

# Dalit Adivasi Budget Analysis 2021-22

National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights - Dalit Arthik Adhikar Andolan



## 1. Introduction

The Union Budget 2021-22 was presented in the Parliament on February 1, 2021 amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. It is one of the most critical budgets in the Indian history considering the economic slowdown and the enormous blow due to the Covid-19 induced lockdown. The country is in great turmoil with several issues, viz., high levels of unemployment, health crisis, declining growth rate, ongoing farmer protests, increasing threats at the international borders, and others. The Dalit and Adivasi communities<sup>1</sup> have been hit the hardest by this crisis. Considering that they constitute 25% of the entire population, it is critical to understand how the Union Budget aims to mainstream their needs and entitlements. Dalit Adivasi Budget Analysis (DABA) is an analysis of Union Government's budgetary outlays meant for the welfare of SC and ST communities. This analysis uses three axes around which the analysis is hinged:

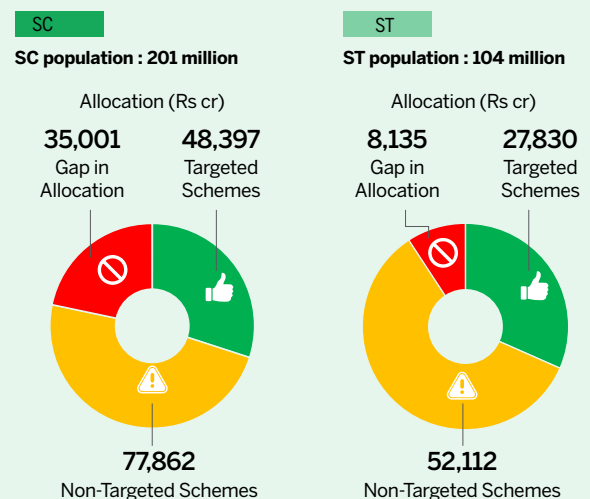
(i) At the first level, it assesses the extent of basic "allocation gap", i.e., the gap between what is due to SCs & STs as per the NITI Aayog guidelines and what the Ministries/Departments receive, which is shown in the Statements 10A and 10B of the budget document. SCs & STs are losing out a significant amount due to non-adherence to NITI guidelines. This is however only scratching the surface as when we delve deeper, we find that SCs & STs lose significant amounts owed to them due to scheme credibility gaps and budget credibility gaps.

(ii) The second level of analysis highlights the magnitude of lost resources to the SCs & STs owing to the distinction between SC & ST targeted and non-targeted schemes, which we denote as "scheme credibility gap". Targeted schemes show earmarked allocations for specified numbers of SC & ST beneficiaries directly benefiting from them. For instance, scholarships. Whereas, non-targeted schemes reflect 'General Schemes' which are not designed

<sup>1</sup> Dalit means SC and Adivasi means ST here.

**Figure 1: Budget For Scheduled Castes & For Scheduled Tribes -2021-22 (in Rs. Cr.)**

	SC	ST
(a) Total Expenditure Budget Estimate 2021-22	3,483,236	3,483,236
(b) Total Eligible Central Sector Schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (Note 1)	1,081,427	1,077,460
(c) Due Allocation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Schemes as per the New Guidelines of NITI Aayog (Note 1)	161,260	88,077
(d) Allocation for SC Schemes (as per Statement 10A) and ST Schemes (as per Statement 10B)	126,259	79,942
(e) Targeted Schemes	48,397	27,830
(f) Non-Targeted Schemes	77,862	52,112
(g) % of Allocation (g) = (d) % of (b)	11.67%	7.41%
(h) Gap in Allocation (h) = (c) - (d)	35,001	8,135
(i) Total Gap in allocation (gap in allocation + Non Targeted Schemes) (i) = (f) +(h)	<b>112,863</b>	<b>60,247</b>



Source: Gov of India -Budget Expenditure Profile 2021-22 Ministry of Finance.

\* In the new guidelines SCSP and TSP are renamed as DAPSC (Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes) & DAPST (Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes)

Note 1: New System of Budgeting for SC & ST is DAPSC & DAPST as per the new guidelines issued on Dated 26th Dec.2017 No.F.2 (21)-B(P&A)/2016 Govt. of India Ministry of Finance Department of Economic Affairs Budget Division page no-2. As per the Guidelines each obligatory Ministry/Department is given a set proportion of the CS+CSS to be earmarked as the Budget for SC and ST schemes.



## Highlights of Analysis on Union Budget 2021-22

- 1) There is a total gap in allocation of Rs 1,12,863 Cr under SC Budget and Rs 60,247 Cr under ST Budget. Out of the total budget allocated for SCs, only Rs 48,397 Cr has been allocated towards Targeted schemes that accounts (4.5%) and for STs it Rs 27,830 Cr (2.6%). Thus, most of the allocations are either notional or general in nature.
- 2) **Education:**
  - a. The Government announced Rs. 35,000 Crs for 5 years with a total of Rs. 7,000 Crs per year for Post Matric Scholarship for SCs however disappointing to see that only Rs. 3,866 Crs has been allocated and for STs it is Rs. 2,146 Crs which is insufficient to cater to the growing demand of students and take this point to the first point. So Point C will become Point A.
  - b. In the Department of School Education and Literacy, out of the total allocation of Rs. 9,420.68 Cr. under SCC and Rs. 5,297.40 Cr. under STC, only four schemes have direct provisions for SCs and STs and they account only Rs. 3,041.50 Cr. for scheduled castes and Rs. 1,783.50 Cr. for scheduled tribes. It is only 32% and 33.66% of the total sub-plan allocation under the department respectively.
  - c. The entire allocation under the Department of Higher Education both under SCC i.e. Rs. 3,843 Cr. and STC i.e. 1,963.45 Cr. is notional and paper allocation. They do not directly benefit the scheduled castes and scheduled tribe students.
- 3) The Hathras case where a Dalit woman was raped and murdered brought out the stark reality of Caste based violence in the country. Growing cases of violence as registered under the PoA, about 42,000 cases in the year 2018 alone. However the allocation for the implementation of PoA act and implementation of PCR Act is a mere Rs. 600 Crs
- 4) Dalit and Adivasi women are the marginalised within the marginalised and are often pushed outside of the development paradigm. The total allocations for SC women is Rs. 15,116 Cr and ST women is Rs. 7,205 Cr which amounts to 1.4% and 0.67% respectively of the total eligible Centrally Sponsored schemes and Central Sector schemes. There is also absolutely no allocation for Trans persons, this is a serious concern which needs to be addressed.
- 5) Jal Jeevan Mission has a total allocation of Rs. 50,000 Crs under the ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, out of which Rs. 11,002.42 Crs for SCs Rs. 5,000 Crs, this scheme although has a large allocation does not really have direct benefits to the community.
- 6) Manual Scavenging: For FY 2021-22, an amount of Rs. 100 Cr is allocated which is Rs. 10 Cr lesser than the previous year's allocation. This is really a pittance compared to the number of people engaged in this work. It is also sad to see that the Pre Matric Scholarship for children of those engaged in unclean occupations and prone to health hazards' has received no allocation this year as compared to Rs. 25 Cr in FY 2020-21.

particularly to benefit the needs of the SCs & STs (such as ICDS, PM Kisan Yojana, etc) and 'Obsolete Schemes' which are notional allocations (such as National Rural Health Mission Infrastructure Maintenance Scheme) on the basis of erroneous/ambiguous assumptions of benefitting any community. Allocation to such schemes needs to be stopped.

(iii) The third level of analysis reveals that even when budget allocations are made for schemes benefitting the SC & ST communities, they are not utilized. This gap between the budget allocated for respective schemes and their actual utilization is defined as the "budget credibility gap". As it is, the budgetary allocations are meagre to begin with and if even these budgets remain unutilized, it essentially questions the credibility and intention of the government towards the affected communities.

Based on our analysis around these three axes, the following recommendations emerge:

### 1. II. Stimulus Package in response to COVID-19 & Implications on SCs & STs:

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a public health crisis, as well as a global economic crisis. As an immediate policy intervention, there was a consensus among policy makers across the globe that large fiscal measures to meet the basic needs of a vast section of population was the need of the hour.

Under this backdrop, the Government of India announced an economic stimulus package of Rs. 27 trillion as an immediate relief measure and economic revival. On 26th March 2020, the first tranche of the package (worth Rs. 1.7 lakh crore) was announced under Prime Minister Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY). The package basically provided for distribution of extra food grains (through Public Distribution System), direct cash transfer to widows and the elderly, farmers and construction workers, insurance for health workers (including safai karamcharis), benefits for health workers and formal sector workers in the form of contribution in provident funds, amongst others. The second tranche of the stimulus package was announced

under Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, which was mainly a set of fiscal and monetary policies (measures pertaining to infusion of liquidity for business and workers, liquidity through expanding loan facility to farmers and MSMEs, increased liquidity for State Governments by enhancing borrowing limits, etc.) to prevent large-scale job losses and rebuild the economy. Further, in the month of October 2020, the Government announced new measures of Rs 73,000 crore (730 billion) to stimulate consumer spending before the end of this financial year in the fight against COVID-19. Apart from some direct benefits to central government employees, new measures were basically to fight the slowdown due to the pandemic lockdown.

Although all the measures are important for the economy, the direct income/other kinds of support measures are most important for the poor and the marginalized to meet their essential needs. However, the measures for direct support constituted only a small fraction of the 20 trillion of the stimulus packages. Although the total magnitude of the stimulus package stands around 10 percent of the GDP, only a small proportion of this package had direct fiscal impact. As per the estimates<sup>2</sup>, the direct fiscal impact of the package comes to a little more than Rs. 2 lakh crore which is a scanty 1 percent of the GDP. Most of the direct support schemes come under the PMGKY. There is a near consensus among the experts that to fully recover from the present condition, it needs at least a couple of years and during this period, most of the schemes under PMGKY have immense importance for the poor and the vulnerable. But, instead of increasing the funding for these schemes, the budget 2021-22 shows a substantial decline of resources. Several of such schemes like Ujjwala Scheme Direct Benefit Transfer – LPG, Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Yojna (PM-AASHA), SWAYAM online courses in MOOCS, Umbrella ICDS, Interest Subsidy for Short Term Credit to Farmers, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), witness a substantial budget cut in the current budget of 2021-2022.

