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Report of the Study Team on Tribal Development Programmes

WEST BENGAL

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Committee on Plan Projects
PLANNING COMMISSION

MAY 1968

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Study Team on
Tribal Development Programmes

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P R E F A C E

0.1 At the instance of the Planning Commission, the Committee on Plan Projects constituted in its Resolution No.COPP/Adm/16(1)/66 dated 26th October, 1966,(Annexure I), a Study Team on Tribal Development Programmes with the object of giving practical effect to the recommendations made in the Original Fourth Five Year Plan Draft Outline for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes and for assisting State Governments in evolving concrete schemes of development specially adapted to the needs and conditions of tribal communities and areas. The Team, as originally constituted, consisted of Shri P. Shilu Ao as Chairman and Sarvashri L.M. Shrikant and B. Mehta as Members. Shri B. Mehta resigned the membership of the Team on February 20, 1967, and Shri T. Sivasankar was appointed as Member in his place.

0.2 The Resolution constituting the study Team provides for the co-option of a member by the Study Team from each State in consultation with the Chief Minister of the State for the study of development programmes in respect of that State. Shri N.Raychaudhari, ICS(Retd.), formerly Member, Board of Revenue & Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, Tribal Welfare Department, was co-opted as a Member of the Study Team in consultation with the Chief Minister of West Bengal.

0.3 This report is based on an on-the-spot study of the various tribal development programmes undertaken in

the State of West Bengal. The report was discussed with the State authorities at the draft stage and their suggestions and comments have been duly taken into consideration while finalising it. The Study Team wishes to thank the State authorities for the facilities provided by them for the conduct of the study. The Team is also grateful to Shri Raychaudhari, the co-opted Member, for the keen interest which he evinced in the study.

CHAPTER I

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Area and Population: The area of West Bengal is 88,521 sq. kilometres. According to 1961 Census its population was 3,49,26,279. The tribal population of the State was 20,54,081 which is 5.88 per cent of its total population. The density per sq. kilometre is 399 as against the all India average of 138. Among the States, only Kerala has a higher density.

1.2 Geographical Divisions and Climate: West Bengal can be divided into two clear, natural geographical divisions: (1) The Plains of ^{the} Ganges, and (2) the Himalayan West Bengal. The plains tract is intersected by many rivers, ^{the} Bhagirathi, Damodar, Ajoy Mayurakshi, etc. The Himalayan division consisting of the three districts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar is dominated by the mighty Himalayan range in the north.

1.3 The average annual mean temperature in the Gangetic West Bengal varies from 26°C to 27°C, there being no great variation in the summer and winter temperatures. The average annual rainfall in this region varies from 1000 to 1500 mm and the average annual mean humidity from 60% to 80%. In the Sub-Himalayan West Bengal the corresponding figures are 13°C to 24°C, 3000 to 4500 mm and 82% to 84% respectively.

1.4 Soil: A greater part of the soil of West Bengal is composed of alluvium though Laterite and Gondwana and tertiary rocks are also found. As such, there is no great variety of soils in the plains, except in the western fringe of the State, nor in the Sub-Himalayan region, except for the reddish yellow soil cap in Darjeeling and Diars which is favourable for tea cultivation. In other parts, the soil is mostly clay, loam, sandy loam and sand.

1.5 Land Utilisation: The table below gives land utilisation statistics for the year 1964-65.

Table 1

LAND UTILISATION STATISTICS

| Sl. No. | Particulars | Area (Thou- sand hecs) | % of total area |
|---------|---|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Total reported area according to village papers. | 8852 | 100 |
| | <u>Classification</u> | | |
| 2. | Forests | 1108 | 12.50 |
| 3. | Barren and un-culturable land | 1293 | 14.60 |
| 4. | Land under miscellaneous trees, crops and groves (not including in the net area sown) | 629 | 7.10 |
| | <u>Fallow Land</u> | | |
| 5. | Fallow land other than current fallow | 379 | 4.29 |
| 6. | Current fallow | - | - |
| 7. | Net area sown | 5443 | 61.49 |
| 8. | Area sown more than once | 948 | 10.70 |
| 9. | Total cropped area | 6391 | 72.19 |

1.6 It will be seen that the net area sown constitutes over 60% and the total cropped area over 70% of the total area in the State. The following table gives details of the area under principal crops in the State during the year 1964-65.

Table 2
Area under crops (1964-65)

| Sl. No. | Crop | Area (Thousands of hectares) | % to total cropped area |
|---------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Rice | 4444 | |
| 2. | Jowar | 2 | |
| 3. | Wheat | 49 | |
| 4. | Others | 121 | |
| | Total cereals and millets | 4616 | 72.2 |
| 5. | Grass | 162) | 11.5 |
| 6. | Others | 571) | |
| | Total food-grains | 5349 | |
| 7. | Sugarcane | 31 | 0.5 |
| 8. | Condiments and spices | 14 | 0.2 |
| 9. | Total fruits | 12 | 0.2 |
| 10. | Potatoes | 66 | 1.0 |
| 11. | Total vegetables | 85 | 1.4 |
| 12. | Total oilseeds | 149 | 2.3 |
| 13. | Cotton | - | - |
| 14. | Jute | 435 | 6.8 |
| 15. | Others | 250 | 3.8 |
| | Grand Total: | 6391 | |

It will be seen from the above table that rice is the main crop in the State and accounts for 69.6 per cent of the total cropped area.

1.7 Basic Facts and Figures: Annexure II contains some significant facts and figures relating to the State.

CHAPTER II
TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

2.1 Major Tribes: According to 1961 Census, out of the State's total population of 34,926,279 Scheduled Tribes numbered 20,54,081, constituting 5.88% of the total population of the State. Forty-one tribes were notified as Scheduled Tribes in the State under the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order 1950. However, only 35 tribal communities were returned during the 1961 Census. The following six tribes who are Scheduled Tribes in Purulia and transferred territories of Purnea were not reported during the Census:

- (1) Asur
- (2) Banjara
- (3) Bathudi
- (4) Binjhia
- (5) Birjia, and
- (6) Chik Baraik

2.2 Numerically most important among the tribes in the State are the Santals with a population of over 12 lakhs, accounting for more than 58% of the total tribal population in the State. The statement below gives the other numerically dominant tribes of the State with their corresponding population:

Table 3
OTHER MAJOR TRIBES

| <u>Tribe</u> | <u>Population</u> | <u>% to the total tribal population of the State</u> |
|--------------|-------------------|--|
| Oraon | 2,97,394 | 14.48 |
| Munda | 1,60,245 | 7.80 |
| Ekumij | 91,289 | 4.44 |
| Kora | 62,029 | 3.02 |
| Lodha | 40,898 | 1.99 |
| Mahali | 28,253 | 1.37 |
| Bhutia | 23,595 | 1.15 |
| Mal Pahariya | 15,706 | 0.76 |
| Lepcha | 15,300 | 0.76 |
| Mech | 13,515 | 0.68 |
| Rabha | 6,053 | 0.29 |

Information regarding the habitat, occupation, religion, and educational standards of the above tribes as well as some of the other tribes is contained in Annexure III.

2.3 Distribution of tribal population: Unlike the neighbouring states of Bihar and Orissa where the tribals are found in a large majority in certain areas the tribal population in West Bengal is scattered almost all over the State and the tribes live interspersed with the rest of the population. Out of the 286 police stations in the State there was only one police station, namely, Bharatpur in Murshidabad which did not return any Scheduled Tribe during the 1961 Census. The distribution of the tribal population is not uniform in all

the districts. At the time of the 1961 Census there were only 9 police stations (out of which six are in Jalpaiguri District alone), where the Scheduled Tribes population was 40% or more. Nagarkata police station in Jalpaiguri District had the highest percentage of tribal population, namely, 51.08. Some of the tribes are totally absent in many districts. Lepchas and Bhutias are practically confined to Darjeeling District, while Meches are mainly found in Jalpaiguri District. Certain other Tribes like Santals, Oraons, Mundas, Lodhas, Bhumijas etc. are distributed all over the western part of the State. The Santals, however, appear in large numbers in a continuous tract in the western parts of the districts of Bankura, Bardwan, Birbhum, Midnapur and Purulia. They also appear in the northern districts of Malda, West Dinajpur and Jalpaiguri. An interesting feature is that there is a concentration of these tribes in the areas adjacent to the borders of the State of Orissa, Bihar and Assam.

2.4 96 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribes population in the State is found in 11 of the 16 districts of the State. 97.66% of the total Scheduled Tribes population lives in rural areas as against 75.55% of the total population. Only the Bhutia group has a high degree of urbanisation viz. 39.17%. The table

below shows the proportion of the Scheduled Tribes population to the total population in each district as well as the proportion of the Scheduled Tribes in each district to the total Scheduled Tribes population in the State.

Table 4
DISTRICT-WISE TRIBAL POPULATION

| State/ District | Total Population | Total Scheduled Tribes Population | % of Scheduled Tribes in each distt. to the total popula- tion of that district | % of Scheduled Tribes in each distt. to the total Schedu- led Tribes population of the State |
|--------------------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| West Bengal | 3,49,26,279 | 20,54,081 | 5.88 | - |
| Darjeeling | 6,24,640 | 96,444 | 15.44 | 4.59 |
| Jalpaiguri | 13,59,292 | 3,54,741 | 26.10 | 17.27 |
| Cooch Bihar | 10,19,806 | 8,809 | 0.86 | 0.43 |
| W Dinajpur | 13,23,797 | 1,70,149 | 12.85 | 8.28 |
| Malda | 12,21,923 | 99,522 | 8.14 | 4.84 |
| Murshidabad | 22,90,010 | 31,452 | 1.37 | 1.53 |
| Madia | 17,13,324 | 21,923 | 1.28 | 1.06 |
| 24 Parganas | 62,80,915 | 1,19,318 | 1.90 | 5.88 |
| Calcutta | 29,27,289 | 2,520 | 0.09 | 0.12 |
| Howrah | 20,38,477 | 6,111 | 0.30 | 0.29 |
| Hooghly | 22,31,418 | 90,106 | 4.04 | 4.38 |
| Burdwan | 30,82,846 | 1,80,143 | 5.84 | 8.77 |
| Birbhum | 14,46,158 | 1,06,860 | 7.39 | 5.20 |
| Bankura | 16,64,513 | 1,73,389 | 10.42 | 8.44 |
| Midnapur | 43,41,855 | 3,29,736 | 7.59 | 16.1 |
| Purulia | 13,60,016 | 2,62,858 | 19.53 | 12.79 |

It will be seen from the above table that the population of Scheduled Tribes is quite significant in the districts of Jalpaiguri, Purulia, Darjeeling, West

Dinajpur, Bankura and Malda. The main concentration of tribal population is, however, in certain Sub-Divisions and Police Stations as may be seen from the table below:

Table 5

Concentration of population of Scheduled Tribes in Sub-Divisions and Police Stations

| Districts | Sub-Divisions | Police Stations | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| 1. Jalpaiguri (3,54,741) | 1. Sadar (1,70,436) | 1. Nagarkata (29,053) | 1,52,215 | |
| | | 2. Dhupguri (39,044) | | |
| | | 3. Mal (55,552) | | |
| | | 4. Metiali (27,666) | | |
| | 2. Alipurduar (1,84,305) | 1. Madarihat (32,919) | 1,84,305 | |
| | | 2. Falakata (25,559) | | |
| | | 3. Kalchini (50,285) | | |
| | | 4. Alipurduar (42,419) | | |
| | | 5. Kumargram (33,123) | | |
| | 2. Midnapore (3,29,736) | 1. Sadar (1,63,251) | 1. Garhbeta (25,109) | 93,711 |
| 2. Kharagpur (28,179) | | | | |
| 3. Narayangar (23,038) | | | | |
| 4. Keshiari (17,385) | | | | |
| 2. Jhargram (1,49,442) | | 1. Jhargram (17,139) | 1,49,442 | |
| | | 2. Jambni (16,018) | | |
| | | 3. Binpur (51,644) | | |
| | | 4. Gopiballa- (26,218) | | |
| | | vpur | | |
| | | 5. Nayagram (25,438) | | |
| 3. Purulia (2,62,858) | 1. Sadar (2,62,858) | 1. Baghmundi (16,215) | 1,93,381 | |
| | | 2. Balarampur (19,979) | | |
| | | 3. Barabazar (15,882) | | |
| | | 4. Bundwan (22,621) | | |
| | | 5. Hira (19,477) | | |
| | | 6. Jhalda (16,155) | | |
| | | 7. Kashipur (23,532) | | |
| | | 8. Manbazar (45,114) | | |
| | | 9. Pancha (14,406) | | |
| | | 10. Memari (23,171) | | |
| 4. Bardwan (1,80,143) | 1. Sadar (86,211) | 1. Jamalpur (12,540) | 52,999 | |
| | | 2. Ausgram (17,288) | | |
| | | 3. Ausgram (17,288) | | |
| | 2. Asansol (64,367) | | | |

| Districts | Sub-Divisions | Police Stations | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|----------|
| 5. Bankura (1,73,389) | 1. Sadar (1,58,821) | 1. Chatna (22,935) 2. Saltora (13,858) 3. Khatra (23,531) 4. Ranibandh (27,580) 5. Raipur (31,660) | 1,19,564 |
| 6. W Dinajpur (1,70,149) | 1. Balurghat (88,138) | 1. Balurghat (28,132) 2. Kumarganj (13,323) 3. Gangarampur (16,388) 4. Tapan (23,701) | 81,544 |
| | 2. Raiganj (62,026) | 1. Raiganj (12,480) 2. Itahar (10,345) 3. Kushmundi (11,494) 4. Bangshihari (18,788) | 53,107 |
| | 3. Islampur (19,985) | | |
| 7. 24 Parganas (1,19,318) | 1. Basirhat (63,641) | 1. Hansnabad (9,703) 2. Sandeskali (42,696) 3. Harsa (8,858) | 61,257 |
| | 2. Sadar (25,082) | 1. Canning (13,305) | |
| 8. Birbhum (1,06,860) | 1. Sadar (75,606) | 1. Muhammad (13,361) 2. Bazar 3. Sainthia (11,180) 3. Bolpur (18,854) | 43,395 |
| | 2. Rampurhat (31,254) | 1. Rampurhat (13,291) | |
| 9. Malda (99,522) | 1. Sadar (99,522) | 1. Malda (10,718) 2. Habibpur (35,368) 3. Gajal (31,317) 4. Ramangala (12,864) | 90,267 |
| 10. Darjeeling (96,444) | 1. Kalimpong (20,900) | 1. Kalimpong (18,006) | |
| | 2. Siliguri (56,511) | 1. Phansidewa (22,208) 2. Siliguri (11,269) 3. Maxalbari (13,985) | 47,472 |
| 11. Hooghly (90,106) | 1. Sadar (60,480) | 1. Polba (13,244) 2. Dhaniakhali (16,835) 3. Pandnah (19,667) | 49,746 |

2.5 No Scheduled Areas: There are no Scheduled Areas in the State nor can any area be termed as a predominantly tribal area as there is very little of geographical segregation in so far as the tribal and general population are concerned.

2.6 Rate of Growth: The table below indicates the growth of the Scheduled Tribes population in different districts between 1951 and 1961.

Table 6
GROWTH OF TRIBAL POPULATION

| Districts | S T Population | | Increase in number | % of increase |
|----------------|----------------|----------|--------------------|---------------|
| | 1951 | 1961 | | |
| 1. Darjeeling | 46,539 | 96,444 | 49,905 | 107.23 |
| 2. Jalpaiguri | 2,06,913 | 3,54,741 | 1,47,828 | 71.44 |
| 3. Cooch-Bihar | 3,457 | 8,809 | 5,352 | 154.82 |
| 4. W Dinajpur | 1,28,668 | 1,70,149 | 41,481 | 32.24 |
| 5. Malda | 83,662 | 99,522 | 15,860 | 18.96 |
| 6. Murshidabad | 25,854 | 31,452 | 5,598 | 21.65 |
| 7. Nadia | 12,155 | 21,923 | 9,768 | 80.36 |
| 8. 24 Parganas | 80,276 | 1,19,318 | 39,042 | 48.63 |
| 9. Calcutta | 1,132 | 2,520 | 1,388 | 122.61 |
| 10. Howrah | 8,093 | 6,111 | (-) 1,982 | (-) 24.49 |
| 11. Hooghly | 68,101 | 90,106 | 22,005 | 32.31 |
| 12. Burdwan | 1,52,248 | 1,80,143 | 27,895 | 18.32 |
| 13. Birbhum | 85,146 | 1,06,860 | 21,714 | 25.60 |
| 14. Bankura | 1,59,946 | 1,73,389 | 13,443 | 8.40 |
| 15. Midnapore | 2,80,240 | 3,29,736 | 49,496 | 17.66 |
| 16. Purulia | 2,22,473 | 2,62,858 | 40,385 | 18.15 |

There has been an increase of 31.09% in the tribal population in the State over the decade. However, this is not all due to normal growth; a part of it appears to be due to factors like migration of Scheduled Tribes from

East Pakistan and neighbouring Indian States. To a smaller extent, this may also be due to persons, who had not declared themselves as Scheduled Tribes in the 1951 Census, having done so at the time of 1961 Census.

2.7 Literacy: The percentage of literacy amongst tribal population is only 6.55 as against 29.31 for the State as a whole. Among tribal males it is 11.20 and among females 1.76 as against 40.1 and 17.0 respectively for males and females for the total population. The Bhutia group has the highest percentage of literacy (25.06) followed by Lepchas (24.66). Malpahariyas have the lowest percentage (3.57).

2.8 Working Force: The working force among the Scheduled Tribes in the State is 50% as against 33% among the total population. An overwhelming majority of the tribals is dependent on agriculture and allied pursuits which account for 77% of the total workers.

2.9 Occupational Distribution: The statement below indicates occupational distribution of the Scheduled Tribes population.

Table 7
OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION

| Categories | Male | Female | Total |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Scheduled Tribes Population | 10,43,042 | 10,11,039 | 20,54,081 |
| I. Cultivators | 3,10,769 | 1,91,301 | 5,02,070 |
| II. Agriculture labourers | 1,55,317 | 1,37,104 | 2,92,421 |
| III. Mining, Quarrying, Live-stock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and allied activities | 83,483 | 55,965 | 1,39,448 |
| IV. Household industry | 6,266 | 7,507 | 13,773 |
| V. Manufacture other than Household Industry | 10,383 | 8,413 | 18,796 |
| VI. Construction | 2,385 | 1,004 | 3,389 |
| VII. Transport, Storage and Communications | 3,243 | 308 | 3,551 |
| VIII. Trade and Commerce | 2,788 | 1,008 | 3,796 |
| IX. Other Services | 85,316 | 17,436 | 52,752 |
| Total Workers: | 6,09,950 | 4,20,046 | 10,29,996 |

2.10 The proportion of workers engaged in agriculture is much higher among the Scheduled Tribes population than among the total population. The other category where this proportion is higher than the total population is category III viz. Mining, Quarrying, Livestock, Forestry,

Plantation, etc. Oraons and Mundas have the largest representation here - most of them being engaged in plantation. Lepchas and Bhumijis have the highest percentage among cultivators viz. 42% and 31% respectively.

