of the State and SCA should from an integral part of the overall TSP. Also, the entire TSP of each State should be discussed and approved at the time of the finalization of the Five Year/annual Plans of the State and necessary earmarking for the flow of SCA funds to the relevant sectors in each State should also be determined and approval accordingly.
- xix) Out of the total SCA allocation for a financial year, 10% of the funds will be utilized for the purpose of extending incentives to States for effective implementation of TSP and the same will be released as per the criteria given at Item (iv) and Part IV of this document.

IV **Norms for Release of SCA to TSP.**

- i) SCA would be released to States/UTs normally in a maximum of two instalments and the entire amount is expected to be made available by the end of the Second Quarter. However, release of SCA would be entirely based on the utilization/performance by the State governments.
- ii) SCA funds earmarked by the Ministry to ITDPs should be released directly to the ITDP by the State Governments/UT Administrations and no part of SCA should be released directly to any Department at the State level. However, transfer of funds to implementing departments/agencies, if required, should be done by the ITDPs.
- iii) SCA is released for the economic development of the followings:-
 - a) Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs) are generally contiguous large areas of the size of one or more Development Block in which the ST population is 50% or more of the total population.
 - b) Modified Area Development Approach (MADA): These are identified pockets with a concentration of tribals 50% or more ST population within a total population of a minimum of 10,000 persons and above.
 - c) Clusters: These are identified pockets of tribal concentration containing 50% or more ST population within a total population of about 5,000 or more.

- d) Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs): Identified isolated communities among the STs characterized by a low rate of population, a pre-agricultural level of technology and extremely low levels of literacy. (so far 75 Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) have been identified and listed in Annexure III).
- e) Dispersed tribal population outside (a), (b), (c) and (d) above.
- iv) The TSP component of various departments/Sectors under the State Plan should be put in a separate Budget Head of the Tribal Development Department of the State. Of the total allocation under SCA to TSP, an amount of 10% will be released to the States based upon system of weighted criteria, listed below.
- a) Adoption of the TSP approach in letter and spirit by ensuring that the entire TSP funds at least in equal proportion to the population of tribals in the States, are placed in one Budget Head under the administrative control of the Tribal Development Department of the State Government for more integrated and focused planning and implementation of projects/schemes.
- b) Thereafter, at least on an average 75% of the approved Tribal Sub-Plan funds are actually utilized/released to the implementing agencies in the previous three financial years through the budget head of the Tribal development department of the States; and
- c) Funds awarded, as incentives to the State, should be utilized only for employment and income generating activities benefiting the tribals.
- v) The remaining 90% of the total allocation under SCA will then be further allocated amongst the State on the basis of the share of the programmes under the broad strategy of the Tribal Sub-Plan, namely, Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs), Modified Area Development Approach Pockets (MADA), Clusters and Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) and is calculated in proportion to the Scheduled Population under each programme.
- vi) State-wise allocation of amount available for programmes under ITDPs, MADAs, Clusters and PTGs and Dispersed Tribals are made as under:-
- a) Integrated Tribal development Projects (ITDPs): for allocation of SCA to ITDPs, the States are grouped into two categories.

Category 'A': consists of States with substantial areas predominantly inhabited by tribals such as Andhra Pradesh, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikki.

Category 'B': consists of having a dispersed tribal population with some areas of tribal concentration such as Assam, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal and the UTs of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Daman & Diu.

The total outlay of SCA for ITDPs is allocated to the above two category of States on the basis of tribal population of the States/UTs included in each group.

The funds allocated 'A' is then distributed to the states on the basis of the following criteria:

- 70% on the basis of ST population in ITDP/ITDA area.
- 30% on the basis of geographical area of ITDP/ITDA.

Whereas the funds allocated to the Category 'B' States is then distributed to the States only on the basis ST population in the ITDPs.

- b) MADA Pockets, Clusters and Dispersed Tribals.
100% on the basis of ST population in MADA Pockets, Clusters and Dispersed Tribals.

c) Primitive Tribal Groups – The distribution formula is as follows:

- 70% of the amount on numerical size of the Primitive Tribal Communities.
 - 30% of the amount according to number of PTGs in the States/UTs.
- vii) After calculating the entitlement for each of the State on the basis of the norms, the amount so calculated for MADAs, PTGs, STs in Clusters and Dispersed Tribal Groups (DTGs), SCA will be separately earmarked for each State and placed at the disposal of the State Governments for implementing project/schemes for the benefits of MADAs, PTGs, STs in Clusters and DTGs in a focused and well targeted manner.
- viii) The rest of the SCA allocation of each of the State meant for ITDPs will then be further earmarked by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for each of the ITDPs of each State in equal proportion to the population of then STs in these respective ITDPs as a percentage of the total ST population of the ITDPs in a particular State.
- ix) Utilization of SCA
Keeping in view the specific guidelines, prescribed under part II of this meant every effort should be made by all the State Governments/UTs to that the SCA funds received under SCA to TSP are worth utilized for the they are sanctioned for. Simultaneously, efforts should also be made to the following.
- i) SCA should not be used for any major infrastructure development; rather flow from the TSP should be supplemented for this purpose.
 - ii) If funds are provided for any TSP project under any Central/Centrally Sponsored Scheme, SCA funds should project under any utilized for the same purpose.
 - iii) Demonstration Units should not be financed out of SCA. However, the follow-up demonstration projects can be catered to, keeping in view the special disadvantages that the tribals cape with.
 - iv) If a specific project is financed by outside agencies, national or international, a part of the expenditure is expected to be borne by the concerned State Government. Such contribution should normally flow from the State Plan, but not from SCA.
 - v) The equity base of the State Government Organisation like the Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations (TDCCs) or Forest Development Corporation (FDCs) dealing with schemes related to the welfare and development of tribals should not be financed out of SCA.
 - vi) Expenditure on items such as established, vehicles and recurring in nature is strictly prohibited.

VI **Monitoring and Progress Reporting**

4. The ensure effective monitoring and progress reports, all States/UTs should ensure the development of an information system for the smooth flow of information, both vertical and horizontal, about all the projects sanctioned/implemented/completed with the funds of SCA to TSP, from time to time. “Assessment of actual progress/schemes implemented under TSP on the socio-economic conditions of the tribal covered under ITDPs, MADAs, Clusters, PTGs, as the case may be should specifically be undertaken.” In fact, this would not only enable the State Governments/UTs to regulate the otherwise defunct system of reporting on the subject – right from the village level to the Block/District/State to the central level, but would also help avoid the existing major problem of diversion of funds of SCA to TSP to the other general developmental/infrastructural projects. Progress reporting to the Centre by States/UTs, as visualized, should be on both a half-yearly and on annual basis, while projects to districts/States should be on quarterly basis. To this effect, the copies of the Formats indicating allocation and utilization of TSP funds by the State Governments/UTs, for Reporting Progress from the Project/Block level to the State/UT and the State/UT to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, are at Annexure IV, V and VI respectively.

5. Over and above, the proposed in-build monitoring system, the State Tripartite Committees will also, as per their mandate, review the progress of both release and utilization of

SCA to TSP on an half-yearly basis and send their report to the Central Standing Tripartite Committee (Office Order enclosed at Annexure VII) for its review, on an annual basis.

SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE TO TRIBAL-SUB PLAN 2004-05

Sl No.	Name of Schemes	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount
1	Distribution of agriculture tools to ST at Ship Gyar Dzongu (North).	160	Rs. 4,25,352/-
2	Distribution of Potato seeds to ST of Tingbong Upper Dzongu.	200	Rs. 4,76,480/-
3	Distribution of Agriculture tools to ST of Lachen, North.	200	Rs. 5,31,800/-
4	Distribution of Knitting machine to ST of South District.	100	Rs. 6,28,300/-
5	Distribution of Knitting machine to ST beneficiaries in West District.	100	Rs. 5,28,300/-
6	Distribution of Poly Water Tanks & Poly pipes to ST at Rinchenpong & Dentam Constituency.	100	Rs. 6,60,450/-
7	Distribution of Syntex tankls to ST beneficiaries at Wok Constituency.	100	Rs. 6,60,450/-
8	Distribution of Agriculture tools to ST at Melli & Wok Constituency.	200	Rs. 5,31,800/-
9	Distribution of Urea with vegetables seeds to ST at Lachen.	300	Rs. 1,25,518/-
10	Distribution of Agriculture tools to ST of Marchok – East.	100	Rs. 2,65,845/-
11	Distribution of Piglets at ST at Central Pendam, East.	100	Rs. 2,18,075/-
12	Distribution of Water storage tank with pipes to ST at Toong Naga.	59	Rs. 3,87,226/-
13	Distribution of water storage tank to ST at Rinchenpong.	100	Rs. 6,60,450/-
14	Distribution of milching cow to ST at Assam-Lingzey.	50	Rs. 5,25,000/-
15	Distribution of water storage tank to ST of North.	75	Rs. 4,99,500/-
16	Distribution of water storage tank to ST of West.	75	Rs. 4,99,500/-
17	Distribution of Sewing machine to ST of West.	121	Rs. 4,96,409/-
18	Distribution of Sewing machine to ST of North.	121	Rs. 4,96,409/-
19	Distribution of water storage tank to ST of Lachen.	116	Rs. 4,82,850/-
20	Distribution of Piglets to ST at Simik Lingzey.	67	Rs. 2,67,000/-
21	Distribution of Agriculture tools to ST at Polok / Burmiok/Thangsing under Temi Constituency.	160	Rs. 4,26,272/-
22	Distribution of Tarpolin to ST at Sanga Dorjee Rinchenpong.	150	Rs. 7,70,400/-
23	Distribution of Piglets to ST at Dentam Constituency.	100	Rs. 2,32,000/-
24	Distribution of water storage tank to ST at Rinchenpong.	87	Rs. 4,84,781/-
25	Distribution of Piglets to ST at Namlung Kolthang South.	110	Rs. 2,47,000/-
26	Distribution of Poly tank with poly pipes to ST at Tashiding Constituency.	75	Rs. 4,95,338/-
27	Distribution of Cardamom seedlings to St at Ringim & Nampatam North.	204	Rs. 4,33,000/-