The government announced the stimulus package (a number of schemes) with a huge amount of financial resources involved in it. But, the total direct benefit transfers through these programmes were very limited due to low fiscal implications of the stimulus package. Even in the current budget, there has been substantial

<sup>2</sup> Merwin, Radhika (2020). "Why the Rs. 20-lakh crore stimulus adds up to just Rs. 2-lakh crore direct impact", The Hindu Business Line, 19 May.

**Figure 2a: Scheduled Castes Budget: Due, Allocated, Targeted in FY 2021-22**

	2021-22 (BE)
Total CS+CSS (Rs. Cr.)	1,081,427
Due Allocations (Rs. Cr.) (*)	1,61,260
<b>% Due Share (1.) As per NITI Aayog guideline</b>	<b>14.9%</b>
Allocation earmarked for SCs (Rs.Cr.)	1,26,259
<b>% Allocation to SCs to Total CS+CSS</b>	<b>11.7%</b>
Total Targeted Schemes - SCs (Rs.Cr.)	48,397
<b>% Targeted Scheme to SCs to Total CS+CSS</b>	<b>4.5%</b>

\*\*2021-22: The Due amount has been calculated by the new guideline issued by Finance Ministry No-F.2(21)B(P&A)/2016, Govt of India, Ministry of Finance, Dept of Economic Affairs, Budget division, Dated 26 December 2017. This Guideline gives Ministry wise allocation for SCs and has named it as DAPSC (Development Action Plan For Schedule Caste) vide. As per the Guidelines each obligatory Ministry/Department is given a set proportion of the CS+CSS to be earmarked as the Budget for SC and ST schemes.

1. As per the NITI Aayog guideline on DAPSC & DAPST the total Due allocation comes 15.49% in stead of 16.6% which is prescribed by earstwhile SCP & TSP Policy"

Source: Union Budget Expenditure Profile FY2021-22

**Figure 2b: Scheduled Tribes Budget: Due, Allocated, Targeted in FY 2021-22**

	2021-22 (BE)
Total CS+CSS (Rs. Cr.)	1,077,460
Due Allocations (Rs. Cr.) (*)	88,077
<b>% Due Share (1.) As per NITI Aayog guideline</b>	<b>8.2%</b>
Allocation earmarked for STs (Rs.Cr.)	79,942
<b>% Allocation to STs to Total CS+CSS</b>	<b>7.4%</b>
Total Targeted Schemes - STs (Rs.Cr.)	27,830
<b>% Targeted Scheme to STs to Total CS+CSS</b>	<b>2.6%</b>

resource cuts in several of the schemes under this package.

In the FY 2021-22, Rs. 659.02 Cr (AWSC) and Rs. 341.42 Cr (AWST) have been allocated for unorganized workers, as compared to Rs. 198.06 Cr (AWSC) and Rs. 102.16 Cr (AWST) in the previous year. However, relevant schemes amount to Rs. 136.12 Cr (AWSC) and Rs. 70.52 Cr (AWST) only as there is an over-allocation to the newly-introduced notional scheme Atmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana. Therefore, the amount allocated to relevant schemes for unorganized workers remains unchanged under AWSC and has rather decreased under AWST by Rs. 31.64 Cr.

It definitely has a severe negative impact on the livelihood and sustenance of a large number of poor and marginalized sections of the population, most of whom are very low-wage earners. On the other hand, in the face of the pandemic, several states have started diluting the State labour laws and bringing in amendments to Central laws.

Furthermore, it also has to be noted that the COVID-19 Pandemic has become a new ground for locating and understanding the priorities of the Government, and a new yardstick for measuring inclusive growth and development in the wake of deepened economic inequalities with complete crash of economic sectors for several months together. It would not be wrong to say that the economic and social distress caused by COVID-19 especially for the marginalised sections, viz, the SC, ST, Pasmanda and Bahun communities and their vulnerable groups, will require long-term measures to support faster recovery among the poor echelons of the society.

The rate of the GDP growth went as low as 4.2% in 2019-20 which is the lowest it has fallen since 2009. The economic impact of the pandemic has further worsened the situation. The World Bank in its report "South Asia Economic Focus" has projected that India's GDP is likely to contract by 9.6% in the fiscal year 2020-21 pushing the economy into an unparalleled recession. Keeping this in the context, the Union Budget 2021-22 has emphasized on private investments, investment in health, medical research in development and promoting livelihood through vocational training and skill development. This pandemic has exposed the inequalities that exist but also how these inequalities have been further increased due to its impact. This

was very evident in the aftermath of the sudden lockdown announced by the government and the hordes of migrant labourers who were uprooted and left choiceless. The financial packages announced later were insufficient to deal with this huge gap. The process of budget preparation is also not open to the citizens. There is no such mechanism to make the budget formulation process participatory. The budget formulation process remains a bureaucratic exercise completely out of reach of the public, making it difficult to understand even the content and importance of documents.

In this financial year, the allocation stands at Rs. 1,26,259 Cr for Scheduled Castes and Rs. 79,942 Cr for Scheduled Tribes. 330 schemes for SCs and 326 schemes for STs have been allocated under AWSC (Allocation for Welfare of Scheduled Castes) & AWST (Allocation for Welfare of Scheduled Tribes), respectively. The proportion of targeted schemes under SC budget is 38% with an allocation of Rs. 48,397 Cr and 35% under ST budget with an allocation of Rs. 27,830 Cr. These are in fact only 'general schemes', with a mask of SC & ST budget schemes. They do not qualify as SC & ST schemes that benefit the intended communities.

## 2. Analysis of Utilization – Budget Credibility

The issue of under-utilization of funds in both the Union and State budgets is a serious issue resulting in poor budget credibility. Poor budget credibility is the indication of significant deviation between the approved budget viz-a-viz the utilization of the budget. Fig-4 highlights the utilization of funds against the approved budget along key schemes. The utilization data over the last five years reveals that more than 90% of the allocated funds have been utilized under both SC & ST budgets. However, this year, the amount released to different states as seen in e-utthaan, a monitoring portal under MSJE, Gol, reveals that the total funds released to states under SC budget is Rs 39,628.29 Cr<sup>3</sup> out of the total allocated amount of Rs 83,256.62 Cr. This accounts for only 47.60% of total funds allocated. Further scheme analysis reveals that the total funds released under crucial schemes like Post-Matric Scholarship (PMS) for SC students were only Rs 1,184.91 Cr<sup>4</sup> as against the

**Figure 2c: Scheduled Castes Budget : Due, Allocated, Targeted-5 years Trends**

Financial Year	Total CS+CSS (Rs.Cr.)	Due Allocations (Rs.Cr.) (*)	% Due Share (1.) As per NITI Aayog guideline	Allocation earmarked for SCs (Rs.Cr.)	% Allocation to SCs to Total CS+CSS	Total Targeted Schemes - SCs (Rs.Cr.)	% Targeted Scheme to SCs to Total CS+CSS
2017-18 (BE)	588,025	97,612	16.6%	52,393	8.9%	25,708	4.4%
2018-19 (BE)	788,395	117,282	14.9%	56,619	7.2%	28,698	3.6%
2019-20 (BE)	951,334	141,309	14.9%	81,341	8.6%	34,833	3.7%
2020-21 (BE)	898,430	139,172	15.5%	83,257	9.3%	16,174	1.8%
2021-22 (BE)	1,081,427	161,260	14.9%	126,259	11.7%	48,397	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,307,611</b>	<b>656,635</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>399,868</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>153,810</b>	<b>3.6%</b>

\*\*2021-22: The Due amount has been calculated by the new guideline issued by Finance Ministry No-F.2(21)B(P&A)/2016, Govt of India, Ministry of Finance, Dept of Economic Affairs, Budget division, Dated 26 December 2017. This Guideline gives Ministry wise allocation for SCs and has named it as DAPSC (Development Action Plan For Schedule Caste) vide. As per the Guidelines each obligatory Ministry/Department is given a set proportion of the CS+CSS to be earmarked as the Budget for SC and ST schemes.

1. As per the NITI Aayog guideline on DAPSC & DAPST the total Due allocation comes 15.49% in stead of 16.6% which is prescribed by earstwhile SCP & TSP Policy"

Source: Union Budget Expenditure Profile FY2017-18 to FY2021-22

**Figure 2d: Scheduled Tribes Budget: Due, Allocated, Targeted - 5 years Trend**

Financial Year	Total CS+CSS (Rs.Cr.)	Due Allocations (Rs.Cr.) (*)	% Due Share as per NITI Aayog guideline (1)	Allocation earmarked for STs (Rs.Cr.)	% Allocation to STs to Total CS+CSS	Total Targeted Schemes - STs (Rs.Cr.)	% Targeted Scheme to SCs to Total CS+CSS
2017-18 (BE)	588,025	50,570	8.6%	31,920	5.4%	15,643	2.7%
2018-19 (BE)	784,881	64,486	8.2%	39,135	4.9%	19,623	2.5%
2019-20 (BE)	947,228	76,592	8.2%	52,885	5.5%	21,628	2.3%
2020-21 (BE)	895,043	77,034	8.1%	53,653	5.9%	19,428	2.2%
2021-22 (BE)	1,077,460	88,077	8.2%	79,942	7.4%	27,830	2.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,292,637</b>	<b>356,759</b>	<b>8.3%</b>	<b>257,534</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>104,152</b>	<b>2.4%</b>

\*\*2021-22: The Due amount has been calculated by the new guideline issued by Finance Ministry No-F.2(21)B(P&A)/2016, Govt of India, Ministry of Finance, Dept of Economic Affairs, Budget division, Dated 26 December 2017. This Guideline gives Ministry wise allocation for SCs and has named it as DAPSC (Development Action Plan For Schedule Caste) vide. As per the Guidelines each obligatory Ministry/Department is given a set proportion of the CS+CSS to be earmarked as the Budget for SC and ST schemes.

