

Union Budget

2018-19

Issues of
Marginalized Sections

Analysis from the perspectives of:

Handloom, Fisheries, Dalits,

Adivasis, Forest, Agriculture,

Banking and financing, Urban Housing,

Rural development, Land & Higher Education

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Key Contributions

- All India Union of Forest Working People (AIUFWP)
- Beyond Copenhagen Collective
- Bhumi Adhikar Aandolan (BAA)
- Delhi Solidarity Group (DSG)
- Public Finance Public Account Collective (PFPAC)
- National Alliance of People's Movement (NAPM)
- Centre for Financial Accountability (CFA)
- National Fishworker's Forum (NFF)
- Rashtra Cheneta Jana Samakhya (RCJS)
- Root Cause (Beyond Politics)

Agricultural Budget

Though the current budget is being portrayed as a pro farmer, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmer's Welfare witnessed only a modest rise of 11.58% in its budgetary allocations, from Rs. 41,855 crore in 2017-18 to Rs. 46,700 in 2018-19. Over the last three budgets, 11 major schemes or programmes have come to dominate the agricultural budget, amounting to over 85% of the total departmental allocations and expenditure. The largest, the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) an interest subsidy primarily for short term loans to farmers has remained stagnant since 2016-17 at Rs. 15000 crores despite repeated pleas by farmers groups for the government to increase the coverage beyond the current Rs. 3 lakh limit.

The bulk of this year's budgetary increase comes from the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), a crop insurance scheme, whose allocations were increased by Rs. 4,000 crore (a 44% increase which is over 82% of the total departmental budgetary increase). Though robust crop insurance is a necessity in monsoon dependent agriculture, PMFBY's structural and operational peculiarities seem to facilitate an almost criminal transference of public funds from the exchequer to private coffers. The scheme entails mandatory crop insurance for farmers cultivating particular crops in select states. The farmer pays a subsidised rate of premium, limited by the scheme, with government bearing the balance. However, the scheme contains no provisions for limiting the gross premium charged. This along with the option to bid on an annual basis has allowed private insurance companies to take up the scheme only when a favourable monsoon (leaving public insurance companies to deal with the lean years) is predicted and at the same time charge exorbitantly. In fact, data tabled in parliament last July indicates that insurers, mostly private made a windfall of roughly 16,700 crores. 11 general insurance companies over the 2016 Kharif and Rabi seasons collected Rs. 20,374 crore as premium but paid out only Rs. 3,655 crore as claims, which in itself constitutes only 63% of the claims submitted. Which such appalling rates of claim disbursement (at which one can only wonder at the rationale of fostering private participation) coupled with the super normal profits raked in by private insurers, allocations to PMFBY should be actually classified under corporate subsidies.

The CAG's Performance Audit on Agricultural Insurance (Report No. 7) of 2017 is highly critical of PMFBY in particular and Indian agricultural insurance in general. It states in its preface itself the following:

- Two-thirds of the farmers surveyed during audit were not aware of the schemes.
- It was noticed that 97 per cent of the farmers had opted for sum insured equivalent to loan amount they already had under under NAIS indicating that either farmers were intent on covering the loan amount only (in which case, the scheme acted more as loan insurance rather than as crop insurance thereby effectively nullifying one scheme) or were not aware or were not informed appropriately by loan disbursing Bank/FIs about the full provisions of the scheme.
- Though the annual budget allocations included specific provisions for coverage of SC/ST category, no data of such coverage and utilisation of funds for this category was maintained.