This is to certify that the Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan for Rs. 97.52 lakh (Rupees One crore eight lakh) only for the year 2003-04 has fully been utilized for the welfare programmes.

Guidelines for release and utilization of grants under proviso 1 of Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India.

In the changed scenario of globalization and liberalization of the national economy, it becomes all the more critical that the comparative vulnerability of the ST population is addressed in a more focused and integrate manner. In view of the human development indices of the tribal population being lower than the rest of the population and the infrastructure in the tribal areas not being at par with others, it is necessary to dovetail and direct resources in a synergetic manner to bridge the gap in infrastructure in critical areas so that capacity of the economy in tribal areas to meaningfully and effectively absorb funds is substantially enhanced. In super cession of the circulars/letters/guidelines issued earlier on the subject mentioned above, the following guidelines are hereby framed for utilization of grants released to the State Governments under proviso 1 of Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India.

2. Grants under Article 275(1) will be an additionally to Normal Central Assistance (NCA) to State Plans to meet the cost of such schemes/projects as may be undertaken by the States and approved by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the purpose of the welfare and development of the Scheduled Tribes or rising the level of administration of the Scheduled Areas.
3. The grants will essentially be used for creation and up-gradation of critical infrastructure required to bring the tribal areas at par with the rest of the country. The infrastructure will e up-graded so as to enhance capacity of the economy in tribal areas to meaningfully and more effectively absorb funds, including institutional finance and thereby create opportunities conducive income and employment generation. Due emphasis will be given to infrastructure in the sectors critical to enhancement of human development indices such as in health, education, income generation, etc.
4. The specific projects/schemes along with physical and financial plans showing sector-wise and year-wise phasing of activities for funding under Article 275(1) should form an integral part of the overall TSP and, therefore, be prepared along with the Annual Plan of the State. The entire TSP of each of the State would be discussed and approved by the Ministry, preferably at the time of finalization of the Annual Plan of the State. The flow of funds under Article 275(1) to the relevant sectors in each of the State would be determined and approved accordingly.
5. Peoples' participation is the central thread around which the entire fabric of tribal development is to be woven. The approach towards tribal development should, therefore, should ensure harnessing this extraordinary strength of community living/participation inherited and inculcated by the tribal population. While palnning and implementing the schemes out of the grants under Article 275(1), due regard should be given to the provisions of The Panchayats Act, 1992 and of The Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.
6. Adoption of an integrated and holistic approach for preparing micro plans for ITDP/MADA/Clusters through multidisciplinary teams is sine quan-for effective targeting of the projects/schemes. The long-term micro-plans, showing year-wise and sector-wise physical and financial components, should earmark the funds flowing from the State Plan, SCA, Article 275(1) and under various Central Secotr/Centrally Sponsored Schemes of different Ministries of the Central Government.
7. Each State, Region, ITDA, MADA and Cluster a requires a specific plan, based on the felt local needs such as low literacy, poor health services, critical gaps in sectors like irrigation, roads, bridges, electricity, technical/vocational institutes, forests, sports promotion, etc. Efforts

should, therefore, be made to identify thrust areas for each ITDA, MADA and Cluster and on that basis for the region or the State, as a whole.