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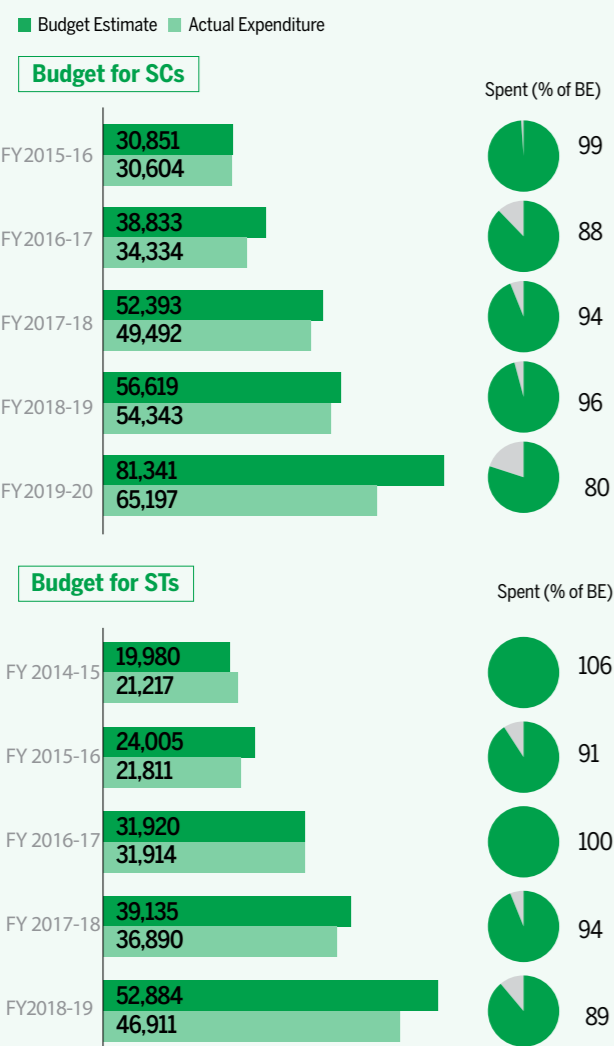
Source: Union Budget Expenditure Profile FY2017-18 to FY2021-22

<sup>3</sup> <http://e-utthaan.gov.in/>

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

total allocated fund of Rs 2,987.33 Cr in FY 2020-21 as of January 2021, which is only 39.67% of the total fund allocated under this scheme. From the data in the above Figure 1, it is quite clear that at the allocation stage, Rs 55,915 Cr (6.19%) of the total due share of Rs 139,172 Cr (15.49%) have been deducted from the SC budget, and out of this only Rs 16,174 Cr (1.8%) have been earmarked towards targeted schemes. From the above e-utthaan data, it is quite clear that Rs 43,628.33 Cr has been found unutilized, which is a major concern for us as we witness expenditure gaps.

**Figure 3: Utilisation of funds for Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe Schemes in Union Budget FY 2015 to FY19-20 (Rs.Cr)**



Source: GovofIndia- Budget Expenditure Profile of 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 & 2021-22, Ministry of Finance

### 3. COVID-19 and its impact on SC and ST communities

The COVID-19 pandemic created an unprecedented nation-wide crisis. But it impacted the marginalized especially the Dalits and Adivasis the most. The oppressive societal structures based on caste, class, patriarchy, (dis)ability and gender identity make certain sections of the society more vulnerable than the others. They often lack the ability to overcome the distress caused by such a crisis. For these marginalized communities, the ongoing pandemic has further increased the barriers to attain equal footing in a society dominated by dominant castes. These communities apart, from the loss of livelihood and related crisis, have had to face caste-based discrimination exacerbating the existing inequalities for those with already poor access to capital, resources and skill. This pandemic also has affected women from these communities, their access to healthcare and employment, and one sees an increased violence against them despite the lockdown.

#### Employment and livelihood

The pandemic has led to a global economic crisis with appalling and long-term impacts on economic activity, employment and livelihood for Dalits and Adivasis. Although the lockdown has impacted everyone globally, the job losses were high among SCs, i.e., three times higher than the other dominant caste groups. Dominant caste access to education and henceforth secured job makes them less vulnerable to such economic catastrophes<sup>5</sup>. Additionally, Dalits also don't have access to any means of production like land and trade making them even more vulnerable. Migrant workers are among the worst hit by the lockdown. Of the 395 million intra-state migrants in India, 62 million are estimated to be Dalits and 31 million Adivasis.<sup>6</sup>

According to a recent study, segregation of labour of migrant workers depends highly on caste.<sup>7</sup> Tribal women are more concentrated in the construction sector, while Dalit women have to work in sectors such as brick-making. Another study reports that most migrant tribal women from Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha work as domestic servants, while the same from Madhya Pradesh are involved in wage employment.<sup>8</sup>

Those employed in the informal sector, casual labourers, single mothers and migrant workers, to name a few, who were earlier able to make ends meet have been some of the worst affected groups. Other impacts in the private sector and self-employment were largely in the form of decrease in salaries; loss of jobs at mass level; exploitation by corporate giants of people in low to medium level jobs; on-the-field jobs like home delivery services, transport services; self-employed groups like domestic workers, SMEs, rickshaw pullers, etc., are far more affected financially and at much higher risk of economic distress.

We have seen a large number of migrant workers walking kilometres to their villages without access to any basic amenities like food and water with negligible state support, risking their own lives. However, escaping the suffocating servitude and indebtedness in working as agricultural labourers, they had to return to the cities within months. This speaks of the failure of rural infrastructure, the lifeline of which is the existing caste system, in providing sustainable avenues of livelihood for them. Lack of domicile documents of the cities they work in disqualifies them from availing public entitlements as urban residents.

#### Sanitation and Frontline workers

During the pandemic, sanitation and frontline workers were the most exposed to the risk of getting infected, yet they were not provided with any protective kit or gear from the state or central government. They were directly in contact with bio-medical waste but hand to handle it without safety equipment. According to a survey, when COVID-19 hit, only 30.7% of the total 214 respondents received masks, 22.4% received gloves, 31.1% received soaps, and 18.9% received sanitizers.<sup>9</sup> In fact, 93% did not receive any special training to work during a pandemic. According to another study conducted during the pandemic, 89.7% of sanitation workers did not have or were unaware of the healthcare facilities.<sup>10</sup> However, the government's silence towards manual scavengers was quite evident as they have no official data to provide about their death rates during covid<sup>11</sup>. The central government did announce health insurance schemes worth Rs. 50 lakh for health care and sanitation workers but again it was ineffective as most of

those working on the streets remained unidentified. At least 40 sanitation workers tested positive for the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 and 15 died due to the disease in national capital New Delhi, as of 23 June 2020.<sup>12</sup>

#### Impact of COVID-19 on Education of SCs and STs

Access to both school and higher education was very challenging for Dalits and Adivasis due to COVID-19. According to our ongoing study on the impact of COVID-19 on Dalit and Adivasi students in higher education, online education is a new layer of exclusion. Students have no access to books, internet connection or android phones. Without their last year results, they were unable to apply for any schemes.

Moreover, there has been multi-layered poverty in SC & ST families that forced students to join daily-wage work in rural and construction work in the urban areas. Most of them did not receive the Pre-Matric or Post-Matric Scholarship as admissions for the new academic year were a challenge throughout the pandemic. Aspiring students for higher education could not apply for basic documents like caste certificate, income certificate, Bonafide certificates as the public offices and educational institutions were not functioning due to the lockdown. Mid-Day Meal is a supportive intervention for the students of SCs and STs to increase and maintain the essential nutritional level. Due to the lack of Mid-Day Meal at both school and Anganwadi, there is a serious impact on nutritional status of children.

#### 3. Education Justice:

This financial year, the allocation for the Post Matric Scholarship scheme has increased to Rs. 3,415.62 Cr under AWSC and Rs. 1,993 Cr. under AWST. The government has promised to allocate Rs. 35,219 Cr towards SC students for the next six years of the 60% share of the union government in the scheme.<sup>13</sup> However, the commitment made of allocating Rs. 7,000 Cr for SCs has not been met.

As far as the demand is concerned, AISHE<sup>14</sup> data reveals the increase in the number of enrolled students in the last five years. In 2014-15, the students belonging to SC were 13.47% and STs were 4.80%. It eventually

5 Deshpande, A. and Ramachandran, R (2020). "Is COVID-19 "The Great Leveler"? The Critical Role of Social Identity in Lockdown- induced Job Losses". DP-34, Department of Economics, Ashoka University.  
6 Yengde, Suraj (2020). "What makes injustice to migrant workers more acute is the fact that many of them are Dalits", The Indian Express. Last retrieved at Feb 2, 2021, 3:10 am.  
7 Singh, Priyanka (2020). "Migrants looking for a better life in Indian cities continue to be shadowed by caste bias". IndiaSpend. Last retrieved Feb 2, 2021, 8 pm.  
8 Ibid.