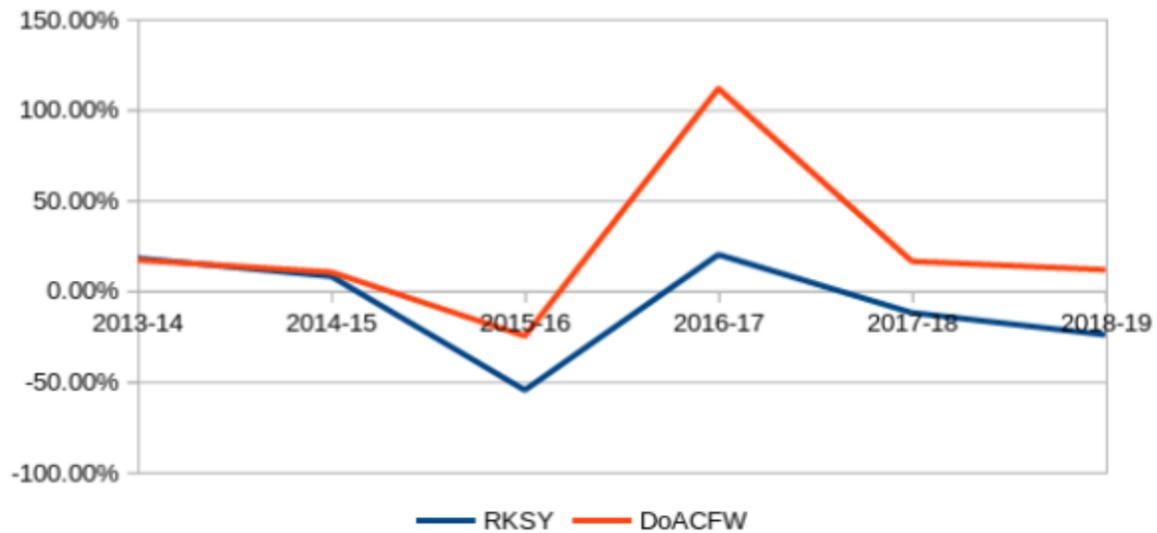
- The government has not maintained record of insured farmers and making itself dependent on private insurance company and banks, against the guidelines.
- No data of sharecroppers and tenant farmers was maintained despite the fact that the guidelines provided for their coverage under the schemes.
- Mostly those farmers who have taken loans were under already covered under other schemes and coverage of uncovered farmers was very low. Similarly coverage of small and marginal farmers under the schemes was very low compared to the population of farmers as per Census 2011.
- There were discrepancies in the data relating to area sown and area insured. Further, the integrity of the data provided by the state governments in this respect cannot be not ensured.
- Periodical Appraisal Reports were not prepared by the Department despite 15 years of operating schemes.
- State Level Coordination Committees on Crop Insurance and District Level Monitoring Committees did not carry out the work allocated to them effectively,
- Implementing Agencies also did not carry out the monitoring of the schemes as assigned to them effectively.
- Despite provision of large amount of funds under the schemes to private insurance companies, there was no provision for audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (even though WBCIS provided for oversight agency by independent government agency).
- There were delays in issue of notifications, receipt of declaration from Bank/FIs within cut-off dates, delays in receipt of yield data from state governments, delay in processing of claims by IAs, and irregularities in disbursement of claims by Bank/FIs to farmers' accounts.
- Technical Support Unit (TSU), an independent agency under the guidance of Department has not been set up to monitor implementation of the crop insurance schemes,
- Capping of premium under NCIP (National Crop Insurance Programme), introduced with the aim of restricting the liability of the governments under the schemes, also resulted in loanee farmers being denied their full entitlement.

The report goes on to be damning indictment of Indian agricultural insurance, stopping short of calling it a criminal transfer of public wealth to private banks, insurers and middle men but insinuates that PMBFY and Interest Subsidy for Short Term Credit to Farmers; suffers wilful administrative lapses for the purpose of benefitting private insurance agencies.

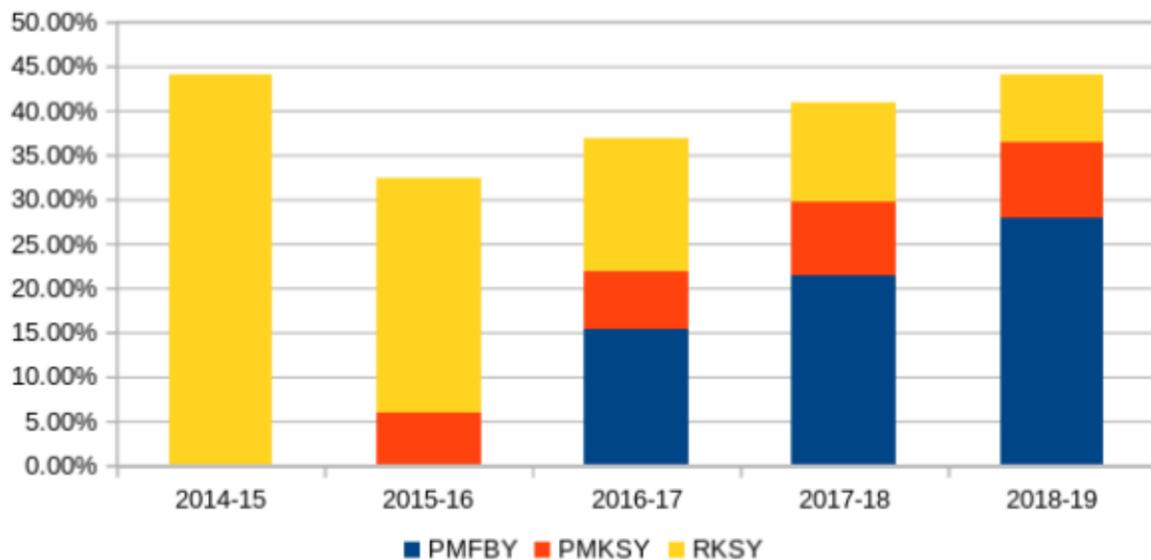
Insurance scams aside, the two other significant movements in the Agricultural Budget are the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) and the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The former aims at improving farm productivity while the latter seeks to ensure a steady level of annual growth (4%) in the agriculture. Both these schemes are the most significant conduits for capital investment and structural up-gradation in the agricultural sector and neither have witnessed any significant increases in budgetary allocations. PMKSY's allocation was increased only by Rs. 600 crore (less than 18% increase) while RKVY was reduced by nearly 25%. RKVY's beyond merely suffering a decrease in this budget has been subjected a year on year reduction of funds since the BJP took charge. In