8. The thrust so identified should form central theme of the planning and specific projects accordingly prepared. Attempts should be made to dovetail resources available so as to ensure perceptible changes in the tribal areas as against the practice of spreading resources too thin under sectoral programmes in a disintegrated fashion.
9. Expenditure on items recurring in nature is strictly prohibited. However, an amount maximum up to 2% of the Grant may be used for project management, training, MIS, administrative expenses and monitoring and evaluation.
10. The concerns/issues effecting women should occupy central position in preparation of the projects/schemes, including the involvement of women right from planning to the implementation stage. The projects should be so planned that substantial benefits, at least 30% in proportion, are targeted for women.
11. It has been observed that the finance or the Planning Departments of various States often taken a long time in release of funds to the implementing agencies, thereby defeating the very purpose of adopting a project approach. The release of funds by the Ministry would, therefore, be strictly linked to the actual performance in the implementation of the schemes, including timely submission of utilization certificate.
12. On the basis of ITDA-wise integrated plans prepared through micro-planning, projects can be taken up to bridge the gap in infrastructure in critical areas such as education, health, SSIs, forests, forest villages, drinking water, electrification, communication, rural marketing, agriculture, animal husbandry, sports promotion, food processing, processing of MFPs, human resource development in technical and vocational spheres, water harvesting, resettlement of displaced persons, tribal land management, etc. Needless to add, only those projects will be approved which fulfil the broad parameters as enumerated in these guidelines and are normally not specifically taken up under the State Plan or other schemes of different Ministries of the Government of India. The maintenance of infrastructure maximum up to 10% of the entitlement of the State would also be permissible, subject to prior approval of the Ministry on the proposal.
13. The initiative for imparting quality education to the tribal students through 82 Model Residential Schools started in the IXth Five Year Plan Period would be continued as far as establishment of these schools are concerned and proportionate recurring and non-recurring norms. The other academic institutions with similar objectives such as Navodaya Vidhyalays would also be supported, if such Vidhyalays are set up for tribal students.
14. The TSP component of various departments/sectors under the State Plan should be put in a different Demand Head in the budget of the Tribal development Department of the State. An amount equivalent to 10% of the total allocation under Article 275(1) will be earmarked and retained at the Ministry's level. This amount will further be allocated for innovative projects amongst only those States, who adopt the TSP approach in letter and in spirit by ensuring that the entire TSP funds, at least in equal proportion to the population of tribals in the State, are placed in one budget head under the administrative control of the Tribal Development Department of the State Government for more integrated and focused planning and implementation of projects/schemes. This 10% earmarked fund will be used as an instrument to bring about changes in the institutional framework for adoption of TSP and be allocated only amongst

the States actually releasing, in the previous financial year, at least more than 75% of the approved Tribal Sub-Plan funds to the implementing agencies through the budget head of the Tribal Development department of the State. In case of the tribal majority States, utilization of 75% of the grants released under the Central Sector Schemes of this Ministry would qualify for consideration of innovative projects.

15. The remaining 90% of the funds will be allocated amongst the States on the basis of the ST population in each State as a percentage to the total tribal population of the country.

Scheme implemented during 2004-05 under 1st Proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India.

1	Installation of Sub-station Argumentation and Extension of I –phase 3-wire L.T. distribution at Rinchenpong, West Sikkim.	2004-05	99,92,000/-	Fund transferred to Power.
2	Construction of Ware house-cum-godown at Taga, Thangu, North Sikkim.	-do-	10,00,000/-	
3	Providing fencing with angle iron and barbed wire fencing 3800 Sq.ft & footpath around sacred area of Tsechu Lhakhang in Lachung.	-do-	6,30,000/-	
4	Jhora training work at Machong.	-do-	4,97,000/-	
5	Anti-erosion work & catch water drain at Burtuk Helipad.	-do-	3,98,000/-	
6	Jhora training work at Rangsey Khola – Lower Tadong, West Sikkim.	-do-	4,10,000/-	
7	Extension of .T. 3-phase wire line alongwith sheet light at Lungsigong, Thathangchen.	-do-	4,50,000/-	

WELFARE BOARDS

Government has constituted separate Welfare Boards for SC, ST and OBC. The Boards have been formed to infuse ideas into the implementation of various programmes for the weaker sections of the population. The Board played vital role in advising the Department in taking up appropriate programmes for the people at the grass root level. Shri. A. S. Baraily and Shri. Passang Rinzing Sherpa and Mrs. Bina Rai have been appointed as Chairman/Chairperson of Scheduled Castes Welfare Board and Scheduled Tribes Welfare Board and OBC Welfare Board respectively.

Sikkim Commission for Backward Classes:

The first Sikkim Commission for Backward classes headed by Justice M.L. Shrimal submitted their report to Government in June 1998. State Govt. has reconstituted the Sikkim Commission for Backward Classes on 5/8/98 to examine the requests for inclusion of any class of citizens as a backward classes in the Schedule and hear complains of wrong inclusion or non-inclusion of any backward class and tender such advice to the State Government as it deems appropriate. The present Commission consist of the following members nominated by the State Government vide notification no. 01/30(13)/SWD dated 30/01/2002.