9 Ghosh, Sayan (2020). "Little protection for sanitation workers during COVID-19 pandemic, finds survey", The Hindu. Retrieved from <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/little-protection-for-sanitation-workers-during-covid-19-pandemic-finds-survey/article32550790.ece>  
10 Condition of Sanitation Workers in India: A Survey During Covid-19 and Lockdown, June 2020  
11 Down To Earth: As told to Parliament (September 16, 2020): No data on sanitation worker deaths amid COVID-19  
12 Down To Earth: COVID-19: How distant laws, uneven measures afflict sanitation workers  
13 Budget Speech for FY 2021-22 by the finance minister pg. 23 <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>  
14 All India Survey on Higher Education

increased to 14.89% i.e. 55,67,078 of SCs and 5.53% i.e. 20,67,748 of STs till the academic year of 2018-19.

The allocation under higher education is with two Ministries: first, the nodal Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, under various schemes the total allocation for higher education is Rs 3,865 Cr. under AWSC while it was Rs 3,377 Cr in the previous FY 2020-21 for Scheduled Castes. This year, it has increased by Rs. 488 Cr. i.e. 12.59%. Similarly, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has allocated Rs. 2,146 Cr for the higher education of Scheduled Tribe students. For SC students, SHREYAS is an umbrella scheme for higher education under MSJE, consisting of four schemes, having a combined allocation of Rs. 450 Cr under AWSC. It comprises of National Fellowship for SCs, National Overseas Scholarship for SCs, Top Class Education for SC Students, and Free Coaching for SC and OBC Students. On the other hand, for ST students, National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST have been allocated Rs.150 Cr. under AWST.

Secondly, the Ministry of Higher Education has allocated a total of Rs. 3,843 Cr under AWSC and Rs. 1,963.45 Cr under AWST for SC and ST students, respectively. Even though there is an allocation increase of 16.47% for the department under AWSC and AWST in the total allocation for higher education at the Ministry of Higher Education, none of the allocated schemes are targeted towards the development and protection of SC and ST students. For example, the scheme Grants to Central Universities (CUs) has been allocated Rs 481 Cr under AWSC and Rs. 245 Cr under AWST; University Grants Commission (UGC) allocating Rs 780 Cr. under AWSC and Rs. 400 Cr under AWST so on and so forth. However, none of these schemes have targeted the objective of the development of SC and ST students.

On the other hand, the Department of School Education and Literacy has allocated Rs. 9,420.68 Cr under AWSC and Rs. 5,297.40 Cr under AWST. This amount has decreased from the previous year by 9.1% for AWSC and 10.31% for ASWT. Pre-Matric Scholarship scheme has been allocated Rs. 725 Cr under AWSC and Rs. 400 Cr for STs under MoTA.

## 4. Manual Scavenging

Manual Scavenging is a centuries-old caste centered ill practice that still holds its roots in the Indian

subcontinent. The landmark judgement of Safai Karamchari Andolan vs. Union of India also held that manual scavenging is a gross violation of Article 21 and Article 17 of the Constitution.<sup>15</sup>

The amount of Rs. 110 crores allocated for the rehabilitation of manual scavengers for the period of 2020-21 remains unutilized. The MSJE did not release any funds for the current year as the earlier allocated funds are still not utilized.<sup>16</sup> For FY 2021-22, an amount of Rs. 100 Cr is allocated which is Rs. 10 Cr lesser than the previous allocation which raises serious concerns. According to the data presented by the MSJE from 17 states, there are 63,246 identified manual scavengers. For the FY 2021-22, an amount of Rs. 50 Cr has been allocated to National safai Karamchari Finance and Development Corporation, which is capital expenditure and will have no direct impact on the livelihood of manual scavengers. Not just that, 'Pre Matric Scholarship for children of those engaged in unclean occupations and prone to health hazards' has received no allocation this year as compared to Rs. 25 Cr in FY 2020-21.

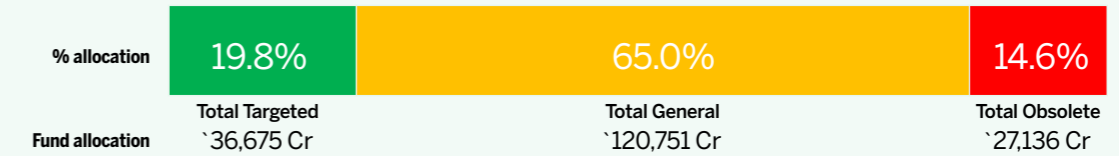
Surprisingly, despite the government passing countless bills on the prohibition of this inhumane practice, there has never been a single person punished under the Manual Scavengers Prohibition Act.<sup>17</sup> A major population of the workers is unaware of these provisions and people who are in an authoritative position know how to use this to their advantage.

The miserable condition of manual scavengers persists due to the notion of caste-designated occupation and despite laws being in place, the agencies working at the grass-root level such as municipal corporations, panchayats, fail to implement them. The state machinery needs to draft stricter laws, allocate sufficient funds, and introduce modern technology to ensure the eradication of this horrendous anti-human practice.

## 5. Scheme Analysis

As per the new Guideline (AWSC & AWST), 41 Ministries/Departments shall earmark funds for SC & ST communities under specific schemes. But three more Departments are added in the analysis because of their fund allocation for the communities. Out of these only 35 ministries have allocated funds to SCs and 38

**Figure 4. Relevance of schemes for SCs and STs - Targeted, General and Obsolete in Union Budget 2021-22 (Rs.Cr)**



NOTE:- There are a total of 50 Schemes for SCs and 50 Schemes for STs with a total allocation for Rs. Cr 1,16,001. For analysis we have taken SC and STs budget which are 62% (Rs. Cr. 1,16,001) of the total Schemes under AWSC & AWST. Schemes highlighted under the color Green are Targeted and are targeted Schemes which ensure direct benefit, under the color orange are General which benefit everybody and not necessarily SCs or STs and under the Red are obsolete which has no relevance for the SC/ST communities. Orange and Red together form the Non-Targeted schemes.

✔ Relevant schemes 
 ✘ Obsolete schemes 
 ! General flow schemes

Name of the Schemes	Total	SC	ST
! "Food Subsidy to Food Corporation of India under National Food Security Act."	26,097	17,191	8,906
✘ MGNREGA-Programme Component	17,640	9,310	8,330
! Pradhanmantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)	16,380	10,790	5,590
! "Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) / National Rural Drinking Water Mission"	16,004	11,002	5,001
! Samagra Shiksha	9,666	6,232	3,434
! National Rural Health Mission	9,412	6,198	3,214
✔ Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY)- Rual	8,288	4,875	3,413
! Umbrella ICDS - Anganwadi Services, Poshan Abhiyan, Scheme for Adolescent Girls, National Creche	6,317	4,417	1,899
! National Rural Livelihood Mission	5,813	3,419	2,394
! Urea Subsidy Payment for Indigenous Urea	5,448	3,589	1,859
✔ Post Matric Scholarship for SCs	5,409	3,416	1,993
! "Food Subsidy for Decentralized Procurement of Foodgrains under NFSA"	5,040	3,320	1,720
✔ Interest Subsidy for Short Term Credit to Farmers	4,849	3,302	1,547
✘ Road Works Works under Roads Wing	4,125	-	4,125
✔ National Programme of Mid Day Meal in Schools	3,659	2,305	1,354
! SBM-Rural Programme Component	2,867	1,971	896
! Crop Insurance Scheme	2,667	2,667	-
! Urea Subsidy Payment for Import of Urea	2,463	1,623	841
✔ Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	1,943	1,232	711
✔ Employees Pension Scheme, 1995	1,851	1,220	631
✔ "Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM AJAY)"	1,800	1,800	-
✔ Residential Education - (SRESHTA) for SCs} & {Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) for ST's}	1,618	200	1,418
! Human Resources for Health and Medical Resources	1,581	999	582
! Direct Benefit Transfer - LPG	1,572	1,036	537
! Nutrient Based Subsidy Payment for Indigenous P and K Fertilizers	1,570	1,034	536
✔ Special Central Assistance	1,350	-	1,350
✔ "Grants under proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution"	1,350	-	1,350
! Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY)	1,189	937	252
✘ University Grants Commission (UGC)	1,180	780	400
✔ Pre Matric Scholarship for SCs and Others	1,125	725	400
✘ Integrated Power Development Scheme - IPDS Grant	1,056	680	376
! Nutrient Based Subsidy Payment for Imported P and K Fertilizers	1,041	686	355
! Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)- Per Drop More Crop	1,008	664	344
! Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna	956	632	324
! Rashtriya Uchhatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)	942	610	332
! Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojna	907	598	310
✘ Compensation to Service Providers and Augmentation of Telecom Infrastructure	882	581	301
✔ PMAY-Urban (Schemes financed from Central Road and Infrastructure Fund)	879	738	141
✘ Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS)- Support from GBS	852	569	283

Continued ...

<sup>15</sup> Safai Karmachari Andolan. And Ors. v. Union of India And Ors. (2011) 11 SCC 224.

<sup>16</sup> "No funds released for rehabilitation of manual scavengers, earlier funds unutilized: Govt"; The New Indian Express

<sup>17</sup> "Why the Proposed Manual Scavenging Prohibition Bill Looks Good Only on Paper";

Name of the Schemes	Total	SC	ST
✓ Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana	794	523	271
✗ Grants to Central Universities (CUs)	726	481	245
✗ Support to Indian Institutes of Technology	675	455	220
⚠ National Mission on Horticulture	655	374	281
⚠ Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)	623	413	210
✓ "Strengthening of Machinery for Enforcement of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1995 and Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989"	600	600	-
✓ Mission Shakti (Mission for Protection and Empowerment for Women)SAMARTHYA	593	415	178
✓ "Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme(IGNWPS)"	567	351	216
⚠ Integrated Watershed Development Program	532	332	200
⚠ National Food Security Mission	564	378	186
✗ "Assistance to State Agencies for intra-state movement of foodgrains and FPS dealers margin under NFSA"	504	332	172
<b>Total</b>	<b>185,630</b>	<b>116,001</b>	<b>69,629</b>

ministries for STs. The overall earmarking is calculated against the total allocation of CSS (Centrally Sponsored Schemes) and CS (Central Sector) schemes but not against the total budget of the Ministries/Departments. So, according to the above guidelines, these 41 Ministries/Depts are supposed to earmark a total fund of Rs 161,260 Cr for SC communities under 330 schemes but the targeted allocation for SC communities is only Rs 48,397 Cr; for STs it is supposed to be Rs 88,077 Cr but targeted is Rs 27,830 Cr. Out of 330 total schemes for SCs, only 52 are targeted schemes and 278 are non-targeted schemes amounting to Rs 48,397 Cr and Rs. 77,862 Cr respectively. Similarly, for STs out of 326 total schemes, only 58 are targeted schemes and 268 are non-targeted schemes amounting Rs 27,830 Cr and Rs. 52,112 Cr respectively. Regarding responsibility of nodal Ministry, this year it has allocated a sum of Rs 7,752 Cr for SC communities which is more than the due allocation. Likewise, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is supposed to earmark 100% funds but the allocation is more than the due share.