terms of rates of growth, RKVY has consistently remained below the departmental rate and even when the departmental budget was nearly doubled in the 2016-17 budget, RKVY was increased by only a fifth. Aside from shifts in budgetary allocations, interest subsidy to farmers remains the agricultural budget's largest allocation. This scheme too like PMBFY ropes in both public and private entities to provide primarily short term credit to farmers with government bearing a portion of the interest.

Rate of Growth of Allocations



Share of Departmental Budget



What this indicates is that throughout the BJP's tenure, there has been a marked policy shift from structural investments and reform in the agrarian sector to quick fix solutions. These serve a dual purpose of stemming the farmer backlash that BJP richly deserves while at the same time enabling the government's corporate backers to profiteer off agrarian distress. Last but not least, this year's quick fix solution; the proposed partial implementation of the Swaminathan Committee's recommendations. As a last ditch attempt to recapture rural votes prior to the 2019 general elections, minimum support prices (MSP) are supposedly going to be increased to ensure that all farmers receive 50% over the cost of production.

This claim is exceedingly hollow as there is no budgetary allocation for such nor is there a corresponding allocation to food subsidy under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) to counter the food price inflation that such a measure would create, were it implemented. In fact, the Economic Affairs Secretary, Subash Garg stated that the MSP hike would require at least Rs. 15,000 crores in additional allocations, which would wreck the government's adherence to fiscal discipline. Even MS Swaminathan (former head of the Swaminathan Committee) has asked the Finance Minister to provide clarity on the subject stating that "since the Finance Minister had announced the proposed hike for only unannounced crops, most important crops such as paddy or millets are not up for any hike."

It must also be noted here that allocations under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) have been increased by a pathetic 1.05% (which in real terms is actually a decrease if annual inflation of 4% is factored in) from last year's revised figures. Wages paid under MNREGA have a substantial impact on rural incomes, especially those of landless agrarian labour. These workers, who are primarily Dalit or Tribal, have been cast adrift along with their small-holding brethren, by the BJP in its quest for fiscal austerity and corporate appeasement.

Sector Overview:

In 2014 the BJP, profiting off the anger against the anti-people policies of the Congress and its rampant corruption took control of the union government. Its election manifesto amongst other lies claimed to seek an "achhe din" for farmers and to put an end to a spate of farmer suicides. As part of this promise were proposals to increase public investment in agriculture and rural development, take steps to ensure a minimum of 50 percent profits over the cost of production, provide cheaper agricultural inputs, credit, high-yielding seeds and the latest technologies for farming, to link MGNREGA to agriculture, to implement a farm insurance scheme to take care of crop loss due to natural calamities, to strengthen and expand rural credit facilities, to expand irrigation facilities, to institute a price stabilisation fund to protect farmers from volatile world market prices and more. Also proposed was a 'National Land Use Policy', which would "look at the scientific acquisition of non-cultivable land and its development" so as to "protect the interest of farmers and keep in mind the food production goals and economic goals of the country." Welfare measures for farmers above 60 years, small and marginal farmers and farm labour were also touted. What more could a farmer ask for?

But after nearly 4 years of rule, the reality is quite different. Clearly each one of the promises made has been broken. BJP Government has followed a policy of pauperising and dispossessing the peasantry. They have deliberately pushed farmers into severe distress by withdrawing State support, aggressively pursuing trade liberalisation and implementing a gamut of Neo-Liberal Economic Policies. The interests of farmers and agricultural workers have been betrayed to usher in achhe din for Adani, Ambani and their ilk causing extreme hardship for all working sections of the society.