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|-------------------|
| 1. | Shri M. B. Dahal, Former Minister | - | Chairman. |
| 2. | Shri. K.B. Gurung, Arithang Road, Gtk. | - | Member. |
| 3. | Shri D. P. Kharel, Former Minister | - | Member. |
| 4. | Shri. S. K. Pradhan, Kazi Road, Gtk. | - | Member. |
| 5. | Shri. Rup Raj Rai, Former Minister, | - | Member. |
| 6. | Secretary, Welfare Department | - | Member-Secretary. |

RESERVATION IN SERVICES:

Welfare Department issued notification dated 1/7/95 making reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs in posts and services to be filled up by direct recruitment under the Government of Sikkim and Police Sector Undertaking and for allotment of Seats in educational institutions for professional courses as under:

1.	SC	-	6%
2.	ST	-	33%
3.	OBC	-	14%
4.	MBC	-	21%

AGE RELAXATION

State Government has relaxed the upper age limit for the candidates belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs of the State in services/posts to be filled up by direct recruitment w.e.f 12/8/96 as under:

- i. For Scheduled Castes - by 5 years
- ii. For Scheduled Tribes - by 5 years
- iii. For Other Backward Classes by 3 years

SIKKIM SC, ST AND OBC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED.

Sikkim Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes Development Corporation (SABCCO) under the aegis of Welfare department, Government of Sikkim was established under the Companies Act (Sikkim, 1961 on 27th February, 1996. The Corporation is a fully owned Government Undertaking having an authorized share capital of Rs. 10 crores.

It is a State Channelising Agency (SCA) which avails financial assistance by way of loan from Apex Corporations, viz. the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC), National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBFDC) for financing income generating schemes for the STs, SCs, OBCs and Handicapped persons. The Corporation identifies beneficiaries, disburses loans, monitors the utilization of loans by these beneficiaries and timely recover of the loans.

OBJECTIVES

To promote economic and development activities for the benefit of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Handicapped Persons.

To assist individuals or groups of individuals belonging to scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Handicapped Persons by way of loans and advances for income and employment generating activities.

To extend loans to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Handicapped Persons or pursuing general/professional/technical education or training.

To help in furthering Government policies and programmes for the development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Handicapped Persons.

To enter into any agreement with Central Government/State Government or any State or local authorities or other-wise for the purpose of carrying out objects of the Company and to

obtain from and such Government, State authorities or persons, any charters, subsidies, loans, grants etc.

TARGET GROUP

Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Handicapped Persons belonging to low income group in the rural and urban areas of Sikkim with special focus on educated unemployment and women and promoting economic development activities.

SCHEMES FOR ASSISTANCE

- a) Agriculture and Allied: Agriculture production and related field such as purchase of agriculture machinery and implements, animal breeding, poultry, dairy, piggery, bee-keeping etc. Horticulture, floriculture, mushroom cultivation, cash crops like cardamom, orange, apple, potato, ginger etc.
- b) Artisan and Traditional Occupation: These include handicrafts, tailoring, weaving, knitting, carpet weaving, jewellery, carpentry, blacksmithy, bakery, beauty parlour etc.
- c) Technical Trades: All self employment schemes such as electrician, plumber, steel fabrication works, TV/Radio repair, motor mechanic, book binding, clinical labs, Xerox/Fax/Typing, Lamination centres, STD/PCO booths etc.
- d) Hotel/Guest House/Lodging/Restaurant: The loan facility is available to ST/SC/OBC beneficiaries only for conversion of, renovation of rooms, kitchen etc. of existing building to guest house/lodging in areas having tourism potential.
- e) Small Business : Loans for setting up small business ventures such as tea shops, general provision stores, grocery/manihari shops, ready made garments shop, news paper/magazine shop etc.
- f) Transport Services : Purchase of commercial vehicles for self employment.

PROCEDURE FOR AVAILING LOANS

- a) Submission of application form in the prescribed format (available in the Corporation's Office) duly filled in along with a passport size photograph duly attested by a Gazetted Officer.
- b) Certificate of Identification issued by District Collector/Addl. District Collector/Sub-Div. Magistrate.
- c) ST/SC/OBC Certificate issued by District Collector/Additional District Collector/Sub-Div. Magistrate.
- d) Annual family income Certificate issued by District Collector/Additional District Collector/Sub-Div. Magistrate.
- e) Land Title/Parcha.
- f) Project Report/Profile.
- g) No Objection Certificate from Institution, Banks and Government Departments extending loan facilities.
- h) For handicapped/disabled persons, certificate from Medical Board certifying disability.

The methods adopted by the Corporation for recovery of loans are as under:-

- (i) Regular monthly recovery drives conducted by the Field Officers.
- (ii) Default Review Meetings conducted with the loanees.

