

Backward Classes Welfare



BCW Department has been working with an aim of social, educational, economic and cultural development of the SC, ST and other Backward Classes of people of the State. The Department has adopted a few fundamental changes in the delivery system during the last year. Quick disposal, monitoring, and outreach to the poor SC/ST/OBC people have been the essence of administrative changes. Efforts have been made to revamp and upgrade the Human and Other Resources of Cultural Research Institute (CRI). Emphasis is given on capacity building, skill development and vocational training to ensure empowerment of SC/ST beneficiaries & students.

- **Budgetary Expenses:** During the last financial year the Department spent more than 92% of the provisions under the State Budget. This is significantly higher than the performance during the previous two years. In the SC sector, the increase in expenditure is more than 85% of the expenditure of 2010-11. A bar chart showing expenditure incurred by the Department during the last three years is shown below:

Sector	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
SC Sector	284.04	270.86	503.5
ST Sector	257.52	306.51	328.21
OBC Sector	13.81	2.43	5.83
Other Sector	2.91	3.09	3.52
Total	558.28	582.89	841.06

- **Addition to OBC List:** Survey of 47 communities applied for inclusion in the lists of OBC has been completed and report submitted. Out of these, 44 communities belong to minority. The survey aims at determination of relative backwardness of these communities for identifying and placing them into Category-A (More backward) and Category-B (Backward) for the purpose of availing the reservation & other benefits. Currently, 108 communities are enlisted as OBC, 56 of those being identified as OBC – A (More Backward) and 52 communities as OBC – B.
- **Issuance of Caste Certificate:** During the last year, initiatives have been taken due to which issuance of certificates has been faster and hassle-free. Time limit for issuance of caste certificates has been reduced from 8 weeks to 4 weeks. The application form has

been simplified and reduced to 2 pages from 8 pages. Facility of on-line issuance of certificates has been introduced in the seven districts of North 24 Parganas, Hooghly, Murshidabad, Burdwan, Paschim Medinipur, South 24 Parganas and Dakshin Dinajpur. In 2011, 6,00,210 Caste Certificates have been issued during the period from January to December, against 4,82,962 caste certificates issued during 2010. This increase is due to initiatives of the Department and by organising special camps. A graphic report on the improvement in issuance of caste certificates is shown below:

Issuance of Castes Certificates

Year	Total no. of certificates issued
2009	328694
2010	482962
2011	600210

- **Implementation of Educational schemes:** There are number of schemes in the BCW Department for assistance to SC/ST students for pursuing studies. One such popular scheme is Post-Matric Scholarship. During this financial year, Rs.243.45 Crore for 6.99 Lakh SC students and Rs.29.17 Crore for 75600 ST

students have been disbursed as against Rs.70.75 Crore for 2.70 Lakh SC students and Rs.8.88 Crore for 27800 ST students during the last year. Statements and graphs in respect of achievements on some of the Educational Schemes are shown below:

Amount utilized for different educational scheme

Name of the Scheme	Amount utilized (Rs.) 2009-10	Amount utilized (Rs.) 2010-11	Amount utilized (Rs.) 2011-12
PMS to SC*	908411176	707549114	2434468400
PMS to ST*	102300819	88807005	291733400
BG to SC**	495270222	433711363	431881000
BG to ST**	61302839	72330824	84505600
HC to SC#	223809542	285166700	338001000
HC to ST#	213110631	259840258	278027000
Ashram Hostel##	81022853	89106237	96013080
MC to SC\$	76168320	116230640	131322000
MC to ST\$	123932520	125934920	150670000
OCC to ST [£]	8502140	8973935	10480595
Total	2293831062	2187650996	4247102075

* Post Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Caste & Tribe Students @Rs.10,000/- to Rs.15,000 per annum.

** Book Grant to Scheduled Caste & Tribe Students @Rs.20/- to Rs.300/- per annum depending upon class.

Hostel Charges to Scheduled Caste & Tribe Students @Rs.750/- per month for 10 months.