The Union Budget for 2018-19 was prepared in times of an acute agrarian crisis, increasing farmer indebtedness and suicides and rising rural unrest against the apathy of the BJP led governments of the centre and states. Unless the Budget addressed the crisis with adequate allocations agriculture, the prospects of an agrarian recovery in India were bleak.

Four years of utter disregard for the rural community's welfare has led to farmer mobilizations and raising of demands. A primary demand was liberation from indebtedness. This rose from farmers, landless, agricultural workers, tenant farmers, Adivasis, the fishing community and even the rural middle class crippled with debt from banks as well as moneylenders. Another other demand has been for Assured Remunerative Prices (Minimum Support Price at least 50 percent above Cost of Production) in accordance with the Swaminathan Commission recommendations. Legislations to guarantee both these demands saw 187 farmers' organisations and massive mobilisation for the Kisan Sansad (Farmers' Parliament) which passed two Bills and now are having nationwide consultations.

However, these two decisions will have to be accompanied by a host of measures if a transformation is required rather than mere palliatives. MSP hikes are notional as there is no procurement mechanism and cost calculations do not reflect actual expenditure on farms. Procurement operations should be expanded to include all crops including cereals, pulses, millets, oilseeds, minor forest produce etc.

This should be programs accompanied by provision of subsidised quality inputs, access to credit at interest rates not exceeding 3 percent and at zero interest for landless, agricultural workers, tenant farmers, Adivasis and Dalits. Price control on agricultural inputs to stop unbridled profiteering by monopolies must be ensured. Insurance against crop loss as well as income loss with zero premium for the vulnerable sections must be ensured. The PMFBY has helped corporate insurance companies to rake in Rs.16,700 crores. As per a recent reply to the Parliament Question the number of farmers who benefited are miniscule. Not a single farmer has benefited in Bengal and Uttarakhand, only 2 farmers benefited in Manipur, 3 in Bihar and 14 in Gujarat. This shows that the hype and propaganda is all baseless. It requires scrapping of the PMFBY which is only filling corporate coffers and replacing it with an effective mechanism.

Assured Price Deficiency Payments and Price Stabilisation to address shortfall in prices and volatility with adequate allocations, special production incentives for pulses and millets, increased allocations for irrigation to ensure water to all farms and special attention to rain-fed, semi-arid regions are required. Revival of

Commodity Boards like Coffee Board, Spices Board, Silk Board, Rubber Board etc. with enhanced allocations equipped to address exigencies must be given priority.

The government must dump its efforts to corporatise agriculture by promoting Cooperatives and their intervention in production, processing, value addition and marketing. Reversing the policies of trade liberalisation, bringing in quantitative restrictions, withdrawal from unequal Free Trade Agreements and rejection of WTO conditions detrimental to farmers and food security are indispensable for a turnaround. Fundamental change in land relations through land reforms, public investment in agriculture, revival of public extension services and emphasis on autonomous agricultural research, comprehensive social security and food security are all necessary to initiate a new dawn for farmers. Only then the idea of doubling Farmers' incomes can even be seen as realistic.

This is something the BJP cannot deliver.

| Select Agrarian Schemes / Programmes | Actual Expenditure | | | Budgeted Expenditure | | | | | Rate of Growth | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
| Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana | 0 | 2,983 | 11,052 | 0 | 0 | 5,500 | 9,000 | 13,000 | | 63.64% | 44.44% |
| Interest Subsidy for Short Term Credit to Farmers | 0 | 0 | 13,397 | 0 | 0 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana | 0 | 1,556 | 1,991 | 0 | 1,000 | 2,340 | 3,400 | 4,000 | 134.00% | 45.30% | 17.65% |
| Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana | 8,443 | 3,940 | 3,892 | 9,954 | 4,500 | 5,400 | 4,750 | 3,600 | 20.00% | -12.04% | -24.21% |
| Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region | 0 | 113 | 48 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 | 160 | | 0.00% | 60.00% |
| Rainfed Area Development and Climate Change | 0 | 198 | 205 | 0 | 0 | 225 | 223 | 234 | | -0.89% | 4.93% |
| Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana | 0 | 219 | 153 | 0 | 300 | 297 | 350 | 360 | -1.00% | 17.85% | 2.86% |
| National Project on Agro-Forestry | 0 | 0 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 75 | 100 | 75 | | 33.33% | -25.00% |
| National Mission on Horticulture | 0 | 1,696 | 1,493 | 0 | 0 | 1,620 | 2,320 | 2,536 | | 43.21% | 9.31% |
| Integrated Scheme on Agricultural Cooperation | 99 | 122 | 130 | 100 | 100 | 130 | 130 | 130 | 30.13% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Agriculture Marketing - Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing | 980 | 570 | 827 | 720 | 805 | 838 | 1,190 | 1,050 | 4.05% | 42.02% | -11.76% |
| Total | 9,522 | 11,413 | 33,222 | 10,774 | 6,705 | 31,528 | 36,564 | 40,153 | 370.22% | 15.97% | 9.82% |
| Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare | 19,255 | 15,296 | 36,912 | 22,652 | 17,004 | 35,984 | 41,855 | 46,700 | 111.62% | 16.32% | 11.58% |
| Share of Select Schemes/Programmes in total Departmental Budget | 49.45% | 74.61% | 90.00% | 47.56% | 39.43% | 87.62% | 87.36% | 85.98% | 331.67% | 97.89% | 84.80% |