- (iii) Co-operation have been sought from various concerned Departments to insist individuals for production of “No Objection Certificate” from SABCCO during the time of renewing trade licenses for hotels, restaurants, businesses and issuing fitness certificates to taxi loanees.
- (iv) Further, SABCCO has been insisting on Salary Deduction Undertaking or Departmental Undertaking from Government employees willing to stand surety for the loans being availed of by their close relatives and friends. This has been a great help in boosting recovery.
- (v) The SABCCO has started taking defaulting loanees to court for the recovery of dues under Lok Adalat and SPDR Act.

THE CORPORATION HAS DISBURSED THE FOLLOWING LOANS TO SC, ST AND OBC BENEFICIARIES AS ON 01.04.2003 TO 31.03.2005.

The Corporation has disbursed the following loans to SC, ST and OBC No. of beneficiaries as on 2004-05.

S. No.	Scheme	ST		SC		OBC		Total	
		Physical	financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1	Auto-work shop.			3	5.10			3	5.10
2	Blacksmithy			3	0.87			3	0.87
3	Cardamom	2	0.90			2	0.90	4	1.80
4	Cyber cafe					1	2.00	1	2.00
5	Dairy	10	3.45	6	1.62	5	1.60	21	6.67
6	Floriculture					5	5.20	5	5.20
7	Food production	1	0.95					1	0.95
8	Goatery					1	0.20	1	0.20
9	Goldsmithy			4	5.60			4	5.60
10	Grocery	9	3.20	10	3.50	9	3.20	28	9.90
11	H. Education					1	2.00	1	2.00
12	Hostel	3	6.00	3	7.35			6	13.35
13	Hotel	42	77.50	15	29.80	16	27.30	73	134.60
14	Knitting	1	0.45	2	0.50			3	0.95
15	Medical Lab	1	2.50					1	2.50
16	M.C.F.	1	0.50					1	0.50
17	Piggery	17	6.26	11	4.58	4	1.32	32	12.18
18	Poultry	4	1.45	2	0.70	6	2.30	12	4.45
19	Printing press					1	0.90	1	0.90
20	Restaurant	20	18.00	14	12.70	22	19.55	56	50.25
21	Round Chilly					1	0.40	1	0.40
22	Service centre					1	1.50	1	1.50
23	Stationary					1	0.90	1	0.90
24	Steel fabrication					1	0.90	1	0.90
25	Swarnima scheme					23	8.99	23	8.99
26	Toy shop			1	1.50			1	1.50
27	Village tour	4	6.00			4	5.48	8	11.48
	Total	115	127.16	74	73.82	104	84.64	283	286.62

MEASURES TAKEN BY THE STATE GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM FOR PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES AGAINST SCs & STs.

- (a) The protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 has been extended on 29th July' 1983 but not enforced in the State of Sikkim till date.
- (b) The SCs & STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.
1. Provision of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (POA) Act'1989 has been translated into the regional languages (Napeli version) and widely circulated among the Panchayats, Collectorate offices, NGOs and member of SCs & STs families.
 2. In order to improve awareness about the Provisions of SCs & STs (POA) Act 1989 among the members of SCs & STs as well as implementing authorities, some Publicity Material has been displayed through hoardings at important public places, like Courts, Police stations, District Headquarters etc.
 3. The suitable instruction are being given by the police authorities to the local police for speedy and careful disposal of cases registered under SCs and STs (POA) Act, 1989 and filling the charge sheet within the shortest (prescribed) time limit.
 4. In Sikkim there is not so much problem for maintaining Law and Order. The people of Sikkim are, by nature God fearing and Law abiding people. However, incase of occurrence of any problem in maintaining Law and Order in the State, the Government and the police authorities are always alert and adequate steps are taken for maintaining peace and communal harmony in rural and urban areas to check and minimize the crimes and atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
 5. Necessary instructions have been given to the police booths set-up I rural and urban areas for taking timely and effective actions in investigating the cases and submitting the charge sheet in the courts. The police personnel have been instructed to investigate the complaints soon after the FIR is lodged.
 6. District and Session Courts (North and East) and District and Session Courts (South and West) have been designated as Special Courts to try the cases of Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for North and East Districts and for West and South Districts respectively.
 7. The State Government have appointed Special Public Prosecutors with adequate qualifications and experience to try the cases in right earnest and for disposal with necessary conviction. The Special Public Prosecutors are also maintaining strong and cordial relation with the local police machinery. The State Government is also organizing training courses for creating awareness about various provisions of the Special Acts among the Special Public Prosecutors and the concerned Police Officials.
 8. Regular training and orientation of functionaries at all level are also being conducted in order to ensure that the agencies responsible for providing protection and safe-guarding the interests of SCs and STs do not themselves commit crimes against SCs and STs.
 9. The action taken on complaints registered by SCs/STs against police in action on their complaints, viz. investigation, registration and filling of cases and their present status are being reviewed periodically by the State Government and reported to the Commission.
 10. Necessary steps are being taken to review/amend the norms for payment of relief and rehabilitation, prescribed under Rule 12 of the SCs and STs (POA) Rules,

1995 for providing total relief amount to the victims by the time the case is charge-sheeted in the court.