Providing hostel charges to Scheduled Caste & Tribe Students residing at Ashram Hostels @Rs.750/- per month for 12 months.

\$ Maintenances charges for Scheduled Caste & Tribe day scholar students @Rs.40/- per month.

£ Other Compulsory Charges for Schedules Tribe Students @Rs35/- per annum.

No. of Beneficiary under different EDUCATIONAL SCHEMES

Name of the Scheme	No. of beneficiaries 2009-10	No. of beneficiaries 2010-11	No. of beneficiaries 2011-12
PMS to SC	344138	270191	699509
PMS to ST	29720	27810	75695
BG to SC	2328861	2060712	2052500
BG to ST	311474	365844	418705
HC to SC	46102	44609	48507
HC to ST	43606	39199	45206
Ashram Hostel	8980	8869	9205
MC to SC	158684	242117	273588
MC to ST	207424	262368	313895
OCC to ST	243013	256271	299445
Total	3722002	3577990	4236255

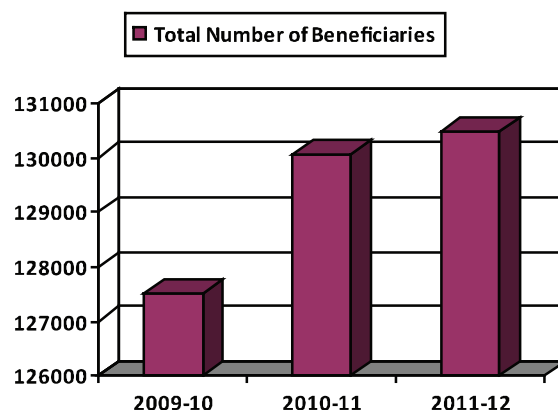
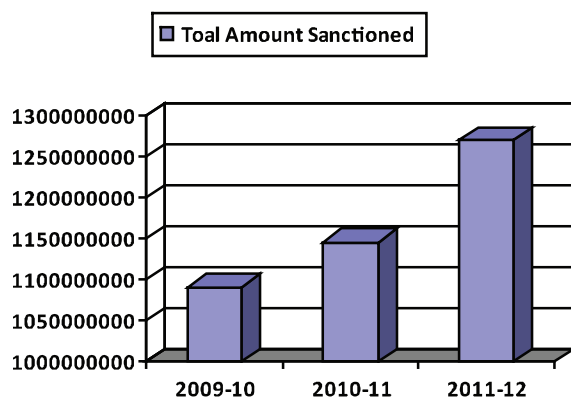
Besides, education loan for higher studies in Engineering / Medical / MBA / Nursing are available for SC/ST students living below double the poverty line. The maximum limit of such loan is fixed at Rs.5.00 Lakh with very low rate of interest. This year, 84 number of SC students have availed Rs.2.10 Crore of education loan from WB SCST Development & Finance Corporation.

- **Special economic package for development of backward classes in LWE affected area:** Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced distribution of Bicycles for all girl students studying in classes IX-XII in the 23 LWE Blocks of Jangalmahal areas. Delivery of bi-cycles has been completed in January, 2012. In 3 districts 39893 no. cycles were distributed.
- **Tribal Development Schemes by WBTDCC Ltd:** WBTDCC Ltd has provided training to 4830 trainees for Skill Development, Leadership Development and Orientation training. Besides, Micro Credit has been extended to more than 9000 SHG units.