Dalits and Tribals

Budgetary allocations for the welfare and uplifting of Dalits and Tribals suffer the same kind of discrimination and marginalization that these communities are subjected to in society. Despite claims by government, in a host of official documents, of annually increased allocations, examination of such paints a very different picture. Before attempting to analyse budgetary allocations for Dalits and Tribals, we must first grasp the framework under which such allocations are made.

Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) was started in the 1975-76 while the Special Component Plan (SCP) for Scheduled Castes, in 1979-80. The purpose was to propose additional fund, AT LEAST IN PROPORTION TO SC / ST POPULATION, from General the Plan for the development of the target population.

On the 27th of June, 2005, the National Development Council sought to bridge the socio-economic gap between these sections of society and the general populace by mandating that population proportionate allocations should be made exclusively for the benefit of Dalits and Tribals. This meant that out of the total budgeted expenditure for a year, a proportionate amount based on the population of Dalits and Tribals to the total national population, was to be allocated via schemes, programmes, etc which impacted Dalits and Tribals in exclusion. This was to be over and above general welfare allocations which though not targeted specifically at Dalits and Tribals, would have beneficiaries who are Dalit or Tribal.

The key features of SCP/TSP guideline are as follows:

1. Allocation of plan fund under SCP/TSP has to be, at least, in proportion of SC/ST population
2. Fund to be utilized in a manner to bridge the Social Gap and Economic Gap between SC/ST and General in a period of 10 years.
3. Fund is non-lapsable and non-divertible
4. Fund has to be spent only in those programs that directly benefit to the individuals, Families and Hamlets belonging to SC/ST
5. A dedicated unit is to be constituted in each department for SCP/TSP
6. Fund allocated under SCP/TSP is to be placed under Minor Heads 789/796 and has to be reallocated to the sectoral implementing line departments / agencies at the disposal of Nodal Department
7. Wage component, especially under rural employment schemes, should not be included under SCP/TSP.
8. Priority should be given for providing basic minimum services like primary education, health, drinking water, nutrition, rural housing, rural electrification and rural link road.
9. A monitoring and review committee should be constituted at district and block levels to review monthly progress and State level committee will review it quarterly.
10. Non-allocation of fund under SCP/TSP will result in non-approval of State/UTs Plan fund
11. Dissemination/awareness of information to SCs/STs all over the State/UT about the schemes/programmes available for their development may be the responsibility of the nodal department.

In August 2010, after two days of heated debate in Parliament, the Finance Minister, P. Chidambaram accepted that there were lapses in implementing the above guidelines. A Task Force to Review Guidelines on SCP and TSP was constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Narendra Jadhav, then member of Planning Commission. The Task Force was to focus on the proportionate Plan allocations for SC/ST communities under all the Union ministries. It suggested that of all Union ministries, only 25 ministries responsible for implementing the SCP and only 28 for implementing TSP, with distinct share in the total pool for these strategies. 43 ministries were exempted from reporting. The recommendations of the task force adopted the term “indivisible” in formulation and implementation of budget and economic programs. This gave rise to a new classification ‘indivisible sector’ which does not encourage these ‘indivisible sectors’ to think through and identify the specific concerns of these communities and initiate measures to address the concerns by introducing some new interventions or amending the existing programmes, with requisite budgetary outlays.

On more recent developments regarding the budgetary framework for the SCP and TSP, prior to dropping the classification of budgetary allocations in 2017-18 on the basis of plan and non-plan, to be replaced by scheme and non-scheme categories, a memo of the Economic Affairs Department restricted allocations to the SCP and TSP to only scheme expenditures. Also the General Financial Rules 2017, mandated that all grants in aid to bodies must include a condition regarding reservation for tribals, dalits and OBCs.

The CAG also stressed on the budgetary priority of the SCP and TSP; “Special Component Plan for the Scheduled Castes and the Tribal Sub-Plan for the Scheduled Tribes were initiated by Government as intervention strategies to cater exclusively to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively. The basic objective of both these sub-plans is to channelise the flow of outlays and benefits from the general sectors in the Central Ministries/Departments for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, both in physical and financial terms. Separate allocations for the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) as part of the plan allocations were made from the financial year 2011-12. Accounting mechanism to account for such allocations by opening dedicated Minor Head ‘Special Component for Scheduled Castes (Code 789)’ and ‘Tribal Sub Plan (Code 796)’ was put in place. Accordingly, in the Detailed Demands for Grants of the Central Ministries/Departments, provision under a plan scheme is obtained distinctly with separate budget lines for ‘general plan’, ‘special component for scheduled castes’ and ‘tribal area sub plan’. The provisions made under ‘special component for scheduled castes’ and ‘tribal sub plan’ are not allowed to be re-appropriated, except to the same Minor Heads in other schemes under SCSP and TSP, thereby preventing any possibility of diversion.”

The Economic Survey 2017-18 however does not deign to discuss the status and interest of Dalits / Adivasi and Other Backward Classes. A note is attached as Annexure S1.

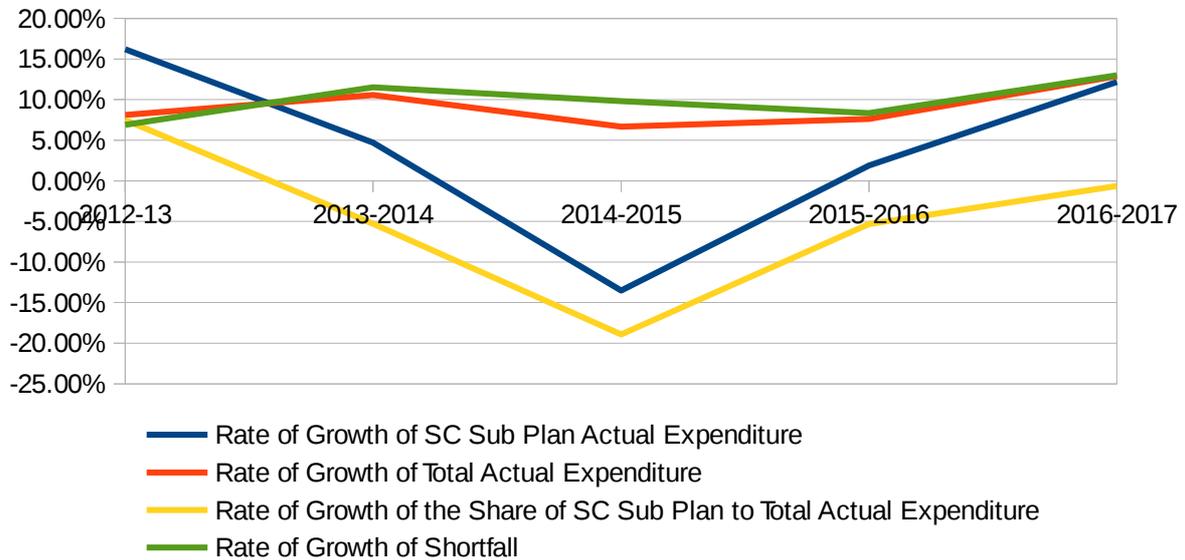
Budget Analysis

Despite the many contradictions, limitations and conditions involved in the Budgetary process, the following tables and graphs are a comparative analysis of annual allocations to the above plans. It must be noted that actual expenditure for the years 2017-18 and 2018-19 is currently unavailable, as in general they are produced only two years after the date of release of the budgeted expenditures.

From the table concerning the Schedule Caste Sub-plan the following trends are noticed:

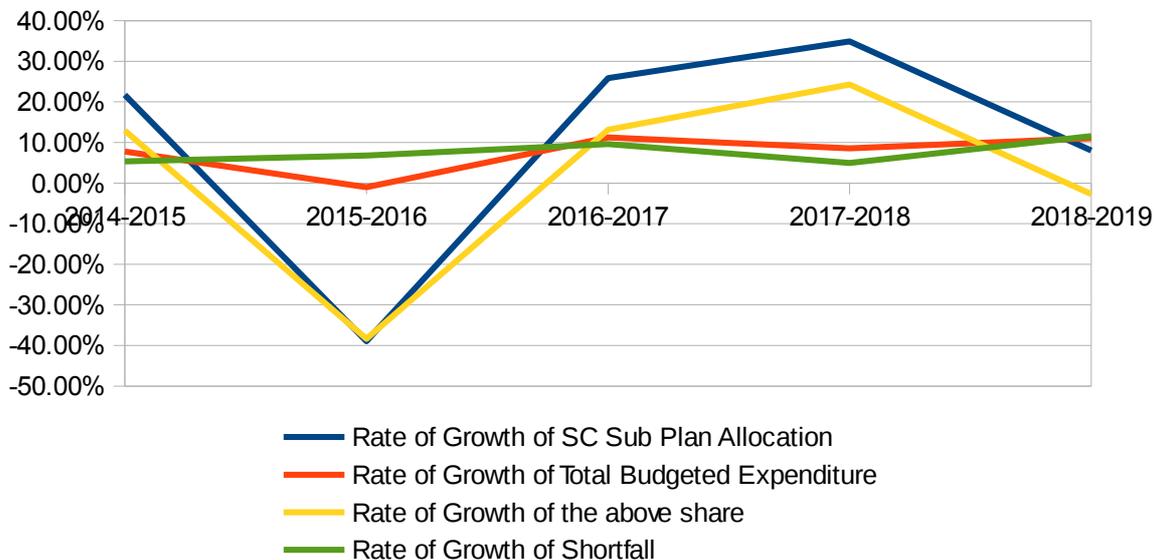
- In terms of rates of growth for actual expenditures, it is noticed that the amount of shortfall displays the highest rate of growth followed by total budget's actual expenditure. Whereas rate of growth of actual expenditure in the SC Sub-plan is less the both the aforementioned and that of the share of the SC Sub-plan's actual expenditure to the total budget's actual expenditure is the lowest of all.

Actual Expenditure

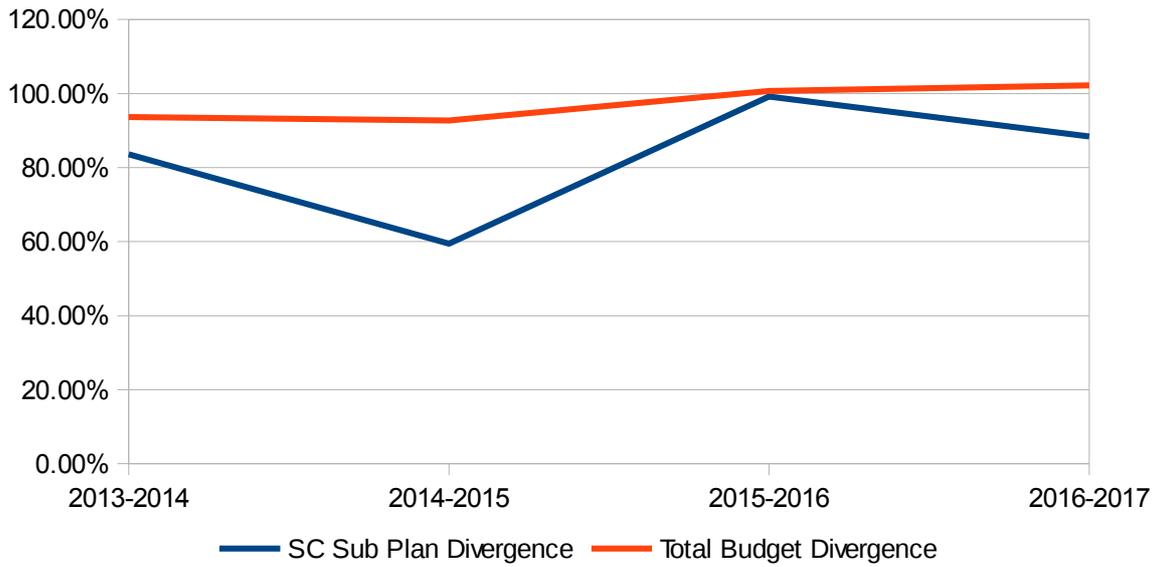


- In terms of rates of growth for budgeted expenditures, a rather different picture emerges from that displayed by actual expenditures. Despite higher growth rates, post 2016-17 for SC Sub-plan's budgeted expenditure and SC Sub-plan as a share of total budgeted expenditure, the increasing divergence post 2015-16 between budgeted and actual expenditures, which is depicted in the second graph, indicates that actual expenditure post 2016-17 may still be growing at a lower rate than the shortfall and total budget's expenditure.

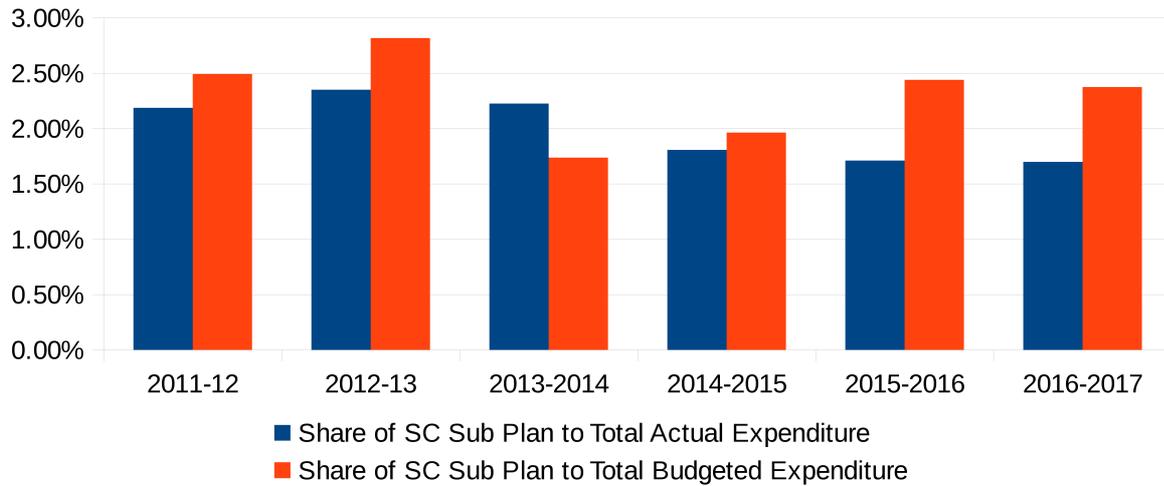
Budgeted Expenditure



Divergence between Actual and Budgeted Expenditure



Share of SC Sub-Plan to Total Actual and Budgeted Expenditure

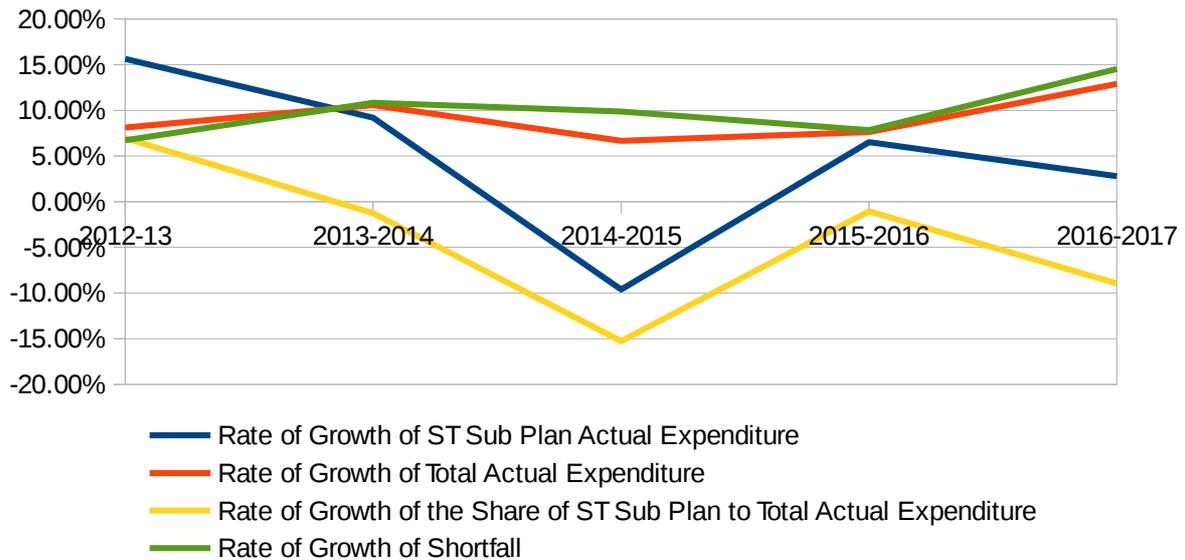


What this means is that when the budget expenditure actually spent is increased on a yearly basis (which usually the case), the sub-plan either gets decreased, remains the same or increase at a rate of increase that is lower than then rate of increase applicable to the whole budget. This creates a constantly reducing share in the total budget expenditure which is spent as per the sub-plan.