Statement showing cases registered with the Police under various crimes of Atrocities against Scheduled Caste.

Sl. No.	Nature of offence	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
1	Murder	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	1 (m) 2 (f)
2	Grievous Hurt	1	2	1	--	--	3	--	--
3	Rape	1	--	--	--	1	--	1	1 (f)
4	Arson	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
5									
	a) IPC only	10	11	6	2	3	1(m) 1(f)		3(m) 2(f)
	b) SC/ST (POA) Act with IPC	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	c) PCR Act	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Sub-total	14	13	7	3	5	5	2	9

Statement showing cases registered with the Police under various crimes of Atrocities against Scheduled Tribes.

Sl. No.	Nature of offence	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
1	Murder	--	--	--	1	2	--	1(m)	
2	Grievous Hurt	2	2	2	2	1	3	3(m)	1(m) 1(f)
3	Rape	1	1	1	--	--	1	2(f)	
4	Arson	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--
5									
	a) IPC only	31	53	9	24	--	6(m)		11(m) 5(f)
	b) SC/ST (POA) Act with IPC	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	c) PCR Act	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Sub-total	34	56	14	28	3	6	13	18

SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPOWERMENT & WELFARE DEPARTMENT
(SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT)
ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005

In keeping with the policies of the Government, Social Welfare Division under Social Justice, empowerment & Welfare Department implements various schemes & programmes for the upliftment of the needy and marginalized section of our society. Special impetus is given to the Senior Citizens Orphans, Destitute Children, the Juveniles and the Disabled Persons through implementation of welfare schemes and programmes which are tailor made to suit their special needs. The various schemes/programmes being currently implemented by the Social Welfare Division are the following:-

1. Welfare for the Senior Citizens:-

a) **OLD AGE PENSION:-**

Senior Citizen who are needy and have attained 65 years and above who have no regular source of income are provided Old Age Pension @ Rs. 300/- per month. 14869 numbers of beneficiaries are receiving Old Age Pension as on March' 2005.

b) **We Respect You Grant:-**

One time grant of Rs. 5,000/- only is being provided for the needy veterans about 75 years under the scheme "We Respect You Grant". 400 numbers of beneficiaries have received this grant.

c) **Old Age Home:-**

A proposal for establishment of an Old Age Home has already been sent to Government of India on the request received from 2 NGO's by the Women and Child development Division of this Department.

2. **Orphan and Destitute:-**

The Department runs and maintains one destitute home and gives financial assistance to 5 NGO's to run destitute homes where accommodation, education and general welfare is provided maintenance grant @ Rs. 450/- per month per child is provided for NGOs' run homes and @ Rs. 500/- per month per child for Government run homes.

The location of various destitute homes are as under:-

S. No.	Name of Destitute Home	Location	No. of Children	Run by NGO	Phon No.
1	Kaluk Destitute Home	Kaluk	50	Government	--
2	Atish Dipanker Destitute Home	Chakung	125	Kripa Buddhist Mission (NGO)	253326
3	Balika Niketan	Gangtok	50	Arithang Social Welfare Association (NGO)	223336
4	Wangdi Faith Mission Home	Mangan	50	Wangdi Faith Mission (NGO)	234282
5	Denzong Lhadhey Yanki Chokchen	Pelling	100	Denzong Lhadhey Yanki Chochen (NGO)	250760
6	Kingstone Destitute Home	Rhenock	50	Akhil Sikkim Arahay Kalyan Samiti (NGO)	253628

3. **WELFARE OF THE DISABLED PERSONS**

I) **Stipend and Scholarship:-**

- f) Stipend and Uniform Allowance:- Stipend is provided for disabled students studying outside the State in Special Schools. The rate of stipend is Rs. 500/- per month per child and RS. 500/- is given for uniform allowance per child per annum. 10 number of students received stipend year.
- g) Scholarship:- Scholarship of 50/-, Rs. 60/- Rs. 85/- respectively is being given to disabled children studying in different Government schools in Sikkim. 43 number of students studying in school within Sikkim received scholarship during this year.
- h) Scholarship for Higher Studies:- Rs. 800/- per month outside the State . Rs. 2000/- per annum within the State. This year 7 number of student received scholarship for higher study.