2.11 The Santals, Mundas, Oraons and Bhumijis of West Bengal are generally regarded as good cultivators, but a large proportion among them has to eke out existence as share croppers/agricultural labourers. Weaving (with the primitive loom) is widespread among the Mangoloid tribes; their colour schemes and design are highly conventionalised. Apart from weaving, other handicrafts such as wood craft, making mats, broom, rope, husking machines, net for catching fish, stone work, thread (by Charkha), oil, bamboo work, bricks, umbrella, hat etc. also play some role in the economy of the Scheduled Tribes.

2.12 Representation in Parliament and State Legislatures

Articles 330 and 332 of the Constitution provide for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha and the Vidhan Sabhas of the States. Of the 40 seats in the Lok Sabha for West Bengal, 2 are reserved for Scheduled Tribes. Similarly, in the case of Vidhan Sabha 16 seats out of a total of 280, have been reserved for Scheduled Tribes. There is, however, no reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes in the Vidhan Parishad.

2.13 Reservation in Services: Five per cent of the posts and services under the State Government are reserved for Scheduled Tribes. Information regarding representation of Scheduled Tribes in the posts and services under the Government of West Bengal is contained in Annexure IV. It will be seen that the reserved quota for tribal communities has not yet been utilised in full. The matter has also been raised at the meetings of the Tribes Advisory Council, where it was decided that separate tests would be conducted for eligible Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates for filling up the reserved vacancies. It is necessary that the reasons for the low representation of tribals in services are examined in detail by the State Government so that necessary steps may be taken to raise the percentage of employment among the tribal communities to the prescribed level.

CHAPTER III
ADMINISTRATION

3.1 Creation of Department of Tribal Welfare:

Tribal Welfare work in West Bengal received serious attention of the Government after Independence when a small branch in the Land and Land Revenue Department in the Secretariat named as Aboriginal Branch began to function in 1949. With the Constitution of India coming into force in 1950, the field of welfare activities for the Scheduled Tribes became wider and to cope up with the increased work a separate Department was set up in the year 1952 under a Minister incharge. The Department was named as the Tribal Welfare Department following the term Scheduled Tribes used in the Constitution for the tribal people. The Member, Board of Revenue and ex-officio Secretary of the Land and Land Revenue Department was designated as the Secretary of the Tribal Welfare Department as well, and the Deputy Secretary of the Land and Land Revenue Department was also made ^{the} Deputy Secretary ^{the} of the Tribal Welfare Department. In course of time the activities of the Department grew and it became a full-fledged Department with a Directorate and field officers of its own.

3.2 Present Set-up: The Tribal Welfare portfolio is generally held by a Cabinet Minister who may be assisted

by a Minister of State*. The Member, Board of Revenue and ex-officio Secretary of the Land and Land Revenue Department functions as Secretary of the Department. He is assisted by the Director of Tribal Welfare, who is the ex-officio Deputy Secretary, Tribal Welfare Department.

3.3 On the Secretariat side there are one Assistant Secretary and one Liaison Officer, while on the Directorate side, the Director is assisted by one Deputy Director and two Assistant Directors. There are also one Chief Regional Inspector and two Regional Inspectors in the Directorate. There is a separate officer, designated as Special Officer (Industries), to look after the industrial schemes undertaken by the Department for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes.

3.4 Need for a Whole Time Director: The Study Team has carefully studied the existing administrative set up in the State. The combination of Secretariat functions with that of the Directorate has no doubt certain advantages. Thus for instance, the Director, in his capacity as Deputy Secretary, is in a position to get his observations translated quickly into action through Government orders. However, the system has certain disadvantages as well. As Secretariat Officer, the Director usually gets tied down to the Secretariat where he has

*The State was under President's Rule at the time of the preparation of the report. Prior to promulgation of the President's Rule, the tribal welfare portfolio was held by a Cabinet Minister who was assisted by a Minister of State.

to devote most of his time in disposing of the files or in attending meetings with the result that he can hardly get adequate time to supervise the execution of the schemes in the field. In West Bengal, besides being the Deputy Secretary in the Department, the Director of Tribal Welfare is also the ex-officio Director of the Cultural Research Institute. The Study Team considers that this is a heavy charge for a single officer and is not conducive to efficiency. The Study Team recommends, therefore, that there should be a whole-time Director of Tribal Welfare in the State. Of course, to facilitate his work, it will be necessary to confer ex-officio Secretariat status on him befitting his seniority and status.

3.5 Progress, Statistics and Coordination Cell: A Progress, Statistics and Coordination Cell was created in the Department some time ago with the object of making an assessment of the tribal welfare programmes, maintaining statistical data and ensuring coordination among the various departments which is vital for the success of the programme. Although the Cell has been functioning in the Department for a number of years, it has neither achieved nor fulfilled the purpose underlying its creation. It appears that the Cell functions just as a section of the Secretariat dealing with files and

collection and submission of material and data required by the Govt. of India and other agencies, especially the Office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The working of the Cell needs to be reviewed with a view to improving its utility. It is also necessary that the Cell is manned by technical staff suitably qualified and of sufficient status so as to be able to make an adequate assessment of the working of the tribal welfare programmes and provide useful data for future planning.

3.6 Set up at the District Level: At the district level District Magistrates are in overall charge of the activities of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare Department. There is a Special Officer, Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare or Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare Officer, in each district. In districts, having a higher concentration of tribal population, additional officers have been posted. These officers work under the control of the District Magistrate and are responsible for the day-to-day affairs of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare establishments. Besides, there is a Kanungo in each district. There is also a Sub-Assistant Engineer in almost every district who is responsible for technical matters connected with the construction of water installations, minor irrigation works, school and hostel buildings, grain godowns, etc.

In certain districts regarded as important from the point of view of Scheduled Castes and Tribes, Welfare Inspectors and Publicity Officers have also been posted. Welfare Inspectors are generally concerned with the implementation of educational schemes intended for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students of both secondary and post-secondary stages while Publicity Officers undertake publicity work among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and make known the policy of Government towards these backward sections of the population and the welfare measures adopted for them by Government from time to time. The district-wise position is indicated in Annexure V.

3.7 Tribes Advisory Council: Paragraph 4 of the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution provides for the establishment of a Tribes Advisory Council in each State having Scheduled Areas therein and, if the President so directs, also in any State having Scheduled Tribes but no Scheduled Areas. There are no Scheduled Areas in West Bengal but the State has a large tribal population. A Tribes Advisory Council was first constituted in the State in 1953 and has been reconstituted from time to time. The Council has the State Minister for Tribal Welfare as its ex-officio Chairman. Its members are 13 representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the State Legislative Assembly

collection and submission of material and data required by the Govt. of India and other agencies, especially the Office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The working of the Cell needs to be reviewed with a view to improving its utility. It is also necessary that the Cell is manned by technical staff suitably qualified and of sufficient status so as to be able to make an adequate assessment of the working of the tribal welfare programmes and provide useful data for future planning.

3.6 Set up at the District Level: At the district level District Magistrates are in overall charge of the activities of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare Department. There is a Special Officer, Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare or Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare Officer, in each district. In districts, having a higher concentration of tribal population, additional officers have been posted. These officers work under the control of the District Magistrate and are responsible for the day-to-day affairs of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare establishments. Besides, there is a Kanungo in each district. There is also a Sub-Assistant Engineer in almost every district who is responsible for technical matters connected with the construction of water installations, minor irrigation works, school and hostel buildings, graingolas, etc.

In certain districts regarded as important from the point of view of Scheduled Castes and Tribes, Welfare Inspectors and Publicity Officers have also been posted. Welfare Inspectors are generally concerned with the implementation of educational schemes intended for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students of both secondary and post-secondary stages while Publicity Officers undertake publicity work among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and make known the policy of Government towards these backward sections of the population and the welfare measures adopted for them by Government from time to time. The district-wise position is indicated in Annexure V.

3.7 Tribes Advisory Council: Paragraph 4 of the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution provides for the establishment of a Tribes Advisory Council in each State having Scheduled Areas therein and, if the President so directs, also in any State having Scheduled Tribes but no Scheduled Areas. There are no Scheduled Areas in West Bengal but the State has a large tribal population. A Tribes Advisory Council was first constituted in the State in 1953 and has been reconstituted from time to time. The Council has the State Minister for Tribal Welfare as its ex-officio Chairman. Its members are 13 representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the State Legislative Assembly

and one Member of Parliament from Scheduled Tribe constituency in West Bengal nominated by the State Government, and three other persons having special knowledge and experience of the needs of the Scheduled Tribes, nominated by the Governor. The Deputy Secretary, Tribal Welfare Department, is the Secretary to the Council. The Council is required to meet once in every six months.

A perusal of the proceedings of the Council for the last few years supplied by the State Government reveals that the Council members have been evincing keen interest in the deliberations of the Council and bringing up matters affecting the welfare of the tribals.

~~The Council is also consulted by~~ ^{the} Government in connection with the formulation and implementation of the tribal welfare programmes. The proposals of the State Government concerning tribal welfare programmes are circulated to the members and their suggestions taken into consideration before finalizing the proposals.

Besides, the Council has been reviewing the action taken ^{the} by Government to implement its recommendations at its meetings.

3.8 The Study Team was glad to know that a Sub-Committee of the Council was appointed in 1965 to review ^{the} the schemes taken up by Government for the welfare of the

tribals and after visiting three or four districts with large concentration of tribal people make suggestions for improvement. The Sub-Committee made a report and the progress of implementation of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee has been considered and reviewed at the meetings of the Council from time to time. It will be useful if similar sub-committees are appointed in future to go into specific problems of the tribal people and make suggestions for programmes and approaches for tribal welfare.

3.9 District Committees: To enlist public cooperation as well as ensure coordination with different Departments, there is a District Committee for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes which has both official and non-official members to advise the district authorities in the implementation of the tribal welfare programme. The Study Team has been informed that the Committees have been playing a useful role.

3.10 Voluntary Organisations: There are a few reputed Voluntary Organisations in the State working amongst the Scheduled Tribes. The State Government has been making grants to Bharat Seva Ashram Sangh, Calcutta, Lepcha Association, Darjeeling, Bhutia Association, Darjeeling and Padmaja Naidu Arogyabas Jankalyan Samabay

Samity for schemes such as running of education and welfare centres, knitting and weaving centre and for encouragement of tribal culture. The Study Team feels that in a State like West Bengal where the tribal population is considerable, it should be possible to utilise the services of voluntary and non-official organisations in the tribal welfare programmes in a greater measure and recommends that the State Government may consider the question of providing more funds for grants to such agencies.

CHAPTER IV
DEVELOPMENT PLANS

4.1 First Five Year Plan: There was no specific programme for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in the First Five Year Plan, as originally formulated. Under Article 275(i) of the Constitution of India, the Government of India, however, used to give grants to the State for the development schemes relating to the Scheduled Tribes. The State Government supplemented this provision from out of their own funds on the basic principle that the contribution of the State Government would match the grant-in-aid received from the Government of India. These schemes were subsequently included in the Plan as 'analogus' schemes. In addition to what was undertaken as part of the Plan, out of the normal budget of the Education Department of the State Government, certain educational concessions were also granted for the Scheduled Tribes. The total expenditure incurred on the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in West Bengal during the First Plan period was Rs.86.9 lakhs. This was met as follows:

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Out of Grants-in-aid under Article 275(i) of the Constitution | Rs.34.7 lakhs |
| 2. Out of State Plan Provision | Rs.18.5 lakhs |
| 3. Out of the normal budget of the State Government | Rs.33.7 lakhs |
| Total: | <hr/> Rs.86.9 lakhs |

4.2 Second Five Year Plan: In the Second Plan, the dimensions of the tribal welfare programme were considerably enlarged. The Plan also marked the introduction of the centrally sponsored programme under which specific and additional schemes were approved by the Government of India for which it assumed full financial responsibility. The allotments made and expenditure incurred on the welfare of Scheduled Tribes under the State Plan and the Centrally sponsored schemes during the Second Plan period were as follows:

| | <u>Allotment</u> | <u>Expenditure</u> (Rs. in lakhs) | <u>Expenditure as percentage of allotment</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| State Plan | 141.55 | 101.19 | 71.48 |
| Centrally sponsored programmes | 65.00 | 49.28 | 75.82 |
| Total: | 206.55 | 150.47 | 72.85 |

In the State Sector, the highest allocation was made in the area of Health, Housing and other schemes. Among the individual schemes, the provision for payment of tuition fees of tribal students, covering about 46,000 students, accounted for the highest expenditure on any individual scheme. The second scheme in terms of money spent, was that of water supply in tribal areas; 1077 water sources were provided. Establishment of 57

Cooperative Graingolas was the third major scheme undertaken in the State Sector.

In the Centrally sponsored schemes also, emphasis was laid on Health, Housing and other schemes. Water supply (provision of 110 pipelines and 774 sources of water) and Housing (1664 houses completed and 496 taken up) accounted for a substantial expenditure. The physical achievements during the Second Plan are indicated in Annexure VI.

4.3 Third Five Year Plan: The tempo of developmental activities in the field of tribal welfare in the State Sector gathered further momentum during the Third Plan period. In regard to the Centrally sponsored programmes, however, the Plan allocation for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes was reduced. The figures of allocation and expenditure in both the State and Central sectors are as follows:

| | <u>Allocation</u> | <u>Expenditure</u> (Rs. in lakhs) | <u>Expenditure as percentage of allocation</u> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| State Plan | 192.11 | 176.37 | 91.8 |
| Centrally Sponsored Programme | 43.94 | 49.48 | 112.48 |
| Total: | 236.05 | 225.85 | 95.68 |

In the State Sector, educational programmes received the highest priority. Two major schemes, namely, payment of tuition fees and boarding charges covering 77681 and 15054 students respectively, accounted for about two-third of the total allocation for educational schemes. The major schemes in other areas were water supply (1389 water sources), minor irrigation (425 schemes) and Houses and House-sites (for 335 families). Among the Centrally sponsored programmes highest priority was given to the scheme for the starting of multi-purpose cooperative societies. In all 282 societies were established. The next major scheme was grant of post-matric scholarships to 1844 students. The physical achievements during the Third Plan are given in Annexure VII.

4.4 Fourth Plan: The Original Fourth Five Year Plan Draft Outline of the State prepared for the period 1966-1971 envisaged an outlay of Rs.273.00 lakhs for schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes. The distribution of the outlay among the different heads of development was as follows:

| <u>Head of Development</u> | <u>Outlay (Rs. in lakhs)</u> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Education | 166.20 |
| Economic Uplift | 63.30 |
| Health, Housing and Other Schemes | 43.50 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total: | 273.00 |
| | <hr/> |

4.5 Annual Plans: ~~After~~ the Third Five Year Plan, the State Govt. have so far prepared three Annual Plans, namely, for the years 1966-67, 1967-68 and 1968-69. An expenditure of Rs.32.87 lakhs was incurred on schemes for tribal welfare during 1966-67. The Annual Plan for 1967-68 provided for an outlay of Rs.41.55 lakhs for tribal welfare programmes and the anticipated expenditure is estimated to be of the same order. The approved outlay for tribal welfare programmes in the Annual Plan for 1968-69, which is currently in progress, is Rs.32.81 lakhs.

4.6 Review of Progress: Schemes under the Tribal Welfare Programme aim at an allround development of the tribal people. These programmes have, thus, necessarily to include schemes in various fields such as Education, Agriculture, Cooperation, Communication, Cottage Industries, etc. Among schemes in different fields educational schemes have been given high priority. The provision under Education was raised from Rs.36.5 lakhs in the Second Plan to Rs.90.30 lakhs in the Third Plan. (These figures do not include the provision for the grant of post-secondary scholarships). Despite this, the progress of education among the tribal communities has been quite slow as compared to that for general population in the State. Other tribal welfare schemes have been taken up on the premise that the tribal

population in the State, which lives interspersed with the general population, derives its due share from the general developmental schemes. As mentioned in the report elsewhere, detailed statistics as regards the benefits which the tribals have been deriving from these schemes are not available. Moreover, tribal customs and usages also vary and various tribes in West Bengal are at different stages of development. In order that the tribal population may derive full benefit from the schemes undertaken for their welfare, it is necessary that while drawing up these schemes, the needs and development of the tribes and the areas concerned are carefully assessed. This can be possible only through socio-economic surveys which the Study Team recommends should be conducted in the tribal areas by an Expert Team. The Study Team also recommends that the Central Government may meet the cost of these surveys.

4.7 Need for more Central Assistance: Though the outlay for/welfare of Scheduled Tribes has been increased in each successive Plan, the provision for Centrally sponsored schemes for tribal welfare in West Bengal was reduced considerably during the Third Plan. The State has been consequently hard hit, particularly because there are no Tribal Development Blocks in the State. While in other States, such as Bihar and Orissa, the per capita

expenditure on tribal welfare programmes under the Central Sector during the Third Plan works out to about seven rupees, in the case of West Bengal, the expenditure did not touch even half that figure, and was actually less than even three rupees. In all fairness, therefore, the State of West Bengal should be given more funds for tribal welfare programmes in the Central Sector.

CHAPTER V

LAND PROBLEM AND INDEBTEDNESS

5.1 Importance of Land in Tribal Life: Cultivation is the single largest economic activity among the tribals. The importance of land in the life of tribals in the State may be realised from the fact that out of a total number of 10,29,996 workers, 7,94,491 are engaged in agricultural pursuits - 5,02,070 as cultivators and 2,92,421 as agricultural labourers. The percentage of cultivators and agricultural labourers is thus a little over 77. The cultivator-agricultural labourer ratio among the tribals is 100:58 as compared to 100:40 in the total population.

5.2 Interest in Land: The following table shows the percentage of cultivating house-holds classified by interest in land in different categories among Scheduled Tribes and General population.

Table 8

INTEREST IN LAND

| <u>Classification</u> | <u>General Household</u> | <u>Scheduled Tribe Household</u> |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (i) Owned or held from Government | 65.64 | 47.73 |
| (ii) Held from private persons or Institutions | 13.34 | 35.36 |
| (iii) Partly held from Government and partly from private persons | 21.02 | 16.91 |

It will be seen that the percentage of share-croppers i.e. those holding land from private persons and institutions is far higher among the Scheduled Tribes than in the general population.

5.3 Land Holdings: According to the 20% Sample Survey of the cultivating tribal households in rural areas conducted during the 1961 Census, 10.95% of the Households had holdings of less than one acre, 33.90% had holdings ranging from 1.0 to 2.4 acres and 29.08% ranging from 2.5 to 4.9 acres. This 73.93% of the households had holdings below 5 acres. Particulars regarding the cultivating households and the size of holdings are given in Annexure VIII.

5.4 Uneconomic Holdings: The land in the possession of Scheduled Tribes is generally of an inferior quality and in this context a holding of five acres does not constitute an economic unit. Moreover, because of their economic weakness, the tribals are not in a position to make any investment in land to improve the yield. Availability of credit facilities is also very much limited in their case. Further, a large number of tribal households belong to the share-cropper's category. Though the rights of the share-croppers are protected by law, it is only the recorded share-croppers who can seek redress; and in the case of tribals, their rights are not always recorded in the Record-of-Rights. As a result, most of the tribals hardly enjoy any better status than ^{that} of agricultural labourers.