- **Financial help to economically weaker OBC students including minority students studying in higher (secondary) level:** There are number of schemes for assistance to OBC students for pursuing higher studies. One such popular scheme is Post-Matric Scholarship. In 2011-12 Rs.7.66 Crore for 54,200 OBC students have been disbursed as against Rs.3.71 Crore for 26,352 OBC students in corresponding period last year. Besides education loan for higher studies in Engineering/ Medical/ MBA / Nursing are available for OBC living below double the poverty line. The maximum limit of such loan is Rs.5.00 Lakh with very minimum interest. This year 36 number of students have availed Rs.19.94 Lakh as loan from West Bengal Backward Classes Development & Finance Corporation.
- **Comprehensive development plan for Darjeeling & Jangalmahal:** Rs.5.00 Crore has been sanctioned to WBTDCC to assist the LAMPS for purchase of

Kendu leaves from the poor tribal people in the Junglemahal area. In addition to that minimum support price of Kendu leaves has been raised to Rs.75.00 per chata (2.5 kg) from Rs.35.00 per chata. In addition, a number of schemes for comprehensive development of the Jungle Mahal area have been taken up with fund under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India.

- **Social Security scheme for economically backward sections:** BCW Department has one social security scheme of Pension for Tribal beneficiaries belonging to BPL families. The pension is provided @ Rs.1,000 per month. Rs.127 Crore has been disbursed during 2011-12 to 1,30,463 number of tribal people who have attained above 60 years of age. A Bar chart showing performance during the last three years is appended below:



- **Individual Beneficiary Oriented Scheme:** Individual Beneficiaries Oriented Schemes are being implemented out of 90% fund under SCA to SCSP

for SCs and 70% fund under SCA to TSP for STs. A statement showing the beneficiaries covered and fund utilized under these two schemes is given below:

YEAR	SC	SCA TO SCP involved	ST	SCA TO TSP involved
2009-2010	49960	4996.00	11718	1171.80
2010- 2011	43587	4358.70	12257	1225.70
2011- 2012	47300	4730.00	18702	1870.20

- **Infrastructure Development Programme in SC/ST dominated areas:** Each year, various infrastructure development programme like Minor Irrigation (Deep tube Wells, Shallow Tube Wells, Excavation/re-excavation of ponds/canals), Sinking of tube wells/dug wells for drinking water, construction of roads, bridges & culverts, construction/re-construction/repair & renovation of

hostel buildings/primary school buildings, construction of community halls etc. are being implemented by this Department out of the fund under SCA to SCSP, SCA to TSP and Art.275(1) of the Constitution of India.

A statement showing the fund utilized for implementation of various schemes under these three sectors in the last three years is given below:

Sl	Sector	2009 -10		2010 -11		2011 -12	
		No. of schemes	Amount utilized	No. of schemes	Amount utilized	No. of schemes	Amount utilized
1	SCA to SCSP	115	4.38 Crore	117	5.17 Crore	167	7.58 Crore
2	SCA to TSP	99	5.71 Crore	132	10.15 Crore	154	11.89 Crore
3	Art.275(1)	169	23.30 Crore	521	48.48 Crore	556	55.48 Crore
Total:		383	33.29 Crore	770	63.80 Crore	877	74.95 Crore

In 2011-12, a sum of Rs.20.96 Crore has also been utilized for construction/re-construction/repair & renovation of 213 nos. of hostel buildings.

- **Setting up of Hostels under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojna for the SC & ST Boys and**

	2009-2010		2010-2011		2011 -12	
	No. of Hostels	Amount (Rs.)	No. of Hostels	Amount (Rs.)	No. of Hostels	Amount(Rs.)
Boys	Nil	Nil	01	1,17,64,657 /-	06	13,49,50,200/-
Girls	Nil	Nil	02	1,81,42,246/ -	06	11,99,83,400/-

- **Activities on Culture:** BCW Department promotes development of culture of the SCs and STs. Arrangement for amendment of the Rules of Business of the BCW Department to include 'Jhumur, Gambhira, Baul, BHatiyali, Kabi-Gan, Puppetry, Chhau, Sarigan and Bachhari Baich (traditional boat race), Woodcraft, Kantha-Shilpa, Observance of general strike in 1873 a movement for dignity & equality before law' has been made. The scope of distribution of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Medha Puraskar has been extended to include meritorious students of class X standard of West Bengal Board of Madrasa Education, ICSE and CBSE. Programmes like distribution of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Medha Puraskar 2011, Bhawaiya Sangeet Competition, One Act Drama Competition in Tribal Languages, Gunijan Sambardhana, Shri Shri Thakur Harichand Guruchand Smriti Puraskar, Tea Festival, Adivasi Sanskritik Utsab etc. have been successfully organised during the last financial year.