II) **Subsistence Allowance:-**

The Department has so far provided Subsistence Allowance to 1500 physically challenged persons as a way of helping them to contribute to their family income. The rate of allowance was enhanced from Rs. 200/- per month to Rs. 500/- per month w.e.f. October' 2004.

III) **District Disability Rehabilitation Centre Gangtok:-**

Equipments like Walking Sticks, Hearing Aids, Artificial Limba, Wheel Chair, Crutches, Calipers etc. are provided free of cost to the poor and needy disabled persons of the State through District Disability Rehabilitation Centre (DDRC). This DDRC is located at STNM Hospital Complex, Gangtok and is run by the Social Welfare Division. DDRC has qualified professional manpower to cater to the needs of all types of disabilities.

IV) **Disability Camps:-**

Free Camps for the Disabled:- Social Welfare Division organizes free camps for the persons with disabilities in collaboration with Medical Specialist of Health Care, Human Services and Welfare Department.

The Department has organized 20-disability camp during 2004 at various Sub-Divisions and Districts where more than 4000 numbers of disabled persons has been identified, treated and issued with Disability Identity Cards. The degree of disability of the disabled persons certified by the Medical Specialist and then Disability Identity Card is issued accordingly by the Social Justice, Emp. & welfare Department.

Details of Camps Organized:-

S. No.	Location	Number of Patients Registered	No. of aid/appliances distributed
1	East	2661	714
2	West	1278	502
3	North	320	203
4	South	801	437
Total		5060	1856

Total No. of Disability Identity Cards issued till March' 2005.

Orthopaedic	-	932
Hearing and Speech	-	1005
Visual	-	238
Multiple	-	222
Mental Retardation	-	1091

V) Special school for the Deaf:-

Special school for hearing impaired children has been established in June 2004. 11 numbers of children are studying in the Special School. The main objective is to provide Special Education to children in a congenial atmosphere so that they are able to integrate in normal schools after a certain level. Phone No. 284357.

VI) Shelter Workshop for the disabled:-

The Department runs a sheltered workshop for the physically challenged at Jorethang, where they make products out of cane and bamboo, which are sold in the Magay Mela by the department. The unit was established to train physically challenged persons in a sheltered environment to learn a trade so as to make them economically independent as far as possible. Those working as production workers are given M.R. wages of Rs. 85/- per day.

4. Grant in aid to Voluntary Organization:-

The department provides assistance to Voluntary Organization to undertake welfare works for the under privileged section of the society/physically challenged persons. The various NGO's to whom grant in aid is given are:-

16. National Association for the Blind, Sikkim Branch Gangrok
Ph. No. 204368.
17. Spastic Society of Sikkim, Gangtok, Ph. No. 203321.
18. Sikkim Vikalang Shayati Samiti, Gangtok, Ph. No. 224251.
19. Association for Social Health in India, Sikkim Branch – Gangtok.
Ph. No. 204236.
20. All India Voluntary Health Association, Sikkim Branch – Gangtok
Ph. No. 226505 – 220961.
21. Sikkim Rehabilitation and Detoxification Centre, Nimtar.
Ph. No. 254347.

5. Juvenile Observation Home:-

The Department has established a Juvenile Observation Home at Sichey Busty after the enforcement of Juvenile Justice Act in Sikkim. This home has the capacity to house 25 Juveniles at a time. The Juveniles are kept in the Juvenile Observation Home till their case is pending in the Juvenile Board. Since the establishment of Juvenile Observation Home 72 number of juveniles have been kept in this Juvenile Observation Home.

As per the provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2000, the Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare department has constituted a Child Welfare Committee. A counsellor has been

appointed for the Juvenile Observation Home who counsels the Juvenile once a week. A part time doctor also has been appointed for the Juvenile Observation Home.

The juveniles are engaged in making paper begs, painting, gardening etc. and they are also provided with facilities of indoor games.

Phone No. 284491

6. National Family Benefit Schemes:-

National Family Benefit Scheme (100% CSS) was started from Oct. 1995, by Government of India. A one time grant of Rs. 10,000/- each is given to the B.P.L. family when the primary bread winner of the family dies an accidental or natural death. A total of 1099 numbers of beneficiaries have benefited under the scheme till date.

7. Workshops/Training Programmes Attended:-

- a) Workshop on education, employment and Barrier Free Environment held on 0th January' 2005 and Multi Purpose Camp on 11th and 12th at Imphal, Manipur. Attended by Principal Secretary and deputy Secretary, Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare Department.
- b) Annual National meet on Adoption on 22nd and 23rd February' 2005 a New Delhi. Attended by deputy Secretary, Social Welfare Division, Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare department.