5.5 Land Alienation: Land alienation is a major economic problem in the State of West Bengal in so far as the tribals are concerned. To prevent alienation of tribal lands Chapter VII-A of Bengal Tenancy Act not only placed restrictions on the transfer of land by tribals, but also prohibited courts from ordering the sale of tribal lands in execution of a decree except for arrears of rents in which case the decree could be executable solely by the Collector. Later with the promulgation of the West Bengal Estate Acquisition Act 1954, the Bengal Tenancy Act became inoperative but the main provisions of Chapter VII-A were retained under the Estate Acquisition Rule 1954. Since November 1966, the West Bengal Land Reforms Amendment Act 1965, has been enforced. Chapter IIA of the said Act contains the provisions of the Chapter VIIA of the repealed Bengal Tenancy Act and also introduces some new features. Under this Act, a person belonging to/Scheduled Tribe cannot transfer his land to any person without the permission of the Revenue Officer and in case the purchaser happens to belong to a tribe other than that of the transferor, the Revenue Officer shall not give permission unless he is satisfied that a purchaser belonging to such tribe and willing to pay a fair market price is available.

5.6 Actual transfers of land: No detailed or reliable data are available as to how these Acts have in actual operation been able to protect the interests of tribals in land. However, a sample survey conducted by the State Cultural Research Institute in 1961 revealed that large areas of land had been alienated in the districts of Malda, West Dinajpur, Darjeeling, Birbhum, 24 Parganas, Bankura, Purpulia, Hooghly, Bidrdwan and Midnapur from 1957 to 1960. It was found that a large number of transfers had taken place in contravention of the legal prohibitions. Transfers were effected in two ways: (i) by concealing the name of the community and (ii) by not registering transfers i.e. without permission. On the matter coming to the Government's knowledge, these lands were later restored as provided under the law to the rightful tribal owners. Other facts which came to light as a result of this survey are:

- (i) land had been transferred to non-tribals in most of the cases;
- (ii) largest number of transfers involving bulk of the land took place after a natural calamity like floods etc. when the tribals were in desperate need of money;
- (iii) fair price had not been received in the majority of cases;
- (iv) reasons for sale were mentioned mostly as consumption.

5.7 A further study was undertaken by the Cultural Research Institute by collecting particulars regarding transfers of lands during the years 1960 to 1965 in all the districts. It appears that the data as required by the Cultural Research Institute could not be furnished by all the District Officers. Still some significant and useful information could be gathered from the data available. As regards the total cultivable lands possessed by the tribals, only 7 out of 15 districts furnished approximate figure totalling 1,34,305.2 acres. The tables prepared also revealed that though the number of transfers, the area transferred, etc., were quite high in 1960, these showed a gradual decline in subsequent years and in 1965, were considerably less in several districts.

On analysis of the grounds of transfers, it was found that indebtedness, obligation to meet daily necessities of life, poverty, medical expenditure and social commitments like Saradh, Marriage etc. accounted for about sixty per cent of the transfers.

5.8 Protection of Rights of Share Croppers: The West Bengal Land Reforms Act also protects the rights of share-croppers in general. Scheduled Tribes constituting a majority of the share-croppers are entitled to the protective measures of the Act. To help the tribals

the in/preservation of their rights in land certain executive measures had also been taken by the State Government. The State authorities, however, found that during the revisional settlements the tribals were being ousted from their lands through clever and clandestine manoeuvres. Special Kanungos were, therefore, appointed by the Tribal Welfare Department to take up the cases of tribals before settlement authorities and also to give the tribals proper advice and information so that they could get their rights properly recorded. Further, Government provided legal help by appointing pleaders to defend the tribals in Civil or Criminal Courts in any dispute concerning land.

Besides the protective measures mentioned earlier, Government have also taken certain ameliorative measures which consist mainly of executive instructions with regard to settlement of surplus vested land to the tribals. The subject has been dealt with in Chapter VII.

5.9 Indebtedness: No special legislation for controlling moneylending business with a view to protecting the interests of the tribals exclusively has been passed in the State of West Bengal. But, Bengal money-lenders Act 1940 as subsequently amended in 1950 and 1951 seeks to control and regulate the activities of money-lenders in the countryside in general. There are also penal sections for breach of the provisions of the Act.

Although there has not been any systematic and comprehensive study as to the extent of indebtedness among the tribal communities in the State, an exploratory survey undertaken on a limited scale by the Cultural Research Institute in 1960 showed that indebtedness was widespread and chronic among tribals both in land-owning and landless groups. The survey further revealed that excess of expenditure over income was mainly on ^{the} purchase of food, cloth, medicines, etc. Thus the remedy for reducing indebtedness among the tribal population lies in improving their economic condition. Side by side, it is necessary that long-term credit should be provided to wean them away from traditional money-lenders. The only way of doing so is to provide cheap and easy credit through cooperatives and through other Government agencies directly to the tribal population. Apart from the grain-gola scheme the State Government may explore the possibility of undertaking Purchase, Sale and Fair Price Shops Schemes as has been done in Orissa.

CHAPTER VI

EDUCATION

6.1 General: In the tribal welfare programmes undertaken by the State Government the main stress has been on education. In 1965-66, the provision made for educational programmes was Rs.53.75 lakhs. As against this the actual expenditure amounted to Rs.54.80 lakhs.

6.2 Position regarding literacy: The percentage of literacy among the Scheduled Tribes in the State is 6.55 as against 29.3 among the total population. The literacy percentages for males and females among the Scheduled Tribes population are 11.20 and 1.76 respectively as against 40.1 and 17 respectively among males and females for the total population in the State. Annexure IX contains information regarding the levels of literacy among Scheduled Tribes as well as the total population in the State.

6.3 Primary Education: Primary education is free in the rural areas of the State. There is, however, no provision ^{for the} _{of} sanction/any stipend in the shape of book grants etc. to the tribal students from the general development funds or the tribal welfare funds. The table below gives information regarding the total number of tribal children of age group 6-11 and actual number and percentage of children attending schools.

Table 9

Total number of children of Scheduled Tribes of age group 6-11 and actual number and percentage of children attending schools - 1963-64

.....

| Estimated number of children of age group 6-11 | | | Number of children in class I to V attending schools (age group 6-11) | | | Percentage of children attending schools | | |
|--|--------|--------|---|-------|--------|--|-------|-------|
| Boys | Girls | Total | Boys | Girls | Total | Boys | Girls | Total |
| 123288 | 119505 | 242792 | 84921 | 29570 | 114491 | 68.88 | 24.74 | 47.16 |

It will be seen from the above table that in the primary stage the enrolment of the tribal children was 47% during 1963-64. This compares very unfavourably with the enrolment for the State as a whole which was 70%. Further, in the case of tribal girls, the enrolment was still lower. It is necessary, therefore, to take steps to increase the enrolment of tribal students in the primary schools.

6.4 Need for more schools: Representations were made to the Study Team during its tours that the number of primary schools in the tribal areas was far from adequate. The Tribal Welfare Department is not running or maintaining any primary schools. However, it sanctions grants for the construction of school buildings. Such grants are given at a rate not exceeding Rs.5,000 per school. Due to limitation of funds, the grants have generally to be confined to about twenty schools every

year. However, the State Government is alive to the need for the opening of more schools; but for this purpose more funds would be needed. It would also be necessary for the Education Department to relax the norms prescribed for the opening of schools as well as the pupil teacher ratio while considering proposals for the opening of new schools in tribal areas. The Study Team is glad to know that the Tribal Welfare Department is engaged in finding out the number of villages, having a tribal population of 200 or more, which are without schooling facilities, so that a phased programme for covering these villages with primary schools can be drawn up.

6.5 Medium of Instruction: Bengali is the medium of instruction in schools in the State. Representations were made to the Study Team during its tour of the tribal areas that it was necessary that teaching in the primary stage should be imparted through the mother tongue. This demand is in consonance with the recommendation made by the Education Commission that the medium of education in the first two years of the schools should be the tribal language of the community and books should be specially prepared in these languages for use at this stage. The Study Team was also informed that a Tribal Language Committee appointed by the State Government had gone into this

matter at great length and had recommended inter-alia

that:

- (i) "Mother tongues of the tribes of this State should be recognised as bridge languages for ultimate switch over to the regional language.
- (ii) If in any area (with a radius of 1 mile or less) there be 40 or more children of primary school going age belonging to any tribe, arrangement should be made to impart primary education to them through their mother tongue.
- (iii) Text books in their mother tongue need, however, be prepared in case of the following tribes only: Santal, Lepcha, Bhutia, Mech and Garo. Text books in regional language should also be introduced in the case of the other tribes, separate text books in their mother tongue are not necessary, but teachers should be appointed to communicate the contents of the text books, written in regional language or allied language through their mother tongue.
- (iv) Distinction need be made between text books on the language subject and text books on other subjects.

In case of the Lepcha, Bhutia, Mech and Garo, text books in their mother tongue need be introduced only in the language subject. Text books in other subjects may be prepared in the regional language, i.e. in Nepali in case of the Lepcha and Bhutia and in Bengali in case of the Mech and Garo.

In case of the Santhal the correct approach should be determined empirically. At the outset, text books in other than language subject may continue to be the regional language. But option may be given to students to answer questions in their mother tongue. After five years the position may be reviewed and, if considered

necessary, text books, written in Santali on other subjects as well, may be accorded recognition. It may be noted here that, at present there is practically no Santali text book on other subjects. Hence apart from the desirability of empirical approach described above, it will not also be possible to introduce Santali text books on other subjects immediately, because of lack of such books."

The Study Team understands that the State Government has already decided to have suitable text books prepared in Santali for primary students, neo-literates and for supplementary reading in schools. This is proposed to be done by translations of books on a wide range of subjects in other languages. Since the subject has already been gone into in detail by an Expert Committee, the Study Team would only urge that the recommendation of the Committee should be implemented as soon as possible.

6.6 Ashram Facilities in Basic Schools: It is the policy of the Education Department to orient the primary education into basic school pattern gradually. With this object in view, every year more and more primary schools are converted into junior basic schools and senior basic schools are also set up at suitable places. In setting up junior basic schools the Education Department stipulates local contribution towards the cost of construction. In order to enable the tribals to take advantage of the scheme, the local contribution was

provided by the Tribal Welfare Department during the first three Plan periods. Ashram facilities are also provided in senior basic schools. Under the scheme Government gives grants for construction of hostels attached to senior basic schools as well as for the maintenance of 20 (in some cases upto 30) students in the hostels. Government also bears the cost of appointing a Superintendent. So far 11 Ashram hostels have been constructed for Scheduled Tribes boys.

6.7 Appointment of tribal teachers: The State Government are alive to the need of appointing tribal teachers in schools where the percentage of tribal students is high. In view of the shortage of tribal teachers, the minimum qualification of teachers for primary schools has been relaxed to middle pass. However, it was brought to the notice of the Study Team that due to procedural delays, their appointments took considerable time. It is necessary to simplify the procedure so as to eliminate delays.

6.8 Secondary Education: The tribal students in the Secondary stages of education are paid tuition fees and other compulsory school charges upto an average rate of Rs.90/- per student per year from the tribal welfare funds. The Tribal Welfare Department also provides boarding charges and book grants and stipends in deserving cases.

Due to limitation of funds, however, it is not possible for the Tribal Welfare Department to extend these facilities to all the tribal students. These grants are, therefore, awarded on merit-cum-poverty basis. Besides, students appearing in Higher Secondary Examination and School Final Examination are paid examination fee at the rate of Rs.25/- and Rs.20/- per student respectively.

During its tour of the tribal areas, representations were made to the Study Team that there was delay in the payment of scholarships and fees to the tribal students. It is necessary to streamline the procedure so as to avoid any hardship to the students. In so far as the tuition fee is concerned, the Team feels that it should be possible for the Institutes concerned to claim the money directly from the Government. It was also represented to the Study Team that the rates of boarding charges, namely Rs.22/- per month per student in rural areas and Rs.27/- per month per student in urban areas were rather low and an increase was called for. It was later learnt from the State officials that a proposal to raise the charges was already under ^{the} consideration of the Government. The Study Team is glad to know that the rates have since been increased to Rs.30/- and Rs.35/- in the rural and urban areas respectively. The increased amounts are, however, still not sufficient,

Keeping in view the ~~steep~~ rise in prices and would, therefore, need to be further enhanced. With regard to the progress of education at the Secondary stage among the tribal communities, it may be stated that only 8.58% of the expected number of tribal school going students in the secondary stage were actually attending schools during 1962. The corresponding figure for Scheduled Castes was 14.61% while for the other communities it was 40.94%.
X
The statement in Annexure^X gives the district-wise progress chart in this regard.

6.9 Hostel Facilities: The Tribal Welfare Department gives grants for construction of hostels for tribal students and also makes monthly payments to the tribal boarders. So far 45 hostels have been constructed. This number is quite inadequate considering the tribal population in the State. The Sub-Committee of the Tribes Advisory Council appointed by the Tribal Welfare Department to make suggestions in connection with the tribal welfare schemes had estimated that 100 hostels with 50 seats in each were immediately needed and that the requirement would increase by at least 50% at the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan. The Committee had also recommended that in every district where the tribal population exceeded 90,000 there should at least be one tribal hostel for the

boys and one for the girls at the district headquarters. Similarly, in every outlying sub-division where the tribal population exceeded 30,000 there should at least be one hostel for tribal boys and one for girls in the town which may be having at least one school for girls. The Study Team considers it absolutely necessary to increase the hostel facilities for accelerating the pace of education among the tribal communities in the State and recommends that the State Government may take up the work of opening more hostels on a bigger scale than heretofore.

6.10 Wastage and Stagnation: According to an educational survey for the year 1962 carried out by the Cultural Research Institute of the Government of West Bengal, it was found that the percentage of stagnation among the tribal students in the higher classes namely IX and X was particularly high.

The percentage of stagnation is shown in the table below:

Table 10

PERCENTAGE STAGNATION

| <u>Class</u> | <u>Percentage of Stagnation</u> |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| V | 25.4 |
| VI | 29.2 |
| VII | 34.7 |
| VIII | 40.5 |
| IX | 53.6 |
| X | 78.6 |

The survey revealed that the high incidence of stagnation and wastage among tribal students ^{was} mainly due to lack of proper home environment and other disabilities from which the tribal students suffer. The State Government are seized of the problem and have already undertaken the following steps to remedy the situation.

- (i) Special coaching to students of higher classes viz. class IX, X and XI both in Humanities and Science in selected schools. This scheme has, in fact, been in operation for several years now, but has not shown encouraging results owing to several factors. The position is now being reviewed by the State Government. It is felt that coaching at lower levels with a view to making the students strong at the base might be more fruitful. The Study Team agrees with this approach and recommends that suitable programmes may be drawn up for this purpose.
- (ii) Setting up more hostels attached to Secondary Schools to give the students facilities of studying away from their uncongenial home atmosphere. This has already been dealt with in para 6.9.

Recently the State Government have proposed the following measures:

- (i) Setting up Residential schools in selected localities. Under the scheme drawn up by the State Government, it is proposed to open two schools to start with. Each school will accommodate 600 students half of whom will be drawn from non-tribals to avoid segregation and provide to the tribal boys better chances for competition. There will be provision for day-scholars also. The schools will have diversified courses like agriculture, technical, etc. so that the education is employment-oriented. The admission to these schools is proposed to be on a selective basis in order to maintain

standards. The Study Team regrets to note that the scheme has not yet been finalised and implemented for lack of necessary funds. The Team considers that the scheme is a useful one and would, therefore, urge its early implementation.

- (ii) Opening of pre-vocational centres in tribal areas. This scheme is intended to cater to the needs of tribal boys between the ages of 11 and 14, who are unable to continue general education or are more suitable for vocational training than for general courses. The students will be taught general subjects like language, elementary mathematics, social studies, science etc., as well as given training in vocations like agriculture, fitting, turning, sheet metal work etc. This scheme is also not yet in operation.

6.11 Girls' Education: It will be seen from the enrolment figures contained in Table No.9 that the gap between boys' education and girls' education is very wide. Concerted efforts are, therefore, necessary to accelerate the pace of education among girls. It may be necessary for this purpose to open more schools exclusively for girls in the tribal areas with proper hostel facilities. The Team suggests that the question of ^{the} opening of Ashram type schools for girls may be considered by the State Government.

6.12 Post-Secondary Education: The Government of India's inland post-matric scholarship scheme for Scheduled Tribes students is in vogue in the State. Scheduled Tribes students can freely avail themselves of scholarships under the scheme and there is no merit or means

test. Information regarding the award of post-matric scholarships during the last few years is given in the following table:

Table 11

Statement showing the progress regarding award of Government of India Post-Matric scholarships to Scheduled Tribes Students

...

| Year | Number of Scholarships awarded/ paid | | | Expenditure incurred during the year |
|---------|---|---------|-------|--|
| | Fresh | Renewal | Total | |
| 1961-62 | 178 | 140 | 318 | 1,43,000 |
| 1962-63 | 162 | 98 | 260 | 1,44,278 |
| 1963-64 | 240 | 130 | 370 | 1,99,915 |
| 1964-65 | 285 | 137 | 422 | 2,22,935 |
| 1965-66 | 301 | 175 | 476 | 2,56,441 |
| 1966-67 | 345 | 238 | 583 | 2,93,600 |

Although the number of students taking advantage of the scheme has been increasing year by year, the progress achieved can not be regarded satisfactory. As against 13,061 students of the age group 14-17 studying in the secondary schools during 1962-63, there were only 583 students in receipt of post-matric scholarships during 1966-67. This works out roughly to 4% of the secondary students. If, however, the estimated number of all the tribal population of college going age is to be considered, the percentage will be negligibly small. This is surprising since there is provision for ^{the} grant of scholarships to all tribal students securing admission in colleges.

It was understood from the State officials that there is no reservation for tribal students in the various colleges. This fact, among others, may perhaps be standing in the way of tribal students who are not very bright or who cannot otherwise compete with the students among the general population in securing admission in the colleges. It is suggested that the Cultural Research Institute of the State Government may study this matter in detail with a view to making recommendations as to how the pace of enrolment of tribal students in the colleges can be accelerated. Meanwhile, the question of reservation of seats in the various colleges for the tribal students may be considered by the State Government.

6.13 Technical Education (including Medical): There are technical institutions in the State imparting education for diploma and degree at post-graduate level. There are junior technical schools for junior Diploma courses and polytechnics for Diploma courses. Besides, there are Industrial Training Institutes which provide training in different vocational trades and award Trade Certificates on successful completion of the courses. For the degree and post graduate courses, there are the Engineering Colleges. There are also Colleges of (1) Leather Technology (2) Textile Technology and (3) Ceramic Technology, in the State.

6.14 Reservation of Seats for Tribal Students: There is a five per cent reservation of seats for tribals in the Polytechnics, Engineering Colleges and the Industrial Training Institutes. But it has^{been} reported that tribal students are not available in sufficient numbers for these courses because too few of them come out of the Secondary stage with Science and Mathematics. Even while studying in general colleges, the majority of tribal boys take courses in humanities and not in Science.

In the field of Medical education as well there is reservation of seats for tribal boys which is fixed from year to year, but it is not utilised mostly owing to the reasons stated above. There is also a Pharmacy Training Centre at Jalpaiguri but it seldom gets any tribal students. In order that tribal students may take up higher studies in technical subjects, there is need for arranging for them special coaching in Science and Mathematics at an early stage, say from middle standard.

6.15 Adult Literacy Programme: In the field of adult literacy grants are given by the State Government to a few night-schools run by non-official agencies. There are also 39 Welfare Centres in the State to which night schools are attached. During 1966-67, the State Education Department sanctioned the establishment of 500 one-teacher Pathshalas for special educational facilities for the

unschooled or out of school people as a part of its anti-illiteracy drive under the Social Education Programme. This scheme was specially intended to serve the educationally backward communities i.e., the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes.

CHAPTER VII

AGRICULTURE

7.1 Importance of agriculture: According to the 1961 Census, out of the total tribal population of 20,54,081 in the state, 10,29,996 persons were workers. Of these, 5,02,070 i.e. 48 per cent were cultivators and 2,92,421, i.e. 28 per cent were engaged as agricultural labourers. Thus, agriculture is the mainstay of an overwhelming majority of the tribal population in the state. This being the case, the importance of agriculture in any programme of tribal development needs no emphasis.

7.2 Preference to landless Scheduled Tribes in the allotment of Khas lands: In view of a large number of persons among the tribals being mere agricultural labourers, the fundamental need is to settle them on land. Section 49 of the West Bengal Land Reforms Act 1955 provides for the settlement of surplus land which has vested in the State as a result of the abolition of zamindari system with landless agriculturists. No reservation for allotment of such land has been made for the Scheduled Tribes though the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission (1961) had recommended in their report that landless tribals should be given first preference in the matter of distribution and allotment of khas lands. The State Government do not seem to favour any reservations for

Scheduled Tribes in this matter as they feel that the existing arrangement whereby the local Special Officers of the department entrusted with the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes participate in the meetings of the Block Level Land Reforms Advisory Committees with a view to watching the interest of the tribals has been working satisfactorily. No statistics are, however, available with regard to lands so far allotted to the Scheduled Tribes. The Study Team feels that there is a strong case for the State Government to revise its stand*.

7.3 Agricultural Schemes: Apart from the development programmes undertaken in the general sector of the Plan for agriculture, the Tribal Welfare Department has also been spending some amounts on agricultural schemes in the tribal areas. During the Third Plan, 425 minor irrigation schemes were taken up, 1717 families were given assistance for purchase of agricultural lands and house-sites and 2111 acres of waste land were reclaimed and developed. In view of the fact that over three-fourth of the State's tribal population is engaged in agriculture, more emphasis should be laid on agricultural programmes and for this purpose the provision for agricultural schemes should be increased. Ways and means would also

*The Team understands that the Board of Revenue, West Bengal, has since issued instructions that persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be given preference at the time of allotment of khas and vested lands.

need to be devised to ensure that the tribals receive an adequate share of the benefits of the agricultural development programmes undertaken in the general sector.

7.4 Animal Husbandry and Poultry Farming: Animal Husbandry and poultry farming, if developed on scientific lines, can become an important source of subsidiary income to the tribals. For the economic uplift of the tribal people, the Tribal Welfare Department has the following animal husbandry schemes:

- (i) Goat Keeping: 118 blocks, each with two he-goats and 30 she-goats, have been established in different districts. The aim is to supply goats to the tribals having no goat.
- (ii) Sheep-rearing: With a view to providing sheep to tribal families having no sheep, 6 blocks, each with two rams and 30 ewes have been established in different districts.
- (iii) Pig rearing: 160 blocks, each with 2-boars and 30 sows, have been established in different districts. More pig-rearing blocks are being opened.

Besides, stud-bulls were distributed for the improvement of livestock in tribal areas during the First and Second Plan Periods. Although further supply was stopped in the Third Plan, maintenance grants are still being paid to the keepers of these bulls. Similar maintenance grants are being paid to the keepers of male animals in the case of other schemes. Although considerable expenditure has been incurred on these schemes, no information was available as to the extent to which the

Schemes have benefited the tribal people. It is also doubtful if the bulls supplied during the First and Second Plans are still able to provide effective service. The Team suggests that the State Government may re-examine the suitability of the animal-husbandry schemes undertaken under the tribal welfare programme.

CHAPTER VIII

FORESTS

8.1 Area under Forests: Forests in West Bengal cover an area of 11,779 sq. kilometres. This works out to 13.6% of the total land area of the State.

8.2 Legal Status and Control: The area under reserved forests comprises 6972 sq. kilometres while that under the protected forests is 4,079 sq. kilometres. The remaining area namely 728 sq. kilometres is unclassified. Almost the entire forest area is under the control of the Forest Department as will be seen from the table below:

Table 12

FOREST AREA BY OWNERSHIP 1961-62

| | <u>Sq. Kilometres</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Forest Department | 11,422 |
| 2. Civil Authorities | 238 |
| 3. Corporate bodies | 70 |
| 4. Private individuals | 49 |

Most of the forests are located in the districts of Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Midnapore, Bankura, Purlia, and 24 Parganas. Tribals are found in large numbers in and around these forests on which they depend for their livelihood.

8.3 Tribal Rights in Forests: The Study Team could not get detailed information regarding the rights of tribals in forests. It was, however, mentioned that the tribals are allowed to remove headloads of fuel at concessional

rates for domestic consumption. They are also allowed to collect minor forest produce like honey, wax, etc. Moreover, Annual Hunt Festivals connected with the socio-religious life of the tribals are allowed in the forests in Bankura and Purlia districts.

8.4 Tribal Claims on Forests: Forests have been a constant source of friction between the tribals on the one hand and the Forest Department on the other since Independence. The tribals claim that they enjoyed the following customary rights and privileges by virtue of their being natives born and bred up in the forest areas and wholly dependent for their livelihood on the forest produce.

- (a) Use of forest trees for fire-wood, construction and repairs of dwelling houses.
- (b) Collection of minor forest produce, such as wild potatoes and other edible roots and tubers, oil seeds like mahua, kusum, neem, karanjete, mahua flowers, tassar cocoon seeds, medical plants and fruits like Karitaki, Amlaki, Satmul, Anantmul, honey, kend leaves, Sal leaves, Simul, Resin.
- (c) Cultivation of forest land for growing food crops.
- (d) Grazing of cattle on forest land.
- (e) Hunting and fishing

8.5 Restrictions by Forest Department: The tribals complain that on account of the following impediments and restrictions imposed by the forest administration they have been put to grave hardship.

- (i) Cattle trenches have been dug around the forest areas thus preventing free flow of water in the arable lands cultivated by the Tribes.
- (ii) High rates have been charged for permits for collection of minor forest produce particularly for Tassar cocoon seeds.
- (iii) Grazing has been prohibited.
- (iv) Agricultural lands cultivated by the tribals within the forest areas have been recorded as forest in the record of rights without the knowledge of the tribals and they are being asked to vacate the land.
- (v) Hunting and fishing have been prohibited.

The Forest Department on the other hand contend that forests are important national wealth and allege that the tribals are responsible for indiscriminate and wanton destruction of trees and wild life of the forests. Hence no such unrestricted rights and privileges can be granted to them. While the Tribal Welfare Department agrees that the forest wealth should be preserved in the best national interest and the tribal claims to the continuance of the unrestricted rights over the forest produce which they might have enjoyed before the introduction of Forest Act and Rules cannot be wholly conceded, it feels nevertheless that the fact must be recognised that the tribals have special claims over the forest and forest produce.

8.6 Ministers' Coordination Committee: The Study

Team understands that the whole question of tribal rights in forests has been the subject of protracted discussion and negotiation between the Tribal Welfare and the Forest Departments. A Coordination Committee of Ministers of different departments appointed in 1965 a Sub-Committee with the representatives of the Forest, Tribal Welfare and the Cooperation Departments, to report on the following points:

- (a) Rights of the tribals on the use of forest produce.
- (b) Formation of Forest Cooperatives and Labourers' Cooperatives; and
- (c) Terms and conditions for the issue of licences by the Forest Department to the tribals for the collection of Tassar Cocoons;

The Sub-Committee made the following recommendations:

- (1) For enjoyment of privileges and concessions over forest and forest produce the tribals should be broadly divided into two classes, viz.
 - (a) Those living inside the Forest areas and wholly and substantially dependent on forest and forest produce for their livelihood; and
 - (b) Those living outside the forest area and not so dependent on forest and forest produce.

For category (a) the following concessions and facilities may be granted by issue of permits on payment of nominal charges.

- (i) Collection of firewood for use as fuel and minor timber for construction and repair of dwelling houses.
- (ii) Agricultural lands for growing crops may be leased out to them on a nominal rent on year to year basis.
- (iii) Grazing of cattle in the fields.
- (iv) Collection of minor forest produce such as kendu leaves, sal leaves, simul, resin, edible tubers, oil seeds and medicinal herbs.
- (v) Rearing and collection of Tassar Coccons.
- (vi) Fishing

For category (b)

- (i) Collection of firewood for their day to day consumption.
- (ii) Formation of Forest Labourers' Cooperatives on the pattern of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

The Coordination Committee could not, however, meet to consider the recommendations of the Sub-Committee and it is understood that no final decision has yet been taken in the matter. The Study Team feels that to avoid any hardship to the tribal dwellers in forests, an early decision should be taken on the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of the Coordination Committee so that they might be implemented to the best advantage of the tribals.

8.7 Forest Villages: Some forest villages have been established by the Forest Department in Jalpaiguri district to ensure regular supply of labour for such works as survey and demarcation, felling, extraction, road making, building constructions, etc. The forest villages are mostly established in remote areas which are far away from regular agricultural villages. The general conditions governing the forest villages are:

- (i) The Forest Department and its contractors have the first claim on the labour of the forest villagers on payment of wage at the market rate.
- (ii) These villagers may not accept other employment without the sanction of the Forest Department and are expected to obey the orders of the Divisional Forest Officer.

8.8 With a view to attracting the settlers a number of privileges are sanctioned such as allotment of cultivable land to support the settler and his family, free grazing for cattle, free removal of thorns and wood needed for bonafide agricultural purposes; bamboo wood and grass for house building and repairs, leaves, edible fruits, flowers and roots for domestic purposes, etc. These privileges are enjoyed only by the villages which have been declared as forest villages by the Forest Department though it appears that there are a number of other similar villages in and around the forests. The Team suggests that the question of declaring these villages also as forest villages may be considered so that the tribals inhabiting these villages may also take advantage of the privileges granted to forest villagers as well as be of use to the Forest Department in forest operations.

8.9 Forest Labourers Cooperatives: Although a provision was made in the Third Five Year Plan for the setting up of forest labourers cooperatives to collect minor forest produce, it appears that it has not been possible to implement the scheme successfully. Recently, however,

two Forest Labourers Cooperatives have been formed with a view to securing labour contracts from the Forest Department. Since the Cooperatives have only been recently established, it is too early to review their working. However, to ensure that the scheme proves a success, it is necessary that the Forest Department provides the necessary facilities to these Cooperatives, such as exemption from payment of earnest money and security deposit and also preference for their bids within a minimum percentage, say $12\frac{1}{2}\%$ above the lowest bid as has been done in some other States.

8.10 Forest Industries in Public Sector: The Forest Department proposes to undertake a scheme for the creation of forest based industries in the public sector. The intention is to make potential investors interested in industries which have not been so far taken up on any large scale by entrepreneurs in the State, for example, hard-board industry, saw dust briquettes. Side by side, it would be useful to consider how best to benefit the tribals when such industries are established. One way could be to train selected tribals for skilled jobs in these industries.

8.11 Minor Forest Produce: The forests of West Bengal are reported to contain significant quantities of minor forest produce and offer considerable potential for exploitation. The Forest Department have drawn up a

scheme for this purpose. The manner in which the services of the tribals could be utilised in these activities so that they could also derive the maximum benefit from forests, should be examined by the Tribal Welfare Department in consultation with the Forest Department.

8.12 Employment in Forests: Forests have considerable scope for the employment of tribals and the Forest Department should make it a point to employ them as Forest Guards. Apart from the tribals getting employment in the forests, such a step will help in another way in that the tribals could be made more responsible towards forests in respect of which they would, by virtue of their employment, have to play the role of guardians.

CHAPTER IX

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

(a) Medical

9.1 Common Diseases: No medical survey appears to have been undertaken among the tribal communities in the State. Little factual data is, therefore, available regarding the prevalence of diseases among them. From general information, received by the State Government however, TB, VD, Leprosy, etc. can be mentioned as the common diseases among the tribal people.

9.2 Medical Programmes: There are no special programmes for tribals in the field of medical and **public health** and they are generally expected to be covered by the medical development programmes undertaken under the general health programme of the State. To supplement these efforts, however, some specific schemes have been taken up by the State Government to provide medical facilities to the tribal people. These are:

T.B.: Fifty beds for tribal T.B. patients have been reserved in various hospitals and sanatoria in the State on payment from the tribal welfare funds. An additional number of 23 beds have been reserved by the Health Department out of their own funds.

Leprosy: 8 Leprosy clinics are being maintained in the tribal areas.

V.D.: There is one mobile dispensary-cum-VD Unit functioning in North Bengal.

During the course of its visit to the State, representations were made to the Study Team that subsidiary health centres might be opened in areas with tribal concentration. The State Government may consider this suggestion.

9.3 Inadequacy of existing facilities: The Study Team did not have any occasion to go round any T.B. Hospital. It was learnt, however, that the number of beds reserved for tribal patients in the T.B. Hospitals were inadequate with the result that there was inordinate delay in their securing admissions in the Hospitals. It is, therefore, recommended that more beds may be reserved in the T.B. Hospitals for the tribal patients and the procedure for admission to the Hospitals simplified. It would also be useful if T.B. Survey Units are set up in all the districts.

9.4 It was represented to the Study Team that the existing number of leprosy clinics was quite insufficient. This is because of the fact that the activities of the leprosy clinics generally remained confined to a radius of five miles though they were supposed to cover larger areas. For the effective control of the disease, it is necessary that the existing clinics should be upgraded to control units and provided with the requisite number of sub-clinics for extensive as well as intensive leprosy control work. There is also need for reservation of beds

for the tribal patients in general Leprosy Hospitals as the tribal patients suffering from infectious cases of leprosy wishing to undergo treatment in such hospitals experience difficulty in securing admission, because of various factors.

9.5 The Study Team had the benefit of discussing the problem of leprosy with the Superintendent, Gouripore Leprosy Colony in Bankura District. There were 102 tribal in-patients in the Colony at the time of the Team's visit. Among them 31 were students. It was felt that if suitable teaching material could be provided, the time of the tribal students could be well spent for educative purposes while undergoing treatment in the Colony. It was also noticed that there were no arrangements for occupational training in the Colony. Such training is necessary as quite often the leprosy patients become deformed with the result that they cannot follow or pursue their original occupations. In these circumstances, vocational training during their stay in the colony proves most valuable to them. The Study Team, therefore, recommends that occupational Therapy-cum-Vocational Training Centres may be established in the Leprosy Clinics having a sizeable number of patients. It would also be necessary to arrange for vocational training to the tribal patients after they are discharged from the colonies. The Study Team was glad to learn that

there was a Training Centre for ex-leprosy patients in Bishnupur. It appears, however, that the capacity of this Centre is rather limited. The State Government may like to examine the need for opening more Training Centres as well as for raising the number of seats in the existing one. It may also be useful to reserve some seats for ^{ex-}leprosy patients in the general Training Centres.

9.6 Preventive Measures: It was represented to the Study Team that as in the other parts of the country, tribal people were reluctant to get themselves vaccinated or inoculated. This was because of lack of awareness as well as on account of apathy. It is, therefore, necessary to undertake a concerted programme of health education in the tribal areas. In this context, the Study Team was glad to know that the State Government were already formulating a scheme for training of tribals as Health Assistants. Another important step taken by the State Government in this direction was the launching of a scheme for the training of tribal girls as General Duty Assistants and for their subsequent absorption in the Hospitals and Health Centres. The results of this scheme would be watched with interest by other States which have not launched any such scheme as yet.

(b) Water Supply

9.7 Sources for Water Supply and need for Survey:

Although the Scheduled Tribe communities in West Bengal live interspersed with the general population, they generally reside in separate hamlets alongside the village or sometimes even at a certain distance. The implementation of water supply programme in the general sector may not, therefore, adequately meet the needs of the tribal people. The State Government are conscious of this fact and have been undertaking water supply schemes under the tribal welfare programme. During the First Plan Period alone, 7700 new water supply sources were tapped in the tribal areas and arrangements made for water supply. Subsequently, 2,158 and 1,626 sources of water supply were added during the Second and Third Plan periods respectively. However, no estimates are, at present, available of the number of tribal villages with inadequate or without any water supply sources. The Study Team recommends that a survey may be conducted urgently to locate the villages which have inadequate or un-satisfactory water supply arrangements so that suitable schemes for meeting the water supply needs in the tribal areas may be undertaken in a comprehensive way. This is particularly necessary as the nature, type and cost of water supply schemes in the State vary from place to place

according to the nature of the soil and the terrain. For instance, different types of schemes such as shallow tube wells, deep tubewells, RCC wells, masonry wells etc. are suitable for the plain areas while in the case of hill areas schemes for piped water supply may have to be undertaken.

9.5 Maintenance of Water Supply Works: Another deficiency noticed by the Study Team in regard to water supply schemes undertaken under the tribal welfare programme is the lack of provision for maintenance of such works. The Department of Tribal Welfare has no technical field staff which could look after the maintenance of water supply schemes. As a result the schemes taken up under the tribal welfare funds generally go out of operation after some time. The Study Team is glad to note that the Tribal Welfare Department have recently arranged with the Health Department for the maintenance of the water supply schemes by the Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering.

CHAPTER X
COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 Additional Roads for Tribal Areas: The wide dispersal of the tribal population throughout the State and the manner in which the tribal communities live interspersed with the general population, make it impossible as well as unnecessary to undertake any separate large scale road programmes specifically for the benefit of the tribal people. Their requirements are met to a great extent by the road development programmes undertaken under the general development programmes in the State, which aim at building up, in a phased manner, a network of different types of roads down to the village level so that every concentration of population may be brought within easy access of an integrated system of roads in course of time. The road development programme as originally drawn up by the State Government had, however, to be re-adjusted to fit in with the reduced outlay. Nevertheless, there has been considerable progress in this direction. The objective of the State's Fourth Plan (original Draft Outline) is to carry the benefit of the already existing road network to the interior countryside. However, certain tribal hamlets are away from the main roads and it is necessary to make them easily approachable all the year round. For this purpose, the Tribal Welfare Department has been undertaking schemes for the construction

wooden bridges, masonry culverts and improvement of the kucha village roads. Under the tribal welfare funds, 41 miles of roads and 29 miles of village roads were constructed during the First Plan period. 70 miles of roads and about 100 culverts, bridges and causeways were added during the Second Plan period. During the Third Plan period, 8 bridges and 15 culverts were constructed and 17 miles of village roads were improved.

10.2 Maintenance of roads in tribal areas: The main defect in the communications schemes taken up under the tribal welfare programme seems to be lack of provision for the maintenance and upkeep of roads and other works. It is also necessary to ensure that there is adequate coordination between the Roads Department and the Tribal Welfare Department so that side by side with the extension of network of roads to the countryside, road programme for tribal hamlets could also be taken up by the Tribal Welfare Department. The programmes hitherto taken up by the Tribal Welfare Department seem to have been undertaken on an ad hoc basis. It is necessary to draw up a prospective plan for the development of road communications in the tribal areas and for this purpose, adequate funds should be provided in the tribal welfare budget.

10.3 The Tribal Welfare Department have at present no technical staff which could undertake periodical repairs. It is necessary that some arrangements are made whereby

it is possible to undertake timely repairs so that the works do not fall into disuse for lack of maintenance thereby rendering the entire expenditure infructuous. The Study Team recommends that the works, after construction, may be taken over for maintenance by the Roads Department. In some cases, however, it may be expedient to make the Panchayats or local bodies responsible for such works. For this purpose suitable grants may be made to them.