## 6. Relevance of Schemes for SCs & STs

As the new guideline says that, Ministries concerned and States/UTs must ensure mainstreaming of most vulnerable communities under major flagship program under National Development Agenda as reflected in development outcome in addition to earmarked allocation and specific scheme. This chapter examines how relevance of the 50 top funded schemes for the SCs and STs constitutes 80% of the total allocated funds. The table below gives a few examples of Excess

allocation in Notional Schemes, Under-allocation in effective schemes & the large scheme of major drastic diversion, under-allocated excellent schemes & Excess allocation in General Scheme which have no specific benefit for SCs or STs.

### Excess allocation in Notional<sup>18</sup> Schemes under SC budget in FY 2021-22.

- National Rural Health Mission Infrastructure Maintenance-Rs 2,811 Cr,
- Integrated Power Development Scheme IPDS-Grant-Rs 680 Cr,
- Central Silk Board-Rs 120 Cr
- Geological Survey of India-Rs 28 Cr,
- Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats Project-Rs 43 Cr.
- Urea Subsidy Payment for Indigenous Urea & Import of Urea is- Rs 5,211 Cr -SC budget
- Compensation to Service Providers for creation and augmentation of telecom infrastructure Bharatnet & Telecom Service Providers- Rs 747 Cr

### Excess allocation in Notional schemes under ST budget:

- National Rural Health Mission Infrastructure Maintenance -Rs 761.84 Cr,
- Integrated Power Development Scheme IPDS-Grant-Rs 376 Cr,
- Urea Subsidy Payment for Indigenous Urea & Import of Urea is- Rs 2,700 Cr -SC budget

- Compensation to Service Providers for creation and augmentation of telecom infrastructure Bharatnet & Telecom Service Providers- Rs 387 Cr

### Under-allocation in effective schemes under SC Budget

- National Overseas Scholarship for SCs-Rs 30 Cr,
- Scholarship for College and University students-Rs 23 Cr,
- National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation-Rs 50 Cr,
- PM Research Fellowship-Rs 25 Cr
- Top Class Education for SCs -Rs 70 Cr.

### Under-allocation in effective schemes under ST Budget

- Scholarship to the ST Students for Studies Abroad-Rs 3 Cr,
- Scholarship for College and University students-Rs 12 Cr,
- PM Research Fellowship-Rs 13 Cr

### Excess allocation in General Scheme under SC Budget:

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan)-Rs 10,790 Cr,
- Samagra Shiksha Support from Parambhik Shiksha Kosh-Rs 6,232 Cr,
- Crop Insurance Scheme Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana-Rs 2,667 Cr,
- World Class Institutions Support from Gross Budgetary Support (GBS)-Rs 310 Cr
- Promotion of Electronics and IT, HW Manufacturing (MSIPS, EDF and Manufacturing Clusters)-Rs 208 Cr.

### Excess allocation in General Scheme under ST Budget:

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan)-Rs 5,590 Cr),
- National Rural Health Mission Infrastructure Maintenance-Rs 762 Cr
- Integrated Power Development Scheme IPDS-Grant-Rs 376 Cr

## 7. Ministry/Dept wise priority to schemes for SC & ST

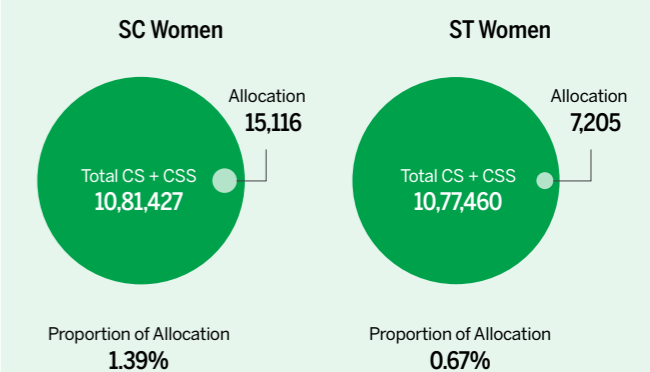
The new guidelines mandate the two nodal Ministries, to monitor and coordinate with other obligatory Ministries to ensure that all allocated schemes are targeted in nature to provide direct benefit to the communities as per the Business Rule 1961 vide Gazette Notification A. F. No. 1/21//26/2016-Cab dated 31st Jan'2017. The deeper analysis reveals that almost 62% fund earmarked for different schemes are either non-targeted or general in nature. For instance, Rs 10,790 Cr has been allocated towards the schemes called "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan)" under SC budget and Rs 5,590 Cr under ST budget, which are the top funded scheme allocating 8.55 % and 7% of the total fund under SC & ST budget respectively is not exclusively for these communities.

As of now, the Ministry has initiated the outcome monitoring through Outcome details in e-uthan portal. But the monitoring details are yet to be updated. Because, in FY 2017-18, as many as 19- Min/Dept have uploaded their outcome details followed by 7 Min/Dept in 2018-19 and 5 Min/Dept in 2019-20 and 4 Ministries in 2020-21.

## 8. Gender Budget Analysis

SC and ST women have been invisibilized in both the Gender Budget statement and SC & ST Component Plans. The total allocations for SC women is Rs. 15,116 Cr and ST women is Rs. 7,205 Cr which amounts to 1.4% and 0.67% respectively of the total eligible Centrally Sponsored schemes and Central Sector schemes. The

Figure 5: Allocation for SC and ST Women 2021-22 (Amount in Rs.Cr.)



Source: Gov of India - Budget Expenditure Profile FY2021-22, Statement 13

18 Notional Scheme: Schemes having the generic objective with no physical targets towards SC & ST

Figure 6a: Department Wise Due and Allocation under DAPSC Budget for 2021-22 BE in Rs Cr

Departments	CS	CSS	Total Eligible Ministries (CS + CSS)	% of Proposed Allocation	Due Allocation under SC (Rs Cr)	Allocation under SC Budget (Rs Cr)
Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare	105,018.81	17,408.19	122,427.00	16.60	20,323	20,322.89
Agricultural Research and Education	2,686.00	0.00	2,686.00	8.30	223	223.00
AYUSH	298.67	553.80	852.47	8.30	71	71.00
Fertilisers	79,529.68	0.00	79,529.68	8.30	6,601	6,934.50
Pharmaceuticals	410.76	0.00	410.76	8.30	34	32.00
Coal	419.98	0.00	419.98	8.30	35	34.85
Commerce	4,147.02	0.00	4,147.02	8.30	344	25.00
Telecommunications	14,431.58	0.00	14,431.58	8.30	1,198	774.30
Consumer Affairs	2,870.50	0.00	2,870.50	8.30	238	3.70
Food and Public Distribution	251,266.17	70.00	251,336.17	8.30	20,861	20,874.80
Culture	455.20	0.00	455.20	8.30	38	37.78
Development of North Eastern Region	2,637.49	0.00	2,637.49	8.30	219	218.91
Electronics and Information Technology	6,806.33	0.00	6,806.33	8.30	565	564.93
Environment, Forests and Climate Change	993.13	766.00	1,759.13	8.30	146	146.00
Fisheries	0.00	1,015.00	1,015.00	16.18	164	169.82
Animal Husbandry and Dairying	1,753.00	1,177.04	2,930.04	16.60	486	518.09
Food Processing Industries	700.00	500.00	1,200.00	8.30	100	99.60
Health and Family Welfare	10,566.63	42,977.50	53,544.13	16.60	8,888	8,542.51
Housing and Urban Affairs	26,174.02	24,845.00	51,019.02	22.50	11,479	911.78
School Education and Literacy	363.50	43,285.16	43,648.66	20.00	8,730	9,420.68
Higher Education	6,069.43	3,000.00	9,069.43	16.60	1,506	3,843.00
WR, RD, GD	2,456.02	5,688.49	8,144.51	8.30	676	0.00
Drinking Water and Sanitation	0.00	60,005.10	60,005.10	22.00	13,201	12,973.79
Labour and Employment	11,674.10	976.90	12,651.00	16.60	2,100	2,092.60
MSME	15,629.21	0.04	15,629.25	16.60	2,594	712.07
Mines	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.30	0	28.82
New and Renewable Energy	5,645.28	0.00	5,645.28	8.30	469	469.00
Panchayati Raj	215.20	661.00	876.20	16.60	145	152.30
Petroleum and Natural Gas	15,695.00	0.00	15,695.00	8.30	1,303	1,073.19
Power	11,009.12	0.00	11,009.12	16.60	1,828	1,477.60
Road Transport and Highways	117,947.35	0.00	117,947.35	8.30	9,790	0.00
Rural Development	364.39	130,977.61	131,342.00	25.00	32,836	19,258.82
Land Resources	150.00	2,000.00	2,150.00	8.30	178	356.91
Science and Technology	2,915.69	0.00	2,915.69	8.30	242	242.00
Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	0.00	2,505.00	2,505.00	16.60	416	371.67
Social Justice and Empowerment	1,395.00	8,705.62	10,100.62	72.50	7,323	7,751.62
Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities	709.77	0.00	709.77	16.60	118	117.82
Textiles	3,444.61	0.00	3,444.61	16.60	572	346.01
Tourism	1,895.40	5.27	1,900.67	8.30	158	0.00
Women and Child Development	0.00	24,162.00	24,162.00	20.00	4,832	4,832.40
Youth Affairs and Sports	1,398.01	0.00	1,398.01	16.60	232	233.44
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00
Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>710,142.05</b>	<b>371,284.72</b>	<b>108,1427</b>		<b>161,260</b>	<b>126,259.20</b>

As per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance, Dept of Public Affairs, the due allocation for SC & ST Budget is calculated based on the total amount of (CS: Central Sector Scheme)+ (CSS: Centrally Sponsored Scheme) of each obligatory Ministries/Departments.