Initiatives have already been taken by the Department in streamlining the process of work in the Department to be more responsive transparent and effective. All major activities are being displayed through the Departmental Website www.anagrasarkalyan.gov.in. There is scope for receiving feedback and suggestion from all section of the society to help the Department discharge his duties towards welfare and development of the backward classes people of the State.

BCW Department has adopted a few fundamental changes in the delivery system during the last YEAR. Quick disposal, monitoring, timely submission of reports and returns and outreach to the poor SC/ST/OBC people have been the essence of administrative changes. Efforts have been made to revamp and upgrade the Human and Other Resources of Cultural Research Institute. Emphasis is given

Girls: In 2011-12 Government of India sanctioned 6 Boys Hostels and 6 Girls Hostels for SC's under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojna. A comparative statement of performance in this regard with chart is shown below:

on capacity building, skill development and vocational training to ensure empowerment of SC/ST beneficiaries and students.

- **Ambedkar Centre for Excellence:** It has been decided to set up the Ambedkar Centre for Excellence (ACE) at Kolkata with its branches in all the Districts. This Nodal Centre will coordinate the Educational, Socio- economic, Cultural, Professional and Skill Development initiatives to maximize the benefits derived by the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, creating synergy between the multi dimensional programmes.
- **Promotion of Alchiki and local language of Darjeeling:** Reconstitution of the committee for Santal Academy is under active consideration of the Government. One of the main mandates of the Academy besides other activities is the promotion of "Alchiki" language.
- **Utarbanga Sech Samabay Prakalpa (UBSSP):** A highly successful scheme for extending irrigation facilities to SC beneficiaries in the districts of Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar, this scheme has been taken up in a big way to cover 1000 units @ 500 each in those two Districts. This scheme would be implemented through the West Bengal Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development and Finance Corporation. The Project cost per unit is - Rs.80,000/-. NSFDC provides Loan of Rs.30,000/-, while Subsidy from SCA to SCP is Rs. 40,000/-and Beneficiary Contribution is Rs.10,000/-. NSFDC Loan is to be repaid by State Govt. in five years. Rate of interest is @3% per annum.
- **Krishi Shramik Kalyan Kendra:** A Krishi Shramik Kalyan Kendra for the benefit of SC cultivators at the Sub-Divisional headquarters at Bongaon has been set

up. This is also a totally new & innovative scheme.

- **Pre-IAS/WBCS training Centre:** Steps are being taken to arrange Pre-IAS/WBCS training Centre for poor but meritorious SC/ST students. This scheme is also new & innovative.
- **English Education & Computer Education:** A distance learning centre to improve English education and Computer education for backward class students has been introduced from the Ambedkar Centre for Excellence at Cultural Research Institute. Class room training in English and Spanish languages have also been arranged.
- **Aptitude Test:** Aptitude tests for SC/ST students by

professional institutes for career guidance of SC/ST students at post schooling stage has been conducted covering passed out meritorious students of Madhyamik Examination 2010 and 2011. A database of those students have been kept to provide them continuous career guidance and cover them under different professional training courses.

- **Computer Training of SC/ST students:** Training on Computer Programme through ECIL-ECIT is being conducted in 66 centres throughout the State for 2000 SC & ST students. Total cost involvement in the programme is Rs.2.96 Crore including student's stipends. Training in 'O' Level Computer Courses of DOEACC has also been arranged.