CHAPTER XI

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, COOPERATION & PANCHAYATS

11.1 Community Development Programme / ^{Under} The Community Development Programme covers the entire rural area of the State ^{covered by} a network of 341 delimited blocks. As on September 30, 1967 there were 186 blocks in Stage I, 110 blocks in Stage II and 45 blocks in Post-Stage II. These blocks covered a population of 301 lakhs, 385000 villages and an area of 874 sq. kms. No specific study has been made as to the extent to which the activities of the Community Development Blocks have benefited the tribals. It was represented, however, that the local contribution inherent in the Community Development Programme was standing in the way of tribals deriving adequate benefit from schemes undertaken under the Community Development Programme. It was explained by the State officials that in the case of tribals cash contribution was not insisted upon and they could make contribution in kind in the form of labour, etc. This may, however, not be possible at all times, particularly ^{insistence on cash contribution} during the busy seasons. In any case ^{insistence on cash contribution} will deprive the tribals of the meagre income which they could otherwise earn by taking up other vocations and will really entail hardship, if the tribals are to forego their wages for the labour which they may have to put in

for works taken up under the Community Development Programme. It was learnt that schemes which benefit the tribals exclusively are taken up independently by the Tribal Welfare Department at full Government cost. The Study Team feels that since the Community Development Programme is intended for the benefit of the tribals as well as the general population and the funds under the tribal welfare programme are rather limited, the schemes from the tribal welfare funds should be undertaken to supplement and not supplant the funds which could be utilised for tribal development from the general sector. The Team, therefore, suggests that either the tribals should be exempted from making contribution in cash or kind in schemes which may be taken up under the Community Development Programme for their benefit or their contribution should be met from the tribal welfare funds.

11.2 Sub-Blocks Schemes: There are no Tribal Development Blocks in West Bengal since the tribals live interspersed with the general population and there are no areas in the State fulfilling the criteria followed for the opening of Tribal Development Blocks, until the end of the Third Plan, namely two-thirds or more tribal population, an area of 150-200 sq.miles, viability to function as an administrative unit and a population of about 25,000. The Original Fourth Five Year Plan Draft

Outline (1966-71) visualised taking up Tribal Development Blocks in areas with more than fifty per cent population, but no Block could be set up in West Bengal even on this basis as none of the tribal areas in the State fulfilled ^{even} the revised criterion. Ad hoc assistance for the development of tribal pockets in the State in lieu of Tribal Development Blocks was, therefore, sanctioned by the Government of India for West Bengal during the year 1966-67. Under the scheme, which is called the Sub-Block Scheme, the area selected continues to receive the benefit of development from the Community Development funds in addition to the assistance provided under the scheme.

11.3 Sub-Block the
The scheme is meant for/intensive development of tribal pockets having a concentration of 50% or more of tribal population. There is no fixed criterion as to the area that it should cover. It may be one village or even a part of village or several villages in the same block or several blocks. It is understood that utmost flexibility has been allowed in the matter of formulation of programmes under this scheme and no pattern or financial limit has been set. Local officers are, however, expected to make a thorough survey and draw up schemes on the basis of actual and felt needs of the area and the people with a view to securing their allround

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11.3 The Sub-Block scheme is meant for intensive development of tribal pockets having a concentration of 50% or more of tribal population. There is no fixed criterion as to the area that it should cover. It may be one village or even a part of village or several villages in the same block or several blocks. It is understood that utmost flexibility has been allowed in the matter of formulation of programmes under this scheme and no pattern or financial limit has been set. Local officers are, however, expected to make a thorough survey and draw up schemes on the basis of actual and felt needs of the area and the people with a view to securing their allround

development. At present, there are 16 Sub-blocks in 9 districts. Details of these Sub-blocks are given in Annexure **IX**.

11.4 The expenditure incurred during 1966-67 on these Sub-blocks was Rs.8,57,969 as against a provision of Rs.10,00,000 allowed by the Government of India. However, due to financial stringency, in the allocation made by the Government of India for 1967-68, a cut was applied with the result that only a provision of Rs.7,61,450 was allowed for these Sub-blocks. This is less than the expenditure incurred in the previous year. It appears that as a result of reduction in the allocation, a number of schemes had to be abandoned wholly or partly. It is also feared that some schemes might have been left incomplete because of paucity of funds. Considering the fact that the State of West Bengal is not receiving the benefit of financial assistance in the shape of funds for Tribal Development Blocks which other States are receiving, it is necessary that funds are allotted to the State for the Sub-blocks schemes on a much larger scale. A regular flow of funds also needs to be assured at least for a period of five years so that long-term plans can be prepared and the programmes undertaken in a systematic manner. From the list of schemes undertaken in the Sub-blocks supplied by the State Government it appears that these have been taken up on an ad hoc basis; in fact many of the

schemes are similar to those being taken up under the general tribal welfare programme. It is suggested that provision should be made for undertaking, at the initial stages, socio-economic surveys of the tribal pockets in which the Sub-blocks are to be established so that the schemes may be well planned and may fully meet the needs of the people.

11.5 Cooperatives: There were 19,725 cooperative societies in West Bengal during 1963-64 which is the latest year for which figures are available. Of these 13,427 were agricultural societies. Separate figures as to the number of societies functioning in tribal areas are not available. But the number of agricultural societies mentioned above include graingolas which were functioning in the tribal areas.

11.6 Graingola Societies: There were 460 graingola societies established till the end of 1967-68. A statement showing the progress with regard to the establishment of these societies and their distribution by districts is given in Annexure XII. A graingola society is initially provided with a capital grant of Rs.10,000 for ^{the} construction of godowns, purchase of paddy and purchase of shares of the Central Cooperative Bank. The purpose of giving a grant for ^{the} purchase of Central Cooperative Bank shares is to enable these societies to offer cash credit facilities to

the members though it appears that so far only a few societies have been granted these facilities. An annual recurring maintenance subsidy of Rs.1,000 is also given. The scale of maintenance subsidy is gradually reduced and discontinued wholly after a few years when the societies are expected to become self-supporting.

11.7 Administration: The administration of the graingola schemes has been taken over by the Tribal Welfare Department from the Cooperative Department. But the supervision of societies rests with the Cooperative Department. The Tribal welfare Department has no staff of its own to regularly inspect the societies.

11.8 Difficulties: The difficulties faced in the operation of these societies in recent time are (i) inability to procure paddy in the open market at fair price and (ii) accumulation of arrears of loan in some districts. Notwithstanding these difficulties it appears that the societies have proved very beneficial to the tribal people. The graingola societies can take up many other useful activities within their existing bye-laws if they are once enabled to ^{establish themselves} stand on a firm footing. Of course, effective tribal leadership would need to be developed to enable the societies to play **their** full part. This is particularly necessary as it is reported that in many of the districts due, to ^{the} poor economic condition of the tribals and their ignorance and illiteracy, the management of the

societies vests more often than not in the non-tribals who do not always keep the interests of the tribals in view. It is suggested that a study may be undertaken of selected graingola societies with a view to finding out how their working may be improved.

11.9 Other Societies: Apart from graingolas, four dairy societies and one cooperative weaving society were established during the First Plan period in the tribal areas. During the Second Plan period, seven creamery societies were opened. One society for marketing of paddy was also established during the Second Plan.

11.10 Labour Cooperatives: During the Third Plan and the Annual Plans for 1966-67 and 1967-68, altogether 14 labour cooperatives including a few societies for collecting minor forest produce in the districts of Bardwan, Bankura and Midnapore were set up.

11.11 Forest Labour Cooperatives: Recently, two Forest Labourers' Cooperatives have been set up in the State. The State Tribes Advisory Council had been pressing for the setting up of Forest Labourers' Cooperatives in the State on the pattern of Maharashtra and Gujerat States. But it appears that the Forest Department was unwilling to accept the recommendation regarding the formation of these societies though it was agreeable to give some concessions with regard to ^{the} collection of forest produce. It is necessary that this matter is pursued with the Forest

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Department so that the Cooperatives since set up are afforded the necessary facilities to function successfully.

11.12 Need for a whole-time officer for developing cooperatives in tribal areas:

It was decided at the Conference of State Ministers in charge of Welfare of Backward Classes and in charge of Cooperation held in May 1964 that every State with a tribal population of 1 million or more should have a whole-time Joint Registrar for developing cooperatives for tribals. In West Bengal, the recommendation has not yet been implemented. Although the Sub-Committee of the State Tribes Advisory Council had re-iterated this recommendation and suggested that a Deputy Registrar from the Cooperative Directorate be deputed to look after all the cooperative schemes of the Tribal Welfare Department, no final decision seems to have been reached in the matter so far. The Study Team feels that the association of an officer from the Cooperative Department, on a whole-time basis, with the cooperative schemes of the Tribal Welfare Department will go a long way in improving the working of these schemes and would urge that this arrangement should be brought into effect early.

PANCHAYATS

11.13 Progress: The programme for the initiation of Panchayati Raj in West Bengal, as envisaged in the scheme of Democratic Decentralisation, was taken up only during

the Third Plan period when the West Bengal Zila Parishads Act was enacted in 1963 and the rules thereunder framed in 1964. Legislation regarding Panchayats was enacted through ^{the} West Bengal Panchayat Act 1957. As on March 31, 1967, there were 19,662 Panchayats in the State covering 38,540 villages and a rural population of 258 lakhs. This represented 98 per cent of the ~~villages~~ villages as well as the total rural population. Only a few industrial and coal field areas and tea gardens now remain to be covered by Panchayati Raj bodies.

11.14 Four-tier System - West Bengal is unique in the sense that it has introduced a four-tier system. The special feature is the introduction of Anchal Panchayat, an elected body, which is constituted for a group of Gram Panchayats. Thus, the set-up of democratic institutions in the State comprises the Gram Panchayat at the village level, Anchal Panchayat for a group of Gram Panchayats, Anchalik Parishad at the block level and Zila Parishad at the district level. Information regarding the term, composition and mode of election of the Panchayati Raj bodies in the State is contained in Annexure XIII.

11.15 There is no provision for ^{the} reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes in the Panchayati Raj bodies except that Government shall nominate two persons belonging to Backward Classes to the Anchalik Parishads at the block level. No statistics appear to be available, however,

as to the number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes actually nominated to the Anchalik Parishads, or the number of persons from the Scheduled Tribes who might have got elect^{ed} to these bodies. In order to ensure that the tribals derive their due share from the schemes the Study Team considers it necessary that there should be a specific provision in the rules for their nomination as members of these bodies. In Rajasthan, the Panchayat Samities are empowered to co-opt upto two members of the Scheduled Tribes if their population in the block exceeds 5% of the total population. Similarly a Zila Parishad is also empowered to co-opt one member from Scheduled Tribes, if no tribal is already represented on it. The Study Team recommends that a similar provision may be made in West Bengal.

11.16 Panchayati Raj is of recent origin in the State. However, in view of the important role which the Panchayati Raj bodies have to play, it is necessary that periodical reviews of their working should be undertaken with a view to making them effective instruments of developmental planning. The State Government are alive to this need and a study concerning the working of the Zila Parishads has already been undertaken by the Directorate of Evaluation in the Development and Planning Department of the State Government.

The Directorate

also
proposes to make a study of panchayati Raj Institutions of other tiers as well. It is understood that the Government are considering amending the present Act relating to the Panchayati Raj Institutions. The recommendations made above, can, therefore, be taken into consideration by the State Government while finalising proposals in this regard.

CHAPTER XII

COTTAGE AND SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES

12.1 Training-cum-Production Centres: In view of the increasing pressure on land in the State coupled with the facts that a majority among the tribals are landless and even those owning lands have comparatively small holdings, there is limited scope for bringing about improvement in the economic condition of the Scheduled Tribes in the State through agricultural schemes alone. These have to be supplemented by other programmes. Because of low levels of literacy among the tribal population, cottage and small scale industries have a vital role to play in the economy of the tribal people in the State. With this end in view, the State Government have taken up various schemes for the establishment of training-cum-production centres for imparting training in various crafts such as jute spinning and weaving, Bri rearing and spinning, wool and cotton weaving, carpentry, tusser industry, etc. Details of the industrial schemes now under operation in the State are contained in Annexure XIV.

12.2 Other Training Facilities: Besides the above training centres, training facilities have been provided to Scheduled Tribes students in vocational trades and crafts in recognised institutions. Financial assistance has also been provided to the tribals on completion of their training to enable them to set up some business of their own. Further, commencing from the Third Plan, the trainees belonging to

the Scheduled Tribes residing in hostels recognised by the institutions concerned, were also allowed hostel charges at the rate of Rs.20/- per month per trainee in Calcutta area and Rs.15/- per month per trainee in other areas of West Bengal. Altogether 126 trainees were benefited under the scheme, the amount spent being Rs.17,000/-. The Team feels that keeping in view the high rise in prices the hostel charges need to be increased. The number of beneficiaries under these two schemes and the amount spent on their operation during the Second and Third Five Year Plans are given below:

Table 13

Training facilities and financial assistance provided to Tribals

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| | <u>Second Plan</u> | | <u>Third Plan</u> | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>No. of beneficiaries</u> | <u>Amount Rs.</u> | <u>No. of beneficiaries</u> | <u>Amount Rs.</u> |
| 1. Training facilities | 422 | 85,559 | 544 | 1,23,000 |
| 2. Financial Assistance | 178 | 35,000 | 1532 | 1,82,000 |

12.3. Need for Follow-up: The Sub-Committee of the State Tribes Advisory Council set up in 1965 which had occasion to visit some of the training-cum-production centres found their working highly satisfactory and were also impressed with the enthusiasm and zeal displayed by the instructors. The Sub-Committee, however, pointed out

that there was no proper follow-up and none of the passed-out trainees was found earning his livelihood by following the trade in which he had received training. They, therefore, stressed the need for undertaking arrangements for systematic follow-up wherever the training-cum-production centres were started and added that if a systematic follow-up was not possible, it would be better to drop such schemes. The Study Team agrees with the Sub-Committee that there is no point in incurring expenditure on training programmes which are ultimately of no benefit to the tribals.

~~to the~~/On the other hand the Team feels that this only causes frustration among the trainees. The Study Team is glad to note that the State Government have since appointed a Review Committee under the chairmanship of Shri A.K. Kishku, M.P., to go into the working of the different industrial schemes with a view to assessing the utility of the schemes and to make recommendations for their modification or re-orientation.

CHAPTER XIII

RESEARCH AND TRAINING

RESEARCH

13.1 Cultural Research Institute: The Cultural Research Institute was set up by the State Government in May 1955 with the main object of harnessing modern scientific knowledge of human society and culture to the task of welfare of the tribals and to study all aspects of tribal life in the State, in order to preserve the good points of tribal culture and to advise the Government on the approach to various problems concerning Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, etc. The Institute is under the administrative control of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare Department and the Director of Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare is its ex-officio Director. He is assisted by a Deputy Director who looks after the day-to-day work of the Institute.

13.2 The Institute has at present the following staff in its different sections.

1. Research: Three Research Officers, Two Research Scholars, One Research Investigator
2. Statistical: One Statistical Assistant and two Assistant Computers
3. Audio-Visual: One Movie - Cameraman
4. Museum: One Museum Care-taker
5. Library: One Library Assistant
6. Publication: One Clerk-cum-Typist
7. Establishment: One U.D. Assistant, One L.D. Assistant, One Cashier, One Steno, One Typist (English), One Typist (Bengali), One Bill Sarker, One Record Supplier and Three Orderlies and Four Peons.

13.3 Since its inception in 1955, the Institute has undertaken and completed a number of important research investigations. The Institute has received appreciation for its work from the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Sub-committee of the Tribes Advisory Council has also commended the research work of the Institute. Its publications - particularly the Journal - enjoy wide circulation and are popular.

However, it appears that of late the Institute has been concentrating more on the taking up of theoretical and anthropological studies which can more properly be taken up by a University than on carrying out research for the purpose of promoting ^{the} welfare of the tribals. The Study Team recommends that this matter may be examined by the State Government so that the Institute devotes ^{the} / bulk of its resources on research of problems of tribal development as well as on the evaluation of the welfare work done for the Scheduled Tribes.

13.4 With a view to giving autonomy to the Institute in its day-to-day work, it would be desirable to provide a whole-time Director. It may also be useful to constitute an Advisory Board with the Minister incharge of Tribal Welfare as Chairman, to ensure that the work of the Institute is ~~conducted~~ conducted on right lines and that the Institute receives proper guidance with regard to the problems to be taken up for study.

TRAINING

13.5 Social Workers' Training Institute: A Social Workers' Training Institute is functioning at Belpahari in Midnapore district to give training to social workers and field level Administrative Officers in matters connected with the life and culture of the tribesmen and in the methods for their economic and social development. The Institute has a Principal-cum-Superintendent (gazetted) and four Instructors in different subjects. The annual expenditure on the Institute is of the order of Rs.42,000.

13.6 The Sub-committee of the West Bengal Tribes Advisory Council set up in 1965 had ^{on occasion to} reviewed the working of the Institute. They found that the 'Institute had no trainees for considerable periods and the staff had nothing to do during these periods in the absence of trainees. The trainees selected did not join in full strength (it was found that in one batch there were four trainees only - others did not join as their Department did not spare them) nor were the right type of persons selected for training'. At that time the Institute had no wholetime Principal though the post had been sanctioned; two posts of Instructors had also been lying vacant for a long time. The Sub-committee stressed the need for the early appointment of the Principal-cum-Superintendent and the filling up of the vacancies of the Instructors. The Study Team has not been able to ascertain the present position but it

is hoped that the position would have improved by now. The Study Team considers that it will be useful if the State Government examine the need for the continuance of the Institute vis-a-vis their needs for training of personnel in future and the possibility of utilisation for this purpose, by making slight adjustments, if necessary, of other Institutions already functioning in the State.

13.7 The Institute is functioning as a Wing of the Cultural Research Institute but the two Institutes are located at different places. In order that there is close and constant liaison between the two Institutes, it is suggested that they may be located together at some central place. This arrangement may also result in some saving in expenditure to the State as it would then be possible to have a common administrative set-up for the two Institutes.