Figure 6b: Department Wise Due and Allocation under DAPST for 2021-22 (Rs In Cr.)

Departments	CS	CSS	Total Eligible Ministries (CS + CSS)	% of Proposed Allocation	Due Allocation under SC (Rs Cr)	Allocation under SC Budget (Rs Cr)
Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare	105,019	17,408	122,427	8.6	10,529	10,528.73
Agricultural Research and Education	2,686	0	2,686	4.3	115	115.50
AYUSH	299	554	852	4.3	37	35.80
Department of Fertilisers	79,530	0	79,530	4.3	3,420	3,592.57
Department of Pharmaceuticals	411	0	411	4.3	18	17.00
Ministry of Coal	420	0	420	8.6	36	36.11
Department of Commerce	4,147	0	4,147	4.3	178	25.00
Department of Telecommunications	14,432	0	14,432	4.3	621	401.01
Department of Consumer Affairs	2,871	0	2,871	4.3	123	1.92
Department of Food and Public Distribution	251,266	70	251,336	4.3	10,807	10,814.48
Ministry of Culture	455	0	455	4.3	20	19.57
Development of North Eastern Region	2,637	0	2,637	8.6	227	716.87
Electronics and Information Technology	6,806	0	6,806	6.7	456	456.03
Environment, Forests and Climate Change	993	766	1,759	8.6	151	152.00
Department of Fisheries	0	1,015	1,015	8.6	87	91.52
Animal Husbandry and Dairying	1,753	1,177	2,930	8.6	252	265.29
Ministry of Food Processing Industries	700	500	1,200	4.3	52	47.30
Department of Health and Family Welfare	10,567	42,978	53,544	8.6	4,605	4,260.20
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs	26,174	24,845	51,019	4.3	2,194	174.50
Department of School Education and Literacy	364	43,285	43,649	10.7	4,670	5,297.40
Department of Higher Education	6,069	3,000	9,069	8.6	780	1,963.45
Department of WR, RD, GD	2,456	5,688	8,145	8.6	700	197.17
Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation	0	60,005	60,005	10	6,001	5,897.18
Ministry of Labour and Employment	11,674	977	12,651	8.6	1,088	1,084.12
MSME	15,629	0	15,629	8.6	1,344	350.50
Ministry of Mines	0	0	0	0	0	15.03
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy	5,645	0	5,645	8.6	485	486.00
Ministry of Panchayati Raj	215	661	876	8.6	75	78.86
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	15,695	0	15,695	4.3	675	555.99
Ministry of Power	11,009	0	11,009	8.6	947	765.60
Ministry of Road Transport and Highways	117,947	0	117,947	4.3	5,072	4,125.00
Department of Rural Development	364	130,978	131,342	17.5	22,985	15,127.24
Department of Land Resources	150	2,000	2,150	10	215	215.01
Department of Science and Technology	2,916	0	2,916	4.3	125	125.45
Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	0	2,505	2,505	8.6	215	191.83
Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities	710	0	710	8.6	61	61.04
Ministry of Textiles	3,445	0	3,445	8.6	296	202.79
Ministry of Tourism	1,895	5	1,901	4.3	82	82.00
Ministry of Tribal Affairs	1,831	4,303	6,134	100	6,134	7,484.07
Ministry of Women and Child Development	0	24,162	24,162	8.6	2,078	2,077.93
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	1,398	0	1,398	8.6	120	121.25
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	231.90
Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu	0	0	0	0	0	21.10
Lakhsdeep	0	0	0	0	0	1,432.31
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>710,578</b>	<b>366,882</b>	<b>1,077,460</b>		<b>88,077</b>	<b>79,941.62</b>

As per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance, Dept of Public Affairs, the due allocation for SC & ST Budget is calculated based on the total amount of (CS: Central Sector Scheme)+ (CSS: Centrally Sponsored Scheme) of each obligatory Ministries/Departments.

Gender Budget Statement (henceforth GBS) of the Union Budget 2021-22 reveals that wide gaps continue to exist between the goals and the lived realities of Dalit and Adivasi women.

A trend that the Government seems to have adopted this year is to consolidate various flagship schemes under one big umbrella programme making it difficult to unpack the increases and decreases in individual schemes. For instance, critical schemes such as Anganwadi (former ICDS), National Nutrition Mission, National Creche Scheme etc, fall under the umbrella scheme called 'Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0'.

There are limited budgetary provisions addressing the needs of the SC and ST women. Our analysis of GBS and Allocation for Welfare of Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe (AWSC/AWST) reveals that the allocations are meagre, reflecting the lack of priority given to Dalit and Adivasi women.

The outbreak of Covid-19 and its related lockdown has further distressed women and children from these communities. Moreover, the Government has not made any provisions for social security of SC & ST women. While the country is grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic, Dalit women are facing increased violence and atrocities by the 'dominant' castes. Media reported several cases of violence against Dalit and Adivasi women between February 2020 to August 2020. This pandemic has added another layer of oppression and discrimination for Dalit women further exacerbating inequalities.

The latest NCRB 2019 data reveals that a minimum of 10 cases of rape against SC women and 5 cases against ST women are reported every day, showing an increase in the incidence of systemic sexual violence from the previous year's NCRB data. Despite growing incidences of violence against SC and ST women there is only a marginal allocation of Rs. 180 Cr for their access to justice. There is only one scheme pertaining to the same namely 'Strengthening of Machinery for Enforcement of PCR Act, 1955 and PoA Act, 1989'.

With the ongoing economic crisis, it is the women from the SC & ST communities that are worst affected as most income generating opportunities have almost disappeared especially in rural India. This year's GBS does not reflect any allocations under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. Their livelihood

has been adversely affected however the National Rural Livelihood Mission - Aajeevika, one of the key programmes focusing on promoting self-employment among the rural poor, allocated only an amount of Rs. 284 Cr for SC women and Rs. 103 Cr for ST women.

Further, the GBS restricts itself to women, leaving out non-cisgender identities such as Transgenders and sexual identities across the LGBTQI+ spectrum. The discourse on gender has evolved to define gender as a spectrum that includes people in the trans and non-binary spectrum. Therefore, the GBS needs to adopt this approach towards its concept of gender in policy making. This year the budget has again failed to address the issues of intersectionality. Such an approach towards development reveals the gaps in the planning process and failure to redistribute resources towards inclusive development.

## 9. New Farm Act 2020 and Land Rights

The country's agricultural sector is in the middle of a major policy change with the passing of the three new Farm Laws 2020. Despite owning barely 9% of the country's agricultural land<sup>19</sup>, landless Dalits are out there to support the protests as the law as this directly impacts their immediate livelihood. However, this support must not lead us to overlook the issue of land reallocation – a reform due for decades to ensure justice to landless Dalits and Adivasis. While the Law claims to be supporting small and marginal farmers by halting the involvement of intermediaries, the move towards liberalization and privatization of the agricultural sector is set to rather increase the exploitation of small and marginal farmers at the hands of corporates. The grain prices are more likely to go below the Minimum Support Price. Case in point is the enactment of a similar law in Bihar in 2006.<sup>20</sup> It is also important to look at the women as 81% of women agricultural workers (landless) are from Dalit and Adivasi communities, women labourers will be much adversely affected given the existing gender wage gap in the sector.<sup>21</sup>

The total share of operational landholdings for SCs and STs is 11.84% and 8.65% with an operated area of 8.54% and 11.27%, respectively.<sup>22</sup> This share has only marginally increased by 1.42% and 5.53%,