This will ^{also} ensure that the results of research and evaluation studies undertaken by the Cultural Research Institute are utilised to the fullest extent while imparting ~~orientation training~~ to officers and staff engaged in tribal welfare work.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Chapter II

TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

1. The reserved quota for tribal communities in the posts and services under the Government of West Bengal has not yet been utilised in full. It is necessary that the reasons for the low representation of tribals in services are examined in detail by the State Government so that necessary steps may be taken to raise the percentage of employment among the tribal communities to the prescribed level. (para 2.13)

Chapter III

ADMINISTRATION

2. Besides being the Deputy Secretary in the Department, the Director of Tribal welfare is also the ex-officio Director of the Cultural Research Institute. This is a heavy charge for a single officer and is not conducive to efficiency. There should be a whole-time Director of Tribal Welfare in the state. Of course, to facilitate his work, it will be necessary to confer ex-officio Secretariat status on him befitting his seniority and status. (para 3.4)

3. The working of the Progress, statistics and Coordination Cell needs to be reviewed with a view to improving its utility. It is also necessary that the Cell is manned by technical staff, suitably qualified and of sufficient status, so as to be able to make an adequate assessment of the working of the tribal welfare programmes and provide useful data for future planning. (para 3.5)

4. It will be useful if Sub-Committees of the Tribes Advisory Council are appointed in future to go into specific problems of the tribal people and make suggestions for programmes and approaches for tribal welfare. (para 3.8)

5. In a State like west Bengal where the tribal population is considerable, it should be possible to utilise the services of voluntary and non-official organisations in the tribal welfare programmes in a greater measure. The State Government may consider the question of providing more funds for grants to such agencies. (para 3.10)

Chapter IV

DEVELOPMENT PLANS

6. In order that the tribal population may derive full benefit from the schemes undertaken for their welfare, it is necessary, while drawing up these schemes, that the needs and development of the tribes and the areas concerned are carefully assessed. This can be possible only through socio-economic surveys which the Study Team recommends should be conducted in the tribal areas by an expert Team. The Central Government may meet the cost of these surveys. (para 4.6)

7. The provision for Centrally sponsored schemes for tribal welfare in West Bengal was reduced considerably during the Third Plan. The State has been consequently hard hit, particularly because there are no Tribal Development Blocks in the State. In all fairness, the State of West Bengal should be given more funds for tribal welfare programmes in the Central Sector. (para 4.7)

Chapter V

LAND PROBLEM AND INDEBTEDNESS

8. Though the rights of the share-croppers are protected by law, it is only the recorded share-croppers who can seek redress, and in the case of tribals, their rights are not always recorded in the Record-of-Rights. As a result, most of the tribals hardly enjoy any better status than that of agricultural labourers. (para 5.4)

9. The remedy for reducing indebtedness among the tribal population lies in improving their economic condition. Side by side, it is necessary that long-term credit should be provided to wean them away from traditional money-lenders. The only way of doing so is to provide cheap and easy credit through cooperatives and other Government agencies directly to the tribal population. (para 5.9)

10. Apart from the graingola scheme the state Government may explore the possibility of undertaking Purchase, Sale and Fair Price Shops Schemes as has been done in Orissa. (para 5.9)

Chapter VI

EDUCATION

11. In the primary stage the enrolment of the tribal children was 47% during 1963-64. This compares very unfavourably with the enrolment for the State as a whole which was 70%. Further, in the case of tribal girls, the enrolment was still lower. It is necessary, therefore, to take steps to increase the enrolment of tribal students in the primary schools. (para 6.3)

12. There is need for the opening of more schools. It would, be necessary for the Education Department to relax the norms prescribed for the opening of schools as well as the pupil teacher ratio while considering proposals for the opening of new schools in the tribal areas. (para 6.4)

13. The recommendation of the Tribal Language Committee appointed by the State Government regarding the medium of instruction etc. should be implemented as soon as possible, (para 6.5)

14. It is necessary to simplify the procedure for the appointment of tribal teachers for primary schools, in whose case the minimum qualification has been relaxed to middle pass, so as to eliminate delays. (para 6.7)

15. It was represented to the Study Team that there was delay in the payment of scholarships and fees to the tribal students. It is necessary to streamline the procedure to avoid hardship to the students. In so far as the tuition fee is concerned, the Team feels that it should be possible for the Institutes concerned to claim the money directly from the Government. (para 6.8)

16. The rates of boarding charges have since been increased from Rs.22/- to Rs.30/- and from Rs.27/- to Rs.35/- per month per student in the rural and urban areas respectively. The increased amounts are, however, still not sufficient, keeping in view the steep rise in prices and would, therefore, need to be further enhanced. (para 6.8)

17. It is absolutely necessary to increase the hostel facilities for accelerating the pace of education among the tribal communities in the State and the State Government may take up the work of opening more hostels on a bigger scale than heretofore. (para 6.9)

18. The scheme of special coaching to students of higher classes viz IX, X and XI both in Humanities and Science in selected schools which has been in operation for several years, has not shown encouraging results owing to several factors. The State Government is now reviewing the position. It is felt that coaching at lower levels with a view to making the students strong at the base might be more fruitful. The Study Team agrees with this approach and recommends that suitable programmes may be drawn up for this purpose. (para 6.10)

19. The Study Team regrets to note that the scheme for setting up of residential schools in selected localities has not yet been finalised and implemented for lack of necessary funds. The Team considers that the scheme is a useful one and would, therefore, urge its early implementation. (para 6.10)

20. Since the gap between boys' education and girls' education is very wide, concerted efforts are necessary to accelerate the pace of education among girls. It may be necessary for this purpose to open more schools exclusively for girls in the tribal areas with proper hostel facilities. The question of the opening of Ashram type schools for girls may be considered by the State Government. (para 6.11)

21. The Cultural Research Institute of the state Government may study in detail the reasons for the unsatisfactory progress of post-matric education among the tribal communities with a view to making recommendations as to how the pace of enrolment of tribal students in the colleges can be accelerated. Meanwhile, the question of reservation of seats in the various colleges for the tribal students may be considered by the State Government. (para 6.12)

22. In order that tribal students may take up higher studies in technical subjects, there is need for arranging for them special coaching in Science and Mathematics at an early stage, say from middle standard. (para 6.14)

Chapter VII

AGRICULTURE

23. There is a strong case for the state Government to revise its stand against reservations for the Scheduled Tribes in the matter of distribution and allotment of khas lands. (para 7.2)

24. In view of the fact that over three-fourth of the State's tribal population is engaged in agriculture, more emphasis should be laid on agricultural programmes and for this purpose the provision for agricultural schemes should be increased. Ways and means should also be devised to ensure that the tribals receive an adequate share of the benefits of the agricultural development programmes undertaken in the general sector. (para 7.3)

25. Although considerable expenditure has been incurred on animal husbandry schemes, no information was available as to the extent to which the schemes have benefited the tribal people. It is also doubtful if the bulls supplied during the First and Second Plans are still able to provide effective service. The State Government may re-examine the suitability of the animal husbandry schemes undertaken under the tribal welfare programme. (para 7.4)

Chapter VIII

FORESTS

26. To avoid any hardship to the tribal dwellers in forests, an early decision should be taken on the recommendations of the Sub-Committee of the Coordination Committee of Ministers of different departments set up to report on the tribal rights in forests and certain other matters, so that they might be implemented to the best advantage of the tribals. (para 8.6)

27. It appears that there are a number of other villages in and around the forests which are similar to forest villages. The question of declaring these villages as forest villages may be considered so that the tribals inhabiting these villages may also take advantage of the privileges granted to forest villagers as well as be of use to the Forest Department in forest operations. (para 8.8)

28. To ensure that the scheme of forest labourers co-operatives proves a success, it is necessary that the Forest Department provides the necessary facilities to these cooperatives, such as exemption from payment of earnest money and security deposit and also preference for their bids within a minimum percentage, say 12½% above the lowest bid, as has been done in some other States. (para 8.9)

29. Side by side with the scheme for the creation of forest based industries in the public sector proposed to be undertaken by the Forest Department, it would be useful to consider how best to benefit the tribals when such industries are established. One way could be to train selected tribals for skilled jobs in these industries. (para 8.10)

30. The Forest Department have drawn up a scheme for the exploitation of forest produce. The manner in which the services of the tribals could be utilised in these activities so that they could also derive the maximum benefit from forests, should be examined by the Tribal Welfare Department in consultation with the Forest Department. (para 8.11)

31. The Forest Department should make it a point to employ as far as possible, tribals as Forest Guards. Apart from the tribals getting employment in the forests, such a step will help in another way in that the tribals could be made more responsible towards forests in respect of which they would, by virtue of their employment, have to play the role of guardians. (para 8.12)

Chapter IX

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

32. The State Government may consider the question of opening subsidiary health centres in areas with tribal concentration. (para 9.2)

33. More beds may be reserved in the I.B. Hospitals for the tribal patients and the procedure for admission to the Hospitals simplified. It would also be useful if T.B. Survey Units are set up in all the districts. (para 9.3)

34. For the effective control of leprosy, it is necessary that the existing clinics should be upgraded to control units and provided with the requisite number of sub-clinics for extensive as well as intensive leprosy control work. There is also need for reservation of beds for the tribal patients in general leprosy Hospitals as the tribal patients suffering from infectious cases of leprosy wishing to undergo treatment in such hospitals experience difficulty in securing admission because of various factors. (para 9.4)

35. The time of the tribal students undergoing treatment in leprosy colonies could be well spent for educative purposes if suitable teaching material could be provided. (para 9.5)

36. As quite often the leprosy patients become deformed and cannot follow or pursue their original occupations, vocational training during their stay in the colony proves most valuable to them. The Study Team, therefore, recommends that the Occupational Therapy-cum-Vocational Training Centres may be established in the Leprosy Clinics having a sizeable number of patients. It would also be necessary to arrange for vocational training to the tribal patients after they are discharged from the colonies. (para 9.5)

37. The state Government may like to examine the need for opening more Training Centres for ex-leprosy patients as well as for raising the number of seats in the existing one. It may also be useful to reserve some seats for ex-leprosy patients in the general Training Centres. (para 9.5)

38. It is necessary to undertake a concerted programme of health education in the tribal areas. (para 9.6)

39. No estimates are at present available of the number of tribal villages with inadequate or without any water supply resources. A survey may be conducted urgently to locate the villages which have inadequate or unsatisfactory water supply arrangements so that suitable schemes for meeting the water supply needs in the tribal areas may be undertaken in a comprehensive way. (para 9.7)

Chapter X

COMMUNICATIONS

40. It is necessary to draw up a perspective plan for the development of road communications in the tribal areas and for this purpose, adequate funds should be provided in the tribal welfare budget. (para 10.2)

41. The Tribal Welfare Department have at present no technical staff which could undertake periodical repairs. Communication schemes taken up under the tribal welfare programme may, after construction, be taken over for maintenance by the Roads Department. In some cases, however, it may be expedient to make the Panchayats or local bodies responsible for such works. For this purpose suitable grants may be made to them. (para 10.3)

Chapter XI

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, COOPERATION AND PANCHAYATS

42. Since the Community Development Programme is intended for the benefit of the tribals as well as the general population and as the funds under the tribal welfare programme are rather limited, the schemes from the tribal welfare funds should be undertaken to supplement and not supplant the funds

which could be made available for tribal development from the general sector. Either the tribals should be exempted from making contribution in cash or kind in respect of schemes which may be taken up under the the Community Development Programme for their benefit or their contribution should be met from the tribal welfare funds. (para 11.1)

43. Considering the fact that the State of West Bengal is not receiving the benefit of financial assistance in the shape of funds for Tribal Development Blocks which other states are receiving, it is necessary that funds are allotted to the state for the Sub-blocks schemes on a much larger scale. (para 11.4)

44. Provision should be made for undertaking, at the initial stages, socio-economic surveys of the tribal pockets in which the Sub-blocks are to be established so that the schemes may be well planned and may fully meet the needs of the people. (para 11.4)

45. In many of the districts due to the poor economic condition of the tribals and their ignorance and illiteracy, the management of the graingola societies vests more often than not in the non-tribals who do not always keep the interests of the tribals in view. A study may be undertaken of selected graingola societies with a view to finding out how their working may be improved. (para 11.8)

46. The setting up of the Forest Labourers' Cooperatives in the state on the pattern of Maharashtra and Gujarat States, as desired by the Tribes Advisory Council, should be pursued with the Forest department so that the two Forest Labour Cooperative societies since set up are afforded the necessary facilities to function successfully. (para 11.11)

47. The Study Team feels that the association of an officer from the Cooperative Department, on a whole-time basis, with the cooperative schemes of the Tribal Welfare Department, as decided at the Conference of State Ministers incharge of Welfare of Backward Classes and of Cooperation held in May 1964, will go a long way in improving the working of these schemes and would urge that this arrangement should be brought into effect early. (para 11.12)

48. Specific provision may be made in the rules for the nomination or co-option of members of the scheduled Tribes as members of the Panchayati Raj bodies. (para 11.15)

Chapter XIII

COTTAGE AND SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

49. Keeping in view the steady rise in prices the hostel charges allowed at the rate of Rs.20/- per month per trainee in Calcutta and Rs.15/- per month per trainee in other areas of West Bengal allowed to the students belonging to the Scheduled Tribes undergoing training in vocational trades and crafts needs to be increased. (para 12.2)

Chapter XIII

RESEARCH AND TRAINING

50. Of late the Cultural Research Institute has been concentrating more on the taking up of theoretical and anthropological studies, which can more properly be taken up by a University, than on carrying out research for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the tribals. The Study Team recommends that this matter may be examined by the State Government so that the Institute devotes the bulk of its resources on research of problems of tribal development as well as on the evaluation of the welfare work done for the Scheduled Tribes. (para 13.3)

51. With a view to giving autonomy to the Cultural Research Institute in its day-to-day work, it would be desirable to provide a whole-time Director. It may also be useful to constitute an Advisory Board with the Minister incharge of Tribal Welfare as Chairman, to ensure that the work of the Institute is conducted on right lines and that the Institute receives proper guidance with regard to the problems to be taken up for study. (para 13.4)

52. It will be useful if the state Government examine the need for the continuance of the Social Workers' Training Institute vis-a-vis their needs for training of personnel in future and the possibility of utilisation for this purpose, by making slight adjustments, if necessary, of other institutions already functioning in the state. (para 13.6)

53. In order that there is close and constant liaison between the Social Workers' Training Institute and the Cultural Research Institute, it is suggested that they ~~may both be located~~ at some central place. This arrangement may also result in some saving in expenditure to the State as it would then be possible to have a common administrative set-up for the two Institutes. (para 13.7)

ANNEXURES

Annexure I

Copy of Government of India, Planning Commission, Committee on Plan Projects, Resolution No. COPP/Adm/16(1)/66 dated the 26th October, 1966, setting up the Study Team on Tribal Development Programmes, and incorporating change in composition of the Study Team made subsequently.

STUDY TEAM ON TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

No. COPP/Adm/16(1)/66: Programmes for the welfare and development of scheduled tribes form an integral part of the Five Year Plans. Although significant progress has been achieved in several directions, it is important that during the Fourth and Fifth Plan periods the process of economic and social development among tribal communities should be greatly accelerated. Rising levels of well-being, growing economic opportunities and greater integration with the rest of the population are essential both for the welfare of tribal communities and the progress of the country as a whole.

2. The Draft Outline of the Fourth Five Year Plan provides substantial resources for special programmes for the welfare of tribal communities and indicates a number of directions in which current development programmes should be reoriented. In the light of past experience, it has become essential that the schemes formulated should enable the tribal communities to secure an adequate share in the benefits of general development programmes and speed up their economic and social advance. With the object of giving practical effect to these recommendations and assisting State Governments in evolving concrete schemes of development which are specially adapted to the needs and conditions of tribal areas, at the suggestion of the Planning Commission, the Committee on Plan Projects have set up a Study Team on Tribal Development Programmes composed of the following:

(1) Shri P. Shilu Ao
Former Chief Minister
of Nagaland

Chairman

- (ii) Shri L.M. Shrikant, Secretary, Bharatiya Adimjati Sewak Sangh and ex-Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Member
- (iii) Shri T. Sivasankar, formerly Secretary in the Union Ministries of Irrigation and Power and Works, Housing and Supply and later Lt. Governor of Goa. Member
- (Appointed from April 12, 1967, in place of Shri B. Mehta, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan who left the Study Team on February 20, 1967, consequent on his appointment as Member, Official Language (Legislative) Commission.

3. The Study Team will work in close cooperation with the Planning Commission, the Department of Social Welfare, the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Department of Community Development and other Central Ministries concerned. In consultation with the Chief Ministers of States, the Study Team will co-opt one or more members in each State to function as members of the Team in relation to tribal development programmes in respect of that State.

4. The Study Team, thus enlarged, will acquaint itself first hand with the problems and needs of tribal communities in each State, appraise the working of tribal development programmes, specially during the Third Five Year Plan, and make detailed and specific recommendations regarding programmes of development to be carried out during the Fourth Five Year Plan. Particular emphasis will be given to devising measures for carrying the benefits of development in different sectors as effectively as possible to tribal communities and to the building up of the economy of tribal development blocks and tribal areas. The Study Team will give special attention to measures for strengthening the personnel and machinery for implementing programmes for tribal development in each State. It will also

suggest steps for harnessing the leadership and institutions among tribal communities so as to ensure their fullest participation in the tasks of economic and social development.

5. The Study Team is expected to complete its work over a period of one year.

6. The headquarters of the Study Team will be at New Delhi.

7. Ordered that the RESOLUTION be published in the Gazette of India for general information.

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Annexure II
(Reference para 1.7)

BASIC FACTS AND FIGURES

(Data relates to 1961 Census unless otherwise indicated)

| Item | Unit | Particulars |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Area | Sq.Kms. | 87,676 |
| Districts | Nos. | 16 |
| Towns | Nos. | 184 |
| C.D.Blocks(as on 1.1.1967) | Nos. | 341 |
| Villages (inhabitated) | Nos. | 38,530 |
| Villages (uninhabitated) | Nos. | 3,590 |
| Total population | Nos. | 349,26,279 |
| Males | Nos. | 185,99,144 |
| Females | Nos. | 163,27,135 |
| Rural population(%age to total) | % age | 75.55 |
| Urban population(%age to total) | % age | 24.45 |
| Scheduled Tribes Population | Nos. | 20,54,081 |
| Scheduled Castes Population | Nos. | 68,90,314 |
| Density of population per sq.Km. | Nos. | 399(138) |
| Literacy | % age | 29.3(24) |
| Reporting area, 1964-65* | Th.Hectares | 8,852 |
| Area Under Forests,1964-65* | " | 1,108 |
| Barren & Unculturable land 1964-65* | " | 1,293 |
| Net Area sown, 1964-65* | " | 5,443 |
| Area Irrigated 1962-63* | " | 1,430 |

Figures in parenthesis show All-India average
* Provisional

Annexure III
(Reference para 2.2)

Information regarding population, habitat, occupation, religion and educational standard of tribes in West Bengal.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Tribe & Population | Habitat | Occupation | Religion | Educational Standard |
|---------|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6. |
| 1. | Santal 12,00,019 | Widely distributed all over the State | Collection of forest produce, hunting, fishing and cultivation. At present they are mainly cultivators. They also work as labourers in tea plantations. | They are Animists, Thakur being their great God. | Educationally backward. Only 8.4% of the expected number of school going students in the secondary stage had attended schools during 1962. |
| 2. | Uraon 2,97,394 | Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling and 24 Parganas. | Agriculture is their main occupation. Some of them also work as daily labourers in tea plantation industry. | They practise a mixed religion of Hinduism and Animism. They consider Dharam or Bhagwan as their Supreme Deity and worship Debi Mai, Gaondeoti, Jhakraboria, Kali, Manasa, Sitala, Mahadev, Hari & Others. | Educationally very backward. Only 6.6% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |
| 3. | Munda 1,80,245 | Districts of Burdwan, 24-Parganas, W. Dinajpur, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Midnapur and Purulia. | Traditional occupations of the Munda have been agriculture and hunting. At present in West Bengal the Mundas are mostly agriculturists, a very large number however, are employed as tea plantation labourers. | They are Animists. At the head of Munda religion stands Sing Bonga; the Sun. Next in rank to Sing Bonga comes, Bara Bonga or Marang Buru, also known as Pat Sarna. The Mundas observe the Parabas, such as Maghe Parab, Phaguna, Bah-Parab, Sarhul-Parab, etc. | Educationally very backward. Only 8.4% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |

| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6. |
|----|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 7. | Mahalis 28,233 | In the districts of Jalpaiguri and Midnapur, West Dinajpure, Malda and Burdwan. | According to Risley different sections of Mahalis profess different types of occupations. For example Bansphor Mahalis are basket makers, Pator Mahalis practise basket making as well as cultivation, Sulunki Mahalis are cultivators and labourers and Tanti Mahalis carry palanquins. At present also basket making is the main occupation of the Mahalis. A few of them are agriculturists. | Mainly Hindus. They perform Haripuja, Manasapuja, Gram Thakur puja, Karampuja, Kali and Goal or Gareya Puja, Tushu festival, Akhanipuja, Sharul and Doljatra festival etc. | Educationally very backward. Only 3.9% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |
| 8. | Bhutia 23,595 | District Darjeeling | Traditionally the Bhutias are graziers, stock breeders agriculturists and traders. They are, however, not as proficient in agriculture as the Nepalese are. The trade into and out of Tibet was also in their hands. But after the establishment of red regime in Tibet, this has been seriously dislocated causing misery to many. Now-a-days a few of them are also engaged in services in different offices and teaching professions. | In general Budhists. There are some Bhutias who claim themselves to be Christians. | Comparatively educationally advanced. 40.7% of the expected number of school going students in the secondary stage had attended schools during 1962. |
| 9. | Malpaharias 15,706 | Districts of Murshidabad, Malinapur, Jalpaiguri, West Dinajpur and Darjeeling. | Mainly cultivation. They also work as labourers in tea plantations. | They follow a mixed form of religion built out of amalgamation of tribal animism with Hindu puritanism. They consider Sun as the Supreme Deity whom they call Dharma or Bhagwan. They perform Ram Rami Puja, Goalpuja, Patipuja, Manasapuja, Durgapuja, Kali | Educationally very backward. 0.99% of the expected number of school going students in secondary stage had attended school during 1962. |

| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6. |
|-----|------------------|--|--|---|--|
| 10. | Lepcha 15,309 | District Darjeeling. | Mostly agriculturists. Some of them work as daily labourers. | Puja, Gaodeota puja, Mahadeo puja etc. Religious beliefs of the present day Lepchas may be put under three categories (1)Animism(2)Budhism and (3)Christianity. They also believe in existence of two souls one Apil and the other Mar-Nyam.Now-a-days Christian Lepchas belong to the two sects, Roman Catho- lic and Protestant nearly in equal numbers. | They have made notable progress in the field of education, 33.8% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |
| 11. | Meches 13,915 | Sub-hilly regions of the district of Jalpaiguri | Now a days these people are settled agriculturi- sts.Shifting cultivation has been completely sbandoned by them.Many cf them also work as labourers in forest villages. A few of them are also employed in different types of jobs such as police,teaching, business and some other posts of services. | The Meches worship the Sij (an Eathorbia plant)as the emblem of the supreme deity (Bathow)like the Kacharie. Some other traditional deities of the Meches are Mahakal,Mainao,Aimansa, Tishuburi etc. Now-a-days they call their supreme deity,Bathow as Siva of the Hindus and his wife Maino in some places as Lakshmi and in other as Durga. | Educationally their progress is satis- factory. About 34.3% of the expected number of school going students in the secondary stage had attended schools during 1962. |

| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6. |
|-----|------------------|--|--|---|---|
| 12. | Rabha 6,053 | Jalpaiguri & Cooch-behar districts. | Mainly agriculturists; some of them have other occupations also, such as service, business etc. They also work as labourers in Reserve Forests. | They are mostly Hindus, but those living in the forest profess Animism. Rishi, whose another name is Mahakal, is regarded as the supreme deity. Kali Shib, Kamaksha, Narayani, Sitala, Gangadevi and others are the most important deities. Besides these, there are some other deities and spirits such as Rakhal, Biskarma, Bishari, Masan, Bura Thakur, Baksu, Bharamani Kalsur, Dhansu, Surkumi Satyapir, Muria, Jalmanan, Gabur, etc. | Educationally back- ward. It is also revealed from the fact that only 3.3% of the expected number of school going studen had attended schools during 1962. |
| 13. | Nagesia 4,875 | Jalpaiguri district. | Cultivation and daily labour are the main occupations of the Nagesia. They also work as tea garden labourers in Jalpaiguri district. | They worship the Sun and also the tiger in some localities. Some respect is paid also to Darha. | Educationally very backward. Only 1.1% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |
| 14. | Korwa 2,891 | District of Purulia | They were hunters and now-a-days do a little cultivation. They also trade with forest products, honey, beeswax and stick lac from which, in recent, years they have earned a considerable revenue. | Korwas are said to worship their ancestors. Blood thirsty goddess Khuria Rasni is propi- tiated with slain goats and buffaloes. | Educationally backward. They got no students in the secondary stage during 1962. |
| 15. | Garos 2,535 | District of Cooch-behar and Jalpaiguri | Mainly agriculturists. Some of them also work as agricultural and forest labourers. At present some of them are also found in business and services. | A section of Garos professes Hinduism and the rest Christianity. | Educationally not much advanced. 10.9% of the expected number of school going students in the secondary stage of the Garo had atten- ded schools during 1962. |

| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6. |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| 16. | Savar 2,181 | Purulia district | Mainly cultivators. | They have become Hinduised, but animistic beliefs and practices are still in vogue. | Educationally very backward. Only 1.02% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |
| 17. | Lohara or Lohra 2,031 | | Nothing is available | Nothing is available | Educationally not advanced. Only 3.8% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |
| 18. | Chakma 1,379 | Mainly in Jaipalguri, Midnapore and West Dinajpur districts. | Either settled agriculturists or labourers. | The Chakmas profess to be Budhists but during the last generation or so their practice in matters of religion has been noticeably coloured by contact with the gross Hinduism of Eastern Bengal. | Educationally very backward. Only 3.4% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |
| 19. | Bedia 1,191 | District Purulia | Mainly Agriculturists. | Similar to that of partially Hinduised tribals. | Educationally very backward. Only 3.7% of the expected number of school going students in the secondary stage had attended schools during 1962. |
| 20. | Kharwar 1,142 | District of Purulia. | Landholding and cultivation are their main occupations. | The main body of the tribe and particularly those who belong to the land holding class, profess the Hindu religion and employ Sakad-wipi Brahmans as priests. Mahadeo, Sitaram, Gauri and Ganesh are worshipped by them. | Kharwars have got the position in the field of education as achieved by the other communities. 68.9% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |

| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6. |
|-----|------------------|--|--|---|--|
| 21. | Ho 1,075 | Districts of Howrah, Jalpaiguri, Midnapur, Purulia & West Dinajpur. | Agriculturist or agriculture labourer. | The religion of the Hos is Animism with a belief in two Supreme beings, the Earth God and Sun God. As among the Mundas, in each village is Jahira or Sarna (Sacred grove) in which resides Desauli, the protecting spirit of the village. In their homes the Hos worship the spirits of their ancestors which are earthbound in their old haunts. Besides these, they observe festivals like Maghe, Parab, Bahparab and Sahrae etc. | Educationally very backward. They had no students in the secondary stage during 1962. |
| 22. | Karmali 1,023 | District Purulia | No information | No information | Educationally back- ward. They got no students in the second ary stage during 1962. |
| 23. | Magh 790 | | Generally agri- culturists. | Generally Buddhists. | Educationally backward They got no students in the secondary stage during 1962. |
| 24. | Gond 735 | District Purulia | Landholding and cultivation are the main occupations. | The Bengal members of the tribe affect to be orthodox Hindus, and worship the standard gods with the assistance of a degraded class of Brahmans. | Educationally Gonds appear to have got up to the standard of other communities. 43.9% of the expected number of school going students had attended schools during 1962. |

| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6. |
|-----|-----------------|---|--|---|---|
| 25. | Chero 559 | District Purulia | Mainly cultivation. | The religion of the Cheros is still in a state of transition and they observe a sort of dual worship which discloses unmistakable traces of their non-Aryan descent. They employ Karanjia or Sakadwipu Brahmans and Brahaman Gurus. They worship animistic deities like Baghat, Chenri, Darti, Dukhnahi, Dwarpar, etc. which are known to Kharias and Mundas. | Educationally not at all advanced. They got no secondary school going students during 1962. |
| 26. | Parhaiya 487 | District Purulia | Agricultural labour and to some extent cultivation. | They worship Dharti Mai the earth goddess. Their religion and customs are similar to those of other tribes on the threshold of Hinduism. | Educationally very backward. This community got no school going students in the secondary stage, during 1962. |
| 27. | Gorait 425 | District Purulia | Musicians, comb- makers and cotton carders. | Gorait profess to be Hindus, but they have not yet attained to the dignity of employing Brahmans. They worship Debi Mai and a tribal spirit called Purabia. | Educationally backward. They got only 28.9% of the expected number of school going students in the secondary stage during 1962. |
| 28. | Toto 389 | Totopara a manja in Jaipalguri district. | Totos were shifting cultivators. But now-a-days settled cultivation is their major subsistence activity. Hunting and fishing also play important roles in their economic life. Once trade in orange used to play an important part in their economic life. | To outsiders the Totos describe their high deity as Mahakal. They call the high deity as ispha or Sanja. Some of the important festivals observed by the Totos are Omchu (Maonipuja) Mayu (Orange worship), Mankanin, Surode, Garampuja etc. | Educationally very backward. |

| 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6. |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|---|--|
| Birhor 00 | District Purulia | Collection of forest products from jungle and rope making are the main occupation. At present some of them also work as agricultural labourers and cultivate the land owned by others. | According to Risley, Birhors profess a religion, a mixture of Animism and Hinduism. They worship Debi with her daughters and grand daughters. The Supreme God of the Birhor is known as Singbonga who is invoked when the Birhors go out for hunting. Burimai, the mother Goddess, stands next. They also worship Debi Mai, Maha Mai, Lorha Bonga, Bonhu Mai, Lagu Mari, Kudri Bonga, Bir Bonga, Hanumans, Kapsi and Jilenga. Besides these, they also propitiate clan and Tanda spirits known as Manita Bhuts. | The percentage of literacy is practical nil. From the educational survey it was found that no student of Birhor community had attended school during 1962. |
| Sauria Paharia 28 | Purulia District. | Agriculture and labour | Ancestors play an important role in the life of the Saurias. They say that they can do nothing without | Educationally very backward, the number of student from this community being nil in |

Annexure IV

(Reference para 2.11)

STATEMENT SHOWING REPRESENTATION OF SCHEDULED TRIBES IN SERVICE UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

| Classification of Post/Service | Position during | Total No. in service | Total No. of Scheduled Tribes in Service | Percent- age of Scheduled Tribes in Service |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--|---|
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. |
| <u>PERMANENT</u> | | | | |
| Gazetted | 1964-65 | 5271 | 6 | 0.11 |
| Non-Gazetted (Superior) | -do- | 77115 | 2283 | 2.96 |
| Non-Gazetted (Inferior) | -do- | 13191 | 266 | 2.03 |
| Gazetted | 1965-66 | 5629 | 11 | 0.19 |
| Non-Gazetted (Superior) | -do- | 74867 | 2285 | 3.05 |
| Non-Gazetted (Inferior) | -do- | 12595 | 267 | 2.12 |
| <u>TEMPORARY</u> | | | | |
| Gazetted | 1964-65 | 2091 | 14 | 0.67 |
| Non-Gazetted (Superior) | -do- | 87540 | 599 | 0.68 |
| Non-Gazetted (Inferior) | -do- | 64843 | 1317 | 2.03 |
| Gazetted | 1965-66 | 2133 | 9 | 0.42 |
| Non-Gazetted (Superior) | -do- | 90893 | 624 | 0.69 |
| Non-Gazetted (Inferior) | -do- | 68968 | 1311 | 1.90 |

SCHEDULED CASTES & TRIBES WELFARE ESTABLISHMENT IN THE
DISTRICTS

| <u>District/Sub-Division</u> | <u>Category of Officers Posted</u> |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Burdwan | One SO, Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare. One KGO, one SAE, one SDPO |
| 1(a) Asansol | One Scheduled Caste & TW Officer |
| 2. Birbhum | One SO, Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare. One Kanungo, one Sub-Assistant Engineer, one Inspector, one SDPO. |
| 3. Bankura | One SO, Sch. Castes & Tribes Welfare. One Sch. Castes & Tribes Welfare Officer, one Kanungo, one Sub-Asstt. Engineer, one Inspector, one SDPO. |
| 4. Midnapore | One SO, Sch. Caste and Tribes Welfare, one Kanungo, one Sub-Asstt. Engineer, one Inspector, one SDPO. |
| 4(a) Jhargram | One Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare Officer, one Inspector. |
| 5. Hooghly | One SO, Sch. Castes & Tribes Welfare, one Kanungo, one Sub-Asstt. Engineer, one Inspector. |
| 6. Howrah | One Sch. Caste & Tribes Welfare Officer, one Sub-Asstt. Engineer. |
| 7. 24-Parganas | One SO, Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare, one Kanungo, one Sub-Asstt. Engineer, one Inspector. |
| 8. Nadia | One Special Officer, Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare, one Kanungo, one Sub-Assistant Engineer, one Inspector. |
| 9. Murshidabad | One Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare Officer, one Kanungo, one Sub-Asstt. Engineer. |
| 10. Malda | One SO, Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare, one Kanungo, one Sub-Assistant Engineer, one Inspector, one SDPO. |
| 11. West Dinajpur | One SO, Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare, one Kanungo, one Sub-Assistant Engineer, one Inspector, one SDPO. |

| 1. | 2. |
|-----------------|--|
| 11(a) Islampur | One Inspector, one Kanungo. |
| 12. Jalpaiguri | One Special Officer, Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare, one Sub-Assistant Engineer one Inspector. |
| 13. Darjeeling | One SO, Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare, one Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare Officer, one Kanungo, one Sub-Assistant Engineer, one Inspector. |
| 13(a) Kalimpong | One SO, Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare, one Sub-Assistant Engineer. |
| 14. Cooch-Bihar | One SO, Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare, one Sub-Assistant Engineer. |
| 15. Purulia | One SO, scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare, one Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare Officer, one Kanungo, one Sub-Assistant Engineer, one Sub-Divisional Publicity Officer. |

Annexure VI
(Reference para 4.2)

PHYSICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF SCHEMES FOR THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED TRIBES UNDERTAKEN DURING THE SECOND FIVE
YEAR PLAN.

| <u>Name of Scheme</u> | <u>Physical achievements</u> |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <u>STATE SECTOR</u> | |
| I. Education | |
| 1. Provision of tuition fees to tribal students reading in secondary schools. | 46,368 students |
| 2. Book grants to tribal students of secondary schools. | 7,068 students |
| 3. Examination fees for the students appearing at the: | |
| a) S.F. Examination and | 794 students |
| b) University examination | |
| 4. Boarding charges to tribal students of secondary schools. | 4,204 students |
| 5. Renovation of primary school buildings & provision for furniture and equipment. | 158 schools |
| 6. Contribution towards the establishment of Junior Basic Schools. | 10 schools |
| 7. Upgrading of 2 classes Jr. High schools to 4 classes Jr. High schools. | 12 schools |
| 8. Upgrading of 4 classes Jr. High schools to Sr. High schools. | 4 schools |
| 9. Expansion of: | |
| a) Existing school-hostels | 10 hostels expanded and 17 maintained |
| b) Maintenance of hostels | |
| 10. Construction of new hostel buildings | 12 hostels |
| 11. Stipends to S.T. Students reading in: | |
| a) Schools | 1,229 students |
| b) Colleges | 120 students |
| 12. Maintenance of Institutions run by Adimjati Seva Sangh | |
| II. Economic Uplift | |
| 1. Subsidised distribution of seeds | 9,982 Maunds |
| 2. Demonstration plots in cultivators' holdings. | 2,965 Plots |

| 1. | 2. |
|---|---|
| 3. Encouragement of homestead vegetable cum-fruit gardening | 6,403 families |
| 4. Improvement of livestock | 40 bulls distributed and maintained. |
| 5. Subsidised distribution of poultry birds | 15,585 birds |
| 6. Goat-keeping as a subsidiary means of livelihood | 81 blocks opened and maintained. |
| 7. Poultry multiplication centre in Darjeeling | Centre maintained |
| 8. Sheep-rearing as a subsidiary means of livelihood | 73 blocks opened and maintained |
| 9. Pig-rearing as a subsidiary means of livelihood | 52 blocks opened and maintained |
| 10. Training facilities to Scheduled Tribes in vocational trades and crafts. | 422 students. |
| 11. Financial assistance to Scheduled Tribes people trained in various trades and crafts. | 178 persons |
| 12. Training-cum-production centre in selected areas | 5 centres maintained & 153 persons trained. |
| 13. Establishment of Co-operative graingolas | 57 graingolas registered & maintained. |
| 14. Establishment of Creamery Societies | 7 societies maintained |
| 15. Maintenance of graingolas | 31 graingolas maintained |
| <u>III. Health, Housing & Other Schemes</u> | |
| 1. Grants to dispensaries and Health Centres | 365 dispensaries. |
| 2. Provision of T.B.Beds for Tribal T.B. patients. | 30 beds |
| 3. Water supply in Tribal areas. | 1164 sources |
| 4. Improvement of forest villagers' huts. | 212 huts constructed. |
| 5. Water Supply in forest villagers' huts. | 106 water sources |

| | |
|---|--|
| 6. Repairs to Belpahari-Bans-Pahari Road. | Work completed |
| 7. Provision of wooden bridges and Masonry culverts on village roads | 87 culverts, 10 bridges and 2 cause ways |
| 8. Improvement of Kutchha village roads | 40 miles |
| 9. Construction of Car tracks in hill areas | 8 miles |
| 10. Construction of pucca village roads & Moorum-consolidated roads | 6 miles |
| 11. Minor Irrigation schemes | 2 schemes |
| 12. Small Irrigation schemes | 102 schemes |
| 13. Distribution of pumping plants | 24 plants |
| 14. Tank Improvement for Irrigation | 23 tanks |
| 15. Establishment of welfare centres | 33 centres opened and maintained |
| 16. Grants to Adult Education centres night schools etc. | |
| 17. Grants to Bhutia and Lepcha Monasteries | 128 monasteries |
| 18. Publicity | 1 film produced |
| 19. Cultural Research Institute | C.R.I. Maintained |
| 20. Establishments of Social Workers' Training Institute | Work in progress |
| 21. Aid to voluntary agencies | 56 non-official organisations |
| 22. Free legal aid to Scheduled Tribes | Grants given |
| 23. Strengthening of staff | Staff appointed |
| 24. Spill over cost of uncompleted schemes in the 1st Five Year Plan. | |

CENTRAL SECTOR

I. Education

| | |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Scholarships to Scheduled Tribe students reading in Post-matric stages | 479 students |
|---|--------------|

II. Economic Uplift

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Scheme for marketing of paddy in Sunderban area | One Cooperative Society maintained. |
| 2. T.C.P.C. in sheet metal Industry | 47 persons trained |
| 3. Wool Industries in Kalimpong | 20 trainees trained |
| 4. Bee-keeping as subsidiary means of livelihood | 40 persons trained |
| 5. Lac cultivation in tribal areas | 1050 families |
| 6. Opening of graingolas | 60 golas started and maintained |
| 7. Grants for purchase of agriculture land and house-site | 640 persons |
| 8. Rehabilitation of Toto families | Scheme in operation |
| 9. Settlement of landless tribals in agricultural colonies(garbata) | Partial settlement of 128 families |
| 10. Grants of Cooperative societies for setting up a bone-digester Plant and glue manufacturing unit. | |
| 11. Supply of Improved Dhenkis as a subsidiary means of livelihood | 530 families benefited |
| 12. Establishment of livestock farm at Susunia | Preliminaries taken up. |

III. Health, Housing and Other Schemes

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Water supply in tribal areas | 10 pipelines, 774 sources completed & 210 taken up |
| 2. Mobile dispensary-cum-V.D. Unit. | 1 unit with 2 wings at Madarihat and Siliguri |
| 3. Leprosy clinics(Hooghly Distt.) | Construction of house for two centres completed. |
| 4. Housing | 1664 houses completed and another 496 taken up. |
| 5. Construction of roads. | |

PHYSICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF SCHEMES FOR THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED TRIBES UNDERTAKEN DURING THE THIRD FIVE YEAR PLAN.

Central Sector

| <u>Name of the Scheme</u> | <u>Physical achievements</u> |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <u>SCHEDULED TRIBES:</u> | |
| <u>I. Education:</u> | |
| 1. Post-matric Scholarship | 1844 students |
| 2. Construction of Hostel for Scheduled Tribe girl students. | 2 Hostels. |
| <u>II. Economic Uplift:</u> | |
| 1. Opening of Multipurpose Cooperative Societies. | 282 societies. |
| 2. Labourers' Cooperative and Cooperative for collecting minor forest produce | 5 Labourers' Cooperatives |
| 3. Management cost to Industrial Cooperative | -- |
| <u>III. Health, Housing and Other Schemes</u> | |
| 1. Cultural Research Institute | -- |
| 2. Social Workers' Training Institute | 65 persons trained |
| 3. Spill-over: | |
| a) Water Supply) | Incomplete schemes completed. |
| b) Leprosy Clinics) | |
| c) Housing) | |
| d) Roads) | |
| e) Settlement of landless tribals) | |
| f) Improvement of live-stock Farm) | |
| g) Rehabilitation of Toto families) | |

State Sector

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| <u>I. Education</u> | |
| 1. Payment of tuition fees | 77681 students |
| 2. Payment of book grants | 18440 students |
| 3. Coaching arrangements | 4329 students |
| 4. Examination fees | 1502 students |

| | |
|---|--|
| 5. Special stipends | 3273 students |
| 6. Ashram schools | 6 Ashram hostels maintained and 5 constructed. |
| 7. Extension of existing school hostel | 23 hostels |
| 8. Construction of new hostel building | 22 hostels |
| 9. Boarding charges | 15054 students |
| 10. Hostel facilities to Scheduled Tribe students of post-secondary stages in Calcutta. | -- |
| 11. Upgrading of 2-Classes Junior High School to 4-Classes Junior High School | 1 school |
| 12. Grants for construction of Primary School | 11 schools |
| 13. Contribution towards the establishment of Jr. Basic Schools | 2 schools |
| II. <u>Economic Uplift</u> | |
| 1. Bee-keeping as a subsidiary means of livelihood | -- |
| 2. Development of lac cultivation | 3 centres |
| 3. Goat-keeping | 50 blocks |
| 4. Sheep-rearing | 6 blocks |
| 5. Pig-rearing | 50 blocks |
| 6. Minor Irrigation | 425 schemes |
| 7. Training facilities to Scheduled Tribe students in vocational trades and crafts | 544 students |
| 8. Development of non-mulberry Tassar Industry | 1 centre |
| 9. Residential facilities to tribal students receiving training in vocational trades and crafts | 126 students |
| 10. Scheme for eri-rearing, spinning and weaving | 2 centres |
| 11. Financial assistance to Scheduled Tribe artisans in selected trades | 1523 persons |
| 12. Provision for purchase of agricultural lands and house-sites. | 1717 families |

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 13. Reclamation and development of waste lands | 2111 acres of land |
| 14. Provision for wooden bridges and masonry culverts | 8 bridges, 15 culverts |
| 15. Improvement of Kutcha village road | 10 roads, 17 miles |
| 16. Training Centre for Carpentry | 2 Centres |

III. Health, Housing & Other Schemes:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. House and House-sites | 3155 families |
| 2. Water Supply | 1389 sources |
| 3. Mobile Units | -- |
| 4. Aid to Voluntary Agencies | 43 organisations |
| 5. Grants to Institutions, organisations for cultural, recreational and social activities | 1178 organisations |
| 6. Field staff and supervisory staff. | Staff maintained |
| 7. Progress, Statistics and Co-ordination Cell | Cell maintained |
| 8. <u>Spill-over from 2nd Five Year Plan:</u> | |
| a) Water Supply |) |
| b) Minor Irrigation |) |
| c) Irrigation through Tank etc. |) |
| d) Small Irrigation |) |
| e) Construction of pucca village roads. |) Completion of |
| f) Wooden bridges |) incomplete work. |
| g) Establishment of Welfare Centres |) |
| h) Improvement of Kutcha village road. |) |
| i) Free legal aid. |) |

Annexure VIII
(Reference para 5.3)

Position of households engaged in cultivation
classified by size of land cultivated in rural
areas only for members of Scheduled Tribes

Households of members of Scheduled
Tribes in a 20% Sample of all
Households - 1951 Census

| <u>Size of land holdings (Acres)</u> | <u>Total number of cultivated households</u> | <u>Percentage to total households</u> |
|--|--|---|
| <u>1.</u> | <u>2.</u> | <u>3.</u> |
| Less than 1 | 4,994 | 10.95 |
| 1.0 to 2.4 | 15,455 | 33.90 |
| 2.5 to 4.9 | 13,259 | 29.08 |
| 5.0 to 9.9 | 8,915 | 19.55 |
| 10.0 to 14.9 | 1,788 | 3.92 |
| Above 15 | 1,187 | 2.60 |
| Total: | 45,593 | 100.00 |

Statement showing Level of Literacy among Scheduled Tribes as well
as the Total Population in the State

(1961)

| LEVEL OF LITERACY | SCHEDULED TRIBES | | | | | | TOTAL POPULATION | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|------------------|------|----------|------|----------|------|
| | Males | | Females | | Total | | Males | | Females | | Total | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| TOTAL POPULATION | 1043042 | 100.00 | 1011039 | 100.00 | 2054081 | 100.00 | 18399144 | | 16327135 | | 34926279 | |
| WITHOUT LEVEL OF EDUCATION | 85721 | 8.22 | 13872 | 1.37 | 99593 | 4.85 | 4162013 | 22.4 | 1764717 | 10.8 | 5926730 | 17.0 |
| PRIMARY & JUNIOR BASIC | 29171 | 2.80 | 3697 | 0.37 | 32868 | 1.60 | 2424221 | 13.0 | 878555 | 5.4 | 3302766 | 9.5 |
| MATRICULATION & ABOVE | 1935 | 0.18 | 220 | 0.02 | 2161 | 0.11 | 867772 | 4.7 | 128836 | 0.8 | 996158 | 2.8 |
| NON-TECHNICAL DIPLOMA | - | - | 6 | Neg | 6 | Neg | | | | | | |
| TECHNICAL DIPLOMA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNIVERSITY DEGREE (NON-TECHNICAL) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TECH. DEGREE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL LITERACY% | | 11.20 | | 1.76 | | | | 40.1 | | 17.0 | | 29.2 |

Source:- Report of the Seminar on Employment of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes, pp 80-82, Planning Commission, New Delhi, 1965
Census of India 1961 Volume I Part II.C(i) pp 118-119
Manager of Publications Delhi, 1965.

Annexure X
(Reference para 6.8)

DISTRICTWISE PROGRESS CHART OF SECONDARY EDUCATION AMONG THE SCHEDULED
CASTES, SCHEDULED TRIBES AND OTHER COMMUNITIES DURING 1962.

| Sl. No. | Name of the District | Expected number of school going students in the secondary stage i.e. 9% of the population of | | | Actual number of secondary students attending schools for 1962 of | | | %age of actual students to the expected number of students in secondary stage. | | |
|---------|----------------------|--|------------------|----------------------|---|------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|
| | | Scheduled Castes | Scheduled Tribes | Other Communi- ties. | Sched- ed Castes | Sched- ed Tribes | Other Communi- ties. | Sched- uled Castes | Sched- uled Tribes | Other Communi- ties. |
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 6. | 7. | 8. | 9. | 10. | 11. |
| 1. | Bardwan | 67,849 | 16,213 | 1,93,304 | 4,624 | 444 | 85,278 | 6.82 | 2.74 | 44.09 |
| 2. | Birbhum | 37,921 | 9,617 | 82,616 | 2,514 | 327 | 32,120 | 6.63 | 3.40 | 38.83 |
| 3. | Bankura | 44,343 | 15,605 | 89,858 | 3,559 | 2,748 | 38,527 | 8.03 | 17.61 | 42.88 |
| 4. | Calcutta | 11,309 | 227 | 2,51,831 | 2,048 | 65 | 1,41,475 | 17.97 | 28.63 | 55.18 |
| 5. | Cooch Behar | 43,018 | 793 | 47,942 | 5,134 | 53 | 13,072 | 11.93 | 7.31 | 27.27 |
| 6. | Darjeeling | 7,414 | 8,680 | 40,123 | 1,173 | 1,578 | 13,302 | 15.82 | 18.18 | 33.15 |
| 7. | Howrah | 26,931 | 556 | 1,55,932 | 3,274 | 22 | 61,433 | 12.13 | 4.00 | 39.40 |
| 8. | Hooghly | 40,069 | 8,110 | 1,52,649 | 3,286 | 443 | 80,626 | 8.20 | 5.46 | 52.82 |
| 9. | Jalpaiguri | 37,679 | 31,927 | 52,731 | 4,419 | 1,755 | 19,917 | 11.73 | 5.50 | 37.77 |
| 10. | Midnapur | 50,707 | 29,679 | 3,10,384 | 8,493 | 3,630 | 1,19,182 | 16.75 | 12.23 | 38.40 |
| 11. | Murshidabad | 25,395 | 2,831 | 1,77,875 | 2,589 | 147 | 40,052 | 10.19 | 5.19 | 22.52 |
| 12. | Malda | 14,709 | 8,957 | 86,307 | 1,799 | 353 | 15,217 | 8.02 | 3.94 | 17.62 |
| 13. | Nadia | 31,515 | 1,973 | 1,20,712 | 6,499 | 145 | 51,152 | 20.62 | 7.35 | 42.38 |
| 14. | Purulia | 18,076 | 23,657 | 80,668 | 1,411 | 1,878 | 20,517 | 7.81 | 7.94 | 25.43 |
| 15. | West Dinajpur | 25,781 | 15,313 | 78,048 | 2,761 | 1,160 | 20,573 | 10.71 | 7.63 | 26.36 |
| 16. | 24 Parganas | 1,37,243 | 10,739 | 4,17,301 | 37,033 | 1,105 | 2,04,793 | 26.98 | 10.29 | 49.08 |
| | West Bengal | 6,20,128 | 1,84,867 | 23,38,370 | 90,616 | 15,858 | 9,57,226 | 14.61 | 8.57 | 40.94 |

Source: Handbook of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of West Bengal- Cultural Research Institute, Tribal Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal (1966).

STATEMENT SHOWING PARTICULARS OF SUB-BLOCKS

| No. and Names of Sub-Blocks | Area of the Sub-Blocks in sq.miles | Population covered by the Sub-Blocks | |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| | | Total Population | Tribal Population |
| District Malda - One Sub-Block - Gazol-Pandua Sub-Block | 12 | 6168 | 3283 |
| District Jalpaiguri - Two Sub-Blocks | | | |
| 1) Anandapur - Dholbari Sub-Block | 20 | 5526 | 2426 |
| 2) Nararthali Sub-Block | 18 | 8423 | 4032 |
| District Darjeeling - Four Sub-Blocks.- Sub-Block consisting of | | | |
| 1) Takda-Rongai Unit & Sukhia-Pulungdang Unit | 6 | 1205 | 625 |
| 2) Kharibari-Panisali Sub-Block | 15 | 1456 | 644 |
| 3) Phansidewa Sub-Block | 20 | 2150 | 1125 |
| 4) Gitdubling Sub-Block | 10 | 1503 | 680 |
| District Hooghly - One Sub-Block Shibgore-Bhagarpara Sub-Block | 0.72 | 526 | 300 |
| District Bankura - Three Sub-Blocks | | | |
| 1) Sanpuria Sub-Block | 2 | 605 | 600 |
| 2) Dhengum Sub-Block | 2 | 600 | 400 |
| 3) Halud Kanali Sub-Block | 3 | 902 | 530 |
| District Birbhum - Two Sub-Blocks | | | |
| 1) Rampurhat Sub-Block | 22 | 10000 | 7000 |
| 2) Mahammad Bazar Sub-Block | 26 | 7700 | 6000 |
| District Midnapore - One Sub-Block Ledabohara Sub-Block | 9.58 | 2624 | 2033 |
| District West Dinajpur - One Sub-Block Bolla Anchal Sub-Block | 16.33 | 9294 | 4577 |
| District Purulia - One Sub-Block Dhadka, P.S.Bandwan | 10.50 | 2037 | 1375 |

Annexure XII
(Reference para 11.6)

Grainola Societies established under
the Tribal Welfare Programme.

| District | 1st Plan | 2nd Plan | 3rd Plan | 4th Plan | | Total |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------|
| | | | | 1st year | 2nd year | |
| 1. Burdwan | 2 | 9 | 20 | 3 | - | 34 |
| 2. Birbhum | 1 | 10 | 23 | 3 | 1 | 38 |
| 3. Bankura | 3 | 13 | 23 | 1 | - | 40 |
| 4. Midnapore | 4 | 16 | 33 | 4 | - | 57 |
| 5. Hooghly | 2 | 6 | 16 | 2 | - | 26 |
| 6. Howrah | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 7. Calcutta | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 8. 24-Parganas | 1 | 9 | 16 | 2 | 1 | 29 |
| 9. Nadia | - | 4 | 9 | 1 | - | 14 |
| 10. Murshidabad | 2 | 6 | 13 | 1 | - | 22 |
| 11. Malda | 5 | 8 | 23 | 4 | - | 40 |
| 12. W. Dinajpur | 6 | 10 | 20 | 1 | - | 37 |
| 13. Jalpaiguri | 2 | 10 | 23 | - | - | 35 |
| 14. Darjeeling | 1 | 8 | 23 | 2 | - | 34 |
| 15. Cooch Behar | 1 | 2 | 7 | - | 1 | 11 |
| 16. Purulia | - | 6 | 33 | 4 | - | 43 |
| Total: | 30 | 117 | 282 | 28 | 3 | 460 |

(Reference para 11.14)

Composition, Term and Functions of
Panchayati Raj Bodies in West Bengal

| Body | Composition | Term | Main functions |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------|--|
| PANCHAYAT | 9 to 15 members. There is no reservation for women or Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. | 4 years | <p><u>Gram Panchayat</u> Sanitation and conservancy; construction and maintenance of public streets; supply of water, vaccination & inoculation.</p> <p><u>Anchal Panchayat</u> Imposition, assessment & collection of taxes, maintenance & control of dafadars & chowkidars and proper constitution and administration of the Nyaya Panchayats.</p> |
| PANCHAYAT SAMITIS (Anchalik Parishad) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pradhan and Presidents of Union Board in the Block 2. One Adhyaksha from each Anchal Panchayat elected by Adhyakshas of the Anchal. 3. M.Ps, MLAs and MLCs (excluding the Ministers) of the Block, with a right to vote and hold office. 4. Two women and two members belonging to backward communities appointed by State Govt. 5. B.D.O. as associate member without any right of vote. | 4 years | <p><u>Anchalik Parishad</u> Development of agriculture, livestock, cottage industries, cooperative rural credit, water supply, irrigation, public health, communication, primary education, social welfare, etc. Adoption of measures for relief of distressed and coordination of development plans of Anchal Panchayats and sanctioning of their budgets.</p> |
| | <p><u>Reservation and Co-option</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Two persons having knowledge or experience of social work or rural development. | | |

| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. |
|------------------|--|-------------|---|
| ZILA PARISHAD | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Presidents of Anchalik Parishads within the District.2. Two Adhyakshas from each sub-division elected by the Adhyakshas3. M.Ps, MLAs and MLCs (excluding the Ministers) of the District with a right to vote and hold office.4. A chairman of Municipality or a Mayor of the Municipal Corporation in the district appointed by the State Government.5. President of District School Board.6. All S.D.Ms and District Panchayat Officer - associate members without right to vote. <p><u>Reservation and Co-option</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Two women nominated by State Government. | 4 years. | Development of agriculture, livestock, industries, cooperatives, rural credit, water supply, irrigation, public health establishment of hospitals and dispensaries. Communications, primary and adult education and social welfare. Adoption of measures for relief of distresses, making grants-in-aid to schools, libraries, etc. acquisition and maintenance of village 'hats' and markets, coordination of the plans of Anchalik Parishads and sanctioning their budgets. |

Annexure XIV
(Reference para 12.1)

Industrial Schemes taken up under the Tribal
Welfare Programme for Scheduled Tribes.

| Name of the Industry | Name of the Scheme with Location | Trades/ Crafts Taught | No. of seats in the Centre | Rate of Stipend |
|----------------------|---|--|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. |
| Textile Industry | 1) T.C.P.C. for Cotton textiles, Kharibari, Siliguri, Darjeeling | Cotton Textile Weaving etc. | 15 | Rs.30/- |
| | ii) T.C.P.C. for Wool & Cotton Weaving, Darjeeling. | Wool & Cotton Textile Weaving | 20 | Rs.30/- |
| | iii) Jute & Woollen Goods, Aiho, Malda. | Jute Spinning & Weaving of Jute products | 15 | Rs.30/- |
| | iv) Jute & Woollen Goods, Balurghat, West Dinajpur. | -do- | 15 | Rs.30/- |
| Sericulture Industry | 1) Sericulture training, Kalimpong, Darjeeling for Scheduled Tribes | Sericulture, food plantation and cocoon rearing. | 10 | Rs.30/- |
| | ii) Non-Mulberry Tassar Industry at Gopiballavpur, Midnapur | Distribution of free seed cocoon, cocoon rearing & Tassar Weaving. | 15 | Rs.30/- |
| | iii) Eri Rearing, Reeling & Spinning, Kamakshyaguri | Eri rearing, Reeling and Spinning | 10 | Rs.30/- |
| | iv) Eri Weaving at Kamakshyaguri, Jalpaiguri for Sch. Tribe. | Eri Weaving | 10 | Rs.30/- |

| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. |
|--------------------|--|--|----|---------|
| Carpentry Industry | i) T.C.P.C.for Carpentry and Wood-cum-Metal Craft, Kalimpong, Darjeeling. | Carpentry, Wood-cum-Metal Craft | 15 | Rs.30/- |
| | ii) T.C.P.C.for Carpentry, Hansqua, Darjeeling. | Carpentry | 15 | Rs.30/- |
| | iii) T.C.P.C.for Carpentry, Itahar, West Dinajpur. | -do- | 15 | Rs.30/- |
| | iv) T.C.P.C.for Carpentry, Belpahari, Midnapur. | -do- | 10 | Rs.30/- |
| Lac Industry | i) Development of Lac Cultivation(2nd Plan & 3rd Plan) at Purullia, Bankura & Midnapur districts with 12 units spread over in those districts. | This is a Servicing Scheme under which Lac Cultivators are given free brood Lac/ Kusumi Lac and technical guidance and assistance. | | |