Figure 7: Suggested Schemes for SC ST Budgets

	SC Schemes (Rs. Cr.)	ST Schemes (Rs. Cr.)		SC Schemes (Rs. Cr.)	ST Schemes (Rs. Cr.)
<b>Higher Education</b>			<b>School Education</b>		
Paramedical and nursing colleges for SC/ST women & men	3,500	2,000	500 state of the art modern schools for SC/ST students	4,500	1,500
Top Class Residential Coaching for SC Students	3,000	2,500	Inclusion Cells in Schools	1,500	800
Boys Hostels in every district headquarters - 718	3,500	3,000	Appointment of SC/ST Teachers in Rural Areas	2,100	400
girls hostels in every district head-quarters - 718	4,000	3,000	Special Teacher Training Programme on Anti-Discrimination and Inclusion	1,800	300
Remedial coaching in english language	1,500	1,000	High class hostels for SC/ST Students at district headquarters	3,500	1,500
B.R Ambedkar Universities in 29 states, 8 UTs	2,500	1,500	Appointment of Permanent SC/ST Women Cooks	1,800	250
			Special Nutritional Supplements	2,000	2,500
<b>Agri Coop</b>			<b>Skill Development</b>		
Minor irrigation programme for SC/ST farmlands	1,500	1,000	Training Capacity Building and Entrepreneurship Development for SC/ST Youth	3,000	2,000
Sustainable Agriculture Grants for SC/ST Farmers	4,000	3,000			
Horticulture and sericulture scheme for SC/ST	3,000	2,000	<b>Social Justice</b>		
			Implementation of SC/ST POA Act	2,000	1,000
<b>Agriculture Research</b>			Finance Development Corporation for SC Woman	3,500	1,000
Agricultural Training Institute for SC/ST	2,000	1,000	Insurance scheme for Criminally assaulted SC/ST Woman	2,000	1,000
			Scaling up NFSC to all SC PhD Students	3,500	1,200
<b>AHDF</b>			Pre-Medical Coaching and Scholarship for SC/ST Students	2,500	1,500
District Level SC/ST Dairy Cooperatives Scheme	1,500	1,000	Special fund for protection and empowerment of SC/ST Woman	2,500	1,500
Livestock Development Fund for SC/ST Family	2,000	1,500	Special Development funds for Nomadic, semi-nomadic and Vimuktajatis of SCs and STs.	1,500	1,500
Small Scale Entrepreneurship Fund for Goat, Pig, Hen and Cow Breeding	900	600	Establishment of Centers in Universities for study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy	1,500	1,200
			Special Fast Track Court for Speedy Trial of SC/ST Cases	1,500	700
<b>DWS</b>			SC & ST fellowship for non-NET research students	2,100	1,000
Community Well Regeneration Scheme in SC/ST Localities	1,000	1,000	Compensation to Victims of caste based violence & atrocities	2,600	500
Provision for Drinking Water for SC/ST families	2,500	1,500	B.R Ambedkar Centres for learning and libraries in SC ST dominated districts	3,000	800
			Rehabilitation of Women Ex. Manual Scavengers	2,160	0
<b>Health Family Welfare</b>			Formation of Special POCSO Courts to Trail SC/ST Cases	1,000	800
Modernization of Health Centres in SC/ST Areas	1,000	1,000	Overseas Scholarship for SC/ST Women	1,500	700
Paramedical and nursing colleges for SC/ST Women & Men	2,000	1,500	National Single Window Helpline for SC/ST Students	1,500	300
Financial Medical Assistance for SC/ST Families	400	200	Fellowships for SC- ST students under exchange programmes to foreign universities	4,000	1,500
Superspeciality hospital for Malaria, TB, Hypertension, sickle cells, and other diseases in SC/ST Areas.	1,000	200	Establishment of SC - ST Research institutes	3,000	500
Health Contingency fund at Municipal level for SC/ST community	800	500			
			<b>Tribal Affairs</b>		
<b>Housing</b>			Innovation fund for Tribal Cooperatives and Tribal Entrepreneurship	2,000	3,000
Ambedkar Model Housing Scheme	2,500	0	Special fund for FRA Implementation	0	1,200
Birsa Munda Model Housing Scheme	0	1,500	Special fund for implementation of PESA in Schedule Areas	0	1,200
Housing Scheme in Disaster prone for SC/ST Families	2,500	500	Special Mission for Development of Minor Forest Produce	0	1,000
Housing Loan on Subsidised Interest rate to SC/ST Man/Women	3,000	700	Model Schools for SC/ST Girls	2,500	1,300
Savitri Bai Phule SC/ST Woman Housing Programme	3,000	1,000	Schools of international Standard at State Level for SC/ST Students	2,500	1,500
			Special Development Fund for most Vulnerable Tribal Groups	0	1,000
<b>Labour &amp; Employment</b>					
Rehabilitation and Protection of SC Child Labour	2,000	498	<b>Women Child</b>		
Top class coaching for competitive exams	3,000	500	Establishment of Mini health centres in SC/ST Habitations	1,500	537
Establishment of Employment Centre for SC/ST Labour	2,500	1,000	Financial Medical Assistance for SC/ST Women	2,500	1,500
			Special Child Protection Mission for SC/ST Children	2,000	800
<b>MSME</b>			Targeted Health Coverage for Migrant SC/ST Children	2,000	200
Standup Fund for Unemployed SC	5,000	3,442	Appointment of SC/ST Caretakers	1,000	400
SC/ST Innovation fund for employment generation activities	3,500	2,500	Rehabilitation of Trafficked SC/ST Women	2,500	1,000
Credit Support Program for SC/ST educated unemployed youth for Self Employment	3,500	2,000			
Special SC/ST Women Employment Fund	2,500	1,300			
Market Development Programme for SC/ST Farmers Product	1,500	400			
			<b>Rural Development</b>		
Unemployment Allowance for SC/ST BPL Individual/Families	2,500	500	Unemployment Allowance for SC/ST BPL Individual/Families	2,500	500
Restoration of Alienated land for STs	0	1,200	Restoration of Alienated land for STs	0	1,200

Continued...

**NOTE 1:** As per the guidelines No. (F.2(21)-B(P&A)/2016) issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, Budget Division Pg. 2, the due allocation for all the department/ministries amount to Rs. 1,61,260 Cr. for SC budget and Rs. 88,077 Cr. for ST budget. After due consultation with the leaders of the community, the above table suggests schemes as per the total due share.

19 All India Report on Agriculture Census 2015-16, Gol 2020.

20 "Farm laws 2020: Who are they meant to serve?", Kavya Datla, Down to Earth, <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/blog/agriculture/farm-laws-2020-who-are-they-meant-to-serve--74540>

21 How Farm Acts Affect Women in Agriculture", Aditi Premkumar, BehanBox, <https://behanbox.com/how-the-new-farm-acts-will-impact-womens-work-in-agriculture/>

22 All India Report on Agriculture Census 2015-16, Gol 2020.



**Figure 7: Suggested Schemes for SC ST Budgets**

	SC Schemes (Rs. Cr.)	ST Schemes (Rs. Cr.)
<b>WR, RD, GR</b>		
Canal Construction Programme for SC/ST farmland	800	400
Water Catchment Area Development Programme for SC/ST	300	150
<b>Youth Sports</b>		
Special Sports program for SC/ST youths under Khelo India	1,100	700
Overseas Training for SC/ST Sports Persons	400	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>161,260</b>	<b>88,077</b>

**NOTE 1:** As per the guidelines No. (F.2(21)-B(P&A)/2016) issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, Budget Division Pg. 2, the due allocation for all the department/ministries amount to Rs. 1,61,260 Cr. for SC budget and Rs. 88,077 Cr. for ST budget. After due consultation with the leaders of the community, the above table suggests schemes as per the total due share.

while the operational area has rather decreased by 1.75% and 2.4% from 2010-11. The distribution of land remains disproportionate as most of these are marginal and small landholdings. SCs own 78.19% of marginal landholdings and 14.4% of small landholdings with operational areas of 4,955 thousand hctr (36.75%) and 3,431 thousand hctr (25.45%), respectively. However, this share reduces substantially with only 5.62% of small-medium landholdings, 1.78% of medium landholdings, and 0.28% of large landholdings for SCs. STs own 56.26% of marginal landholdings and 23.46% of small landholdings with operational areas of 3,413 thousand hctr (19.19%) and 4,202 thousand hctr (23.63%), respectively. Apart from a negligible increase in the share of marginal landholdings, the share of landholdings for SCs and STs has only decreased from 2010-11 with a maximum decrease of 7.69% and 14.41% in the share of large landholdings, respectively.

The Union Budget 2021-22 allocates Rs. 20,322.89 Cr (16.52%) for SCs and Rs. 10,528.73 Cr (8.55%) for STs to the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare. Even though the percentage of department allocation towards SC and ST budget remains the same as the previous year, the amounts allocated have rather decreased by Rs. 1,889.54 Cr and Rs. 978.92 Cr, respectively, because of the reduction in total department allocation. The highest funded schemes are PM-Kisan, Interest Subsidy for Short-Term Credit to Farmers and PM Fasal Bima Yojana with allocated amounts of Rs. 10,790 Cr, Rs. 3,301.53 Cr and Rs. 2,666.94 Cr under AWSC, and Rs. 5,590 Cr, Rs. 1,547.26 Cr and Rs. 1,381.26 Cr under AWST, respectively. Not only are these general flow schemes

with no special provision for small and marginal farmers, even the allocated amount has decreased by Rs. 1,807.48 Cr (AWSC) and Rs. 1,008.67 Cr (AWST) for PM-Kisan and Rs. 251.16 Cr (AWSC) and Rs. 10.29 Cr (AWST) for Interest Subsidy for Short Term Credit to Farmers. Targeted schemes such as Organic Value Chain Development for Northeast Region remain highly under-allocated. The existing schemes in the agricultural sector are thus enjoyed by landowning dominant castes while there is an increasing financial and social security risk to landless workers, and small and marginal farmers, more so with the enactment of the new Farm Acts 2020.

## 10. Atrocities and Access to Justice

The scourge of discrimination based on caste in India impedes the potential of an entire nation. Heinous acts of violence and discrimination are committed against the Dalits and Adivasis with alarming frequency. The continuing violence and denial of justice for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in India epitomizes the caste-based mindset and biases prevalent among all the sections in our society and demands multi-layered action as a nation. However, even after 30 years of the enactment of this Act, the number of incidents of atrocities against the members of these communities has not abated. As per the government's official data<sup>23</sup>, atrocities/crimes against Dalits (Scheduled Castes) have increased by 7.3% in 2019 (45,935) over 2018 (42,793) whereas atrocities/Crime against Adivasi (Scheduled Tribes) have increased by 26.4% in 2019 (8,257) over 2018 (6,528). Cases of sexual violence against Dalit (Scheduled Caste) Women cumulatively stood at 15% (6,985) whereas for Adivasi (Scheduled Tribe) women, the numbers stood at 24.3% (8,257).

Even during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Dalits and the Adivasis had to face the brunt emerging through different forms of discrimination. According to the data collected by NDMJ- NCSA-NCDHR<sup>24</sup> through various media sources, 92 cases of atrocities of different kinds have been reported in different parts of India during the lockdown period.<sup>25</sup> The allocation for the implementation of the PoA Act is a mere Rs. 600 Cr.

## 11. Schemes for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)

PwDs remain one of the most neglected sections of the society, more so in caste-oppressed communities which are already struggling for survival, well-being and social security. The total PwD population in India is 21,906,769 (2.21%), out of which SC PwD are 49,27,433 (22.5%) and ST PwD are 21,40,763 (9.8%).<sup>26</sup> While some attention has been given to the question of women within the disability category, caste remains a largely untouched terrain, particularly in debates on reservation for PwDs. If we look at caste-segregated analysis on the status of PwDs, it shows that 89.1% and 89.8% of SC and ST with disabilities, respectively, do not receive assistive aid-help because of unaffordability by personal means or lack of awareness about these options.<sup>27</sup> This has further gone worse during the COVID-19 pandemic with little to no availability of essential services and resources to marginalized communities.

In the Union Budget 2021-22, the allocation towards Department for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) is Rs. 117.82 Cr (10.05%) for SCs and Rs. 61.04 Cr (5.21%) as compared to Rs. 132.80 Cr and Rs. 68.56 Cr, respectively, in the FY 2020-21. While we see a decrease in allocation this year despite the need for more useful state-support during the pandemic, there is a further department-wise under-allocation of Rs. 145.82 Cr (AWSC) and 53.79 Cr (AWST) as per the SCP/TSP guidelines. The highest funded schemes under the DEPwD are: Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act (SIPDA), Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances, and Scholarships for Students with Disabilities. These are only general-flow schemes as they don't have any caste-based reservation policy. However, Rs. 15.44 Cr for Scholarship for SwDs, Rs. 58.92 Cr for Scheme for Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances, and Rs. 58.14 Cr for SIPDA have been allocated from SC and ST budget. Due to the lack of caste-based reservation in schemes for PwDs, we have no criteria to ascertain how much of this total amount of Rs. 178.86 Cr allocated towards the DEPwDs from SC and ST budget actually reaches Dalits and Adivasis with disabilities.

SC, ST, EBC with disabilities are either 'non-working', or engaged in 'work with little earning' and 'uninvited work' like begging.<sup>28</sup> With the physical

distancing rules imposed during the lockdown, even uninvited work and risk involving work like begging, sex work, etc., was stopped. Therefore, in order to act against this kind of extreme exclusion of people with disabilities from the entire development economy, we need to have a disability-informed approach in framing policies for SC, ST, EBC with disabilities as well as caste-segregation within the PwD category.

## 12. Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation overlooks Caste-Class & Gender Divide

The 15th Finance Commission has observed that the present approach to disaster risk management is restricted to response and relief, and needs an assistance strategy that will help people recover from the impact of disasters and reduce their risk and vulnerability.

Allocation of Rs 22,184 Cr as Grants-in-Aid for State Disaster Response Fund in 2021-22. Rs 12,390.77Cr have been allocated to the States from National Disaster Response Fund in BE 2021-22. Cr. As per the Commission's recommendation, 30 percent of the resources available under NDRF/SDRF would be earmarked for rebuilding assets and livelihoods, with 10% for preparedness and capacity building.

The Disaster Management budget makes for 29% of the total Central Sector Schemes of the MHA. The MHA has allocated Rs 481.61Cr 2021-22 for Disaster Management, which is almost equal to the Budget Estimate for 2020-21. These allocations fund the National Disaster Response Force that is pressed into action during severe disasters for highly skilled rescue and relief operations; Infrastructure for Disaster Management, National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project, and Other Disaster Management Schemes, which includes the School Safety Programme.

As such, the nature of MHA's allocations for Disaster Management reveals a lack of rationale and vision for Disaster Risk Reduction. It also does not make any allocations to the SC and ST Welfare Budgets despite the widely accepted reality that these communities form the bulk of poorest and deprived communities in the country facing disproportionate impact of disasters.

<sup>23</sup> Crimes in India-2019, National Crime Records Bureau

<sup>24</sup> "Surge in atrocities against Dalits and Adivasis under COVID-19 lockdown in India reported", International Dalit Solidarity Network <https://idsn.org/surge-in-atrocities-against-dalits-and-adivasis-under-covid-19-lockdown-in-india-reported/> (last visited on 1/27/2021 at 6:29 pm)

<sup>25</sup> The atrocities include practice of Untouchability, Physical assault, Sexual assault, Police brutality, Murder, inadequate PPE Kit for sanitation workers, death due to hunger, deaths in Shramik Special Trains, death of migrant workers etc

<sup>26</sup> Disabled Persons in India: A Statistical Profile 2016. Social Statistics Division, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, GoI.

<sup>27</sup> Pal, Gobinda C. 2010. "Dalits with Disabilities: The Neglected Dimension of Social Exclusion". Indian Institute of Dalit Studies.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

## Climate Change Adaptation

The MoEFCC has earmarked Rs 146 Cr in 2021-22 to the SC Welfare Allocation, with Rs 152 Cr for ST Welfare. Together, the SC and ST Welfare allocations constitute a mere 7.71% of the Central Sector Schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes' budget of the Ministry and contravenes the principle of population proportionate allocation. Although the budget 2021-22 marks 134% and 120% increase in SC Welfare and ST Welfare allocations respectively compared with BE 2020-21. This includes allocations for sub-schemes viz., National Coastal Mission and National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC).

Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare (MoAC&F) has allocated Rs. 20,322.89 Cr to SC Welfare, and Rs 10,528.73 Cr to ST Welfare Budgets in FY 2021-22. A number of schemes are implemented by the Ministry for mitigating the impacts of droughts, flood and other extreme weather events. Of the small landowning SC communities, 78% own unproductive marginal landholding, and for the STs, this percentage stands 56% with smallholdings at 23.5% (Agriculture Census 2015-16). The Actual Estimate (AE) of Rs 12,698.33Cr vis-à-vis Revised Estimate Rs. 16,826.93 Cr in 2019-20 points to the underspending and lapsing of resources in an important area of adaptation.

## 13. Child Rights

Children, 40 percent of the total population of the country, have been significant stakeholders in the budget, so the children from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe communities. Looking at the FY 2021-22, major allocation has been made under Samagra Shiksha i.e. Rs. 6,232.05 Cr for AWSC and Rs. 3,433.88 Cr for AWST. Similarly, the Mid-Day Meal Scheme has been allocated Rs. 2,305 Cr under AWSC and Rs. 1,354 Cr under AWST. However, these schemes are general in nature. They aren't exclusively made for SC and ST children and rather made for all children.

Looking at a few direct schemes, FY 2021-22 has allocated Rs. 1,418.04 Cr under AWST for the scheme called Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)". National Means Cum Merit Scholarship Scheme has been allocated Rs. 63.5 Cr under AWSC and Rs. 30.5 Cr under AWST. However, critical schemes like Boys and Girls Hostel, National Scheme for Incentive to Girl Child for Secondary Education, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao have no allocation under AWSC and AWST.

# Recommendations



### 1. Social Protection

A minimum social protection floor which guarantees access to universal basic health care including maternity benefit and basic income security to all Dalits and Adivasis.

### 2. SC & ST Women Allocation

Allocation of 50% for Dalit women and a special component plan for Dalit women should be established with strong mechanisms to monitor and ensure effective implementation.

### 3. PWD Allocation

All schools and hostels must be made disabled-friendly keeping in mind the needs of people with disabilities

### 4. Legal Provision

Lack of legislative framework for implementation of SC & ST schemes has led to lack of implementation of most schemes. There is therefore an urgent need for passing of SCP/TSP legislation.

### 5. Access to Education

Education being the single most important scheme for the youth of the community must have enhanced funding adequate to accommodate all eligible students under Post Matric Scholarship, Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship and other similar scholarship schemes.

### 6. Social Audit

All the schemes for the welfare and development of the SC, STs to be strengthened by effective participatory and accountable and transparent mechanisms. Strong social audit and grievance redressal mechanisms in planning and designing and

implementation. The general, notional and obsolete schemes for SCs and STs which are more than 70% must be avoided at all costs.

### 7. Allocation for DRR and CCA

Allocate population proportionate funds and a basket of schemes for direct Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) programmes for SC and ST communities to build their resilience and adaptive capacity. These Schemes can include livelihood to strengthen coping mechanisms during droughts, especially of the landless agricultural labourers, and women farmers and farm workers.

### 8. Scheme Design

Introduce innovative schemes that are not only relevant but designed to address the growing gap in development between the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the general castes to be urgently taken by all the Ministries and Departments.

### 9. Access to Justice

Allocation should be increased to prevent crime against Dalit women, men, children, people with disabilities and queer and transpersons. There is need for establishing clear mechanisms to provide protection and security to any victims of caste-based discrimination and violence. The current allocation is grossly inadequate. Special Courts should be set up for speedy trials of cases, and increased compensation should be given to victims of caste and ethnicity based atrocities.

### 10. Post Matric Scholarship

Allocation to direct benefit schemes like Post-Matric Scholarships, hostels, skill development schemes should be increased and timely transfer of funds should be ensured to beneficiaries at all cost.

**The National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights** is a forum launched in 1998, committed to the elimination of discrimination based on caste. A democratic secular platform led by Dalit women and men activists, with support and solidarity from movements and organizations, academics, individuals, people's organizations and institutions throughout the country who are committed to work to protect and promote human rights of Dalits. **Dalit Arthik Adhikar Andolan (DAAA)** is a part of NCDHR and looks at the various economic rights of Dalits including education and entrepreneurship. It uses the Union and state Government budgets as the main vehicle to tracking schemes and entitlements of Dalits. It involves in advocacy with policy makers and executives in strengthening the existing policies and tracking it for accountability and transparency.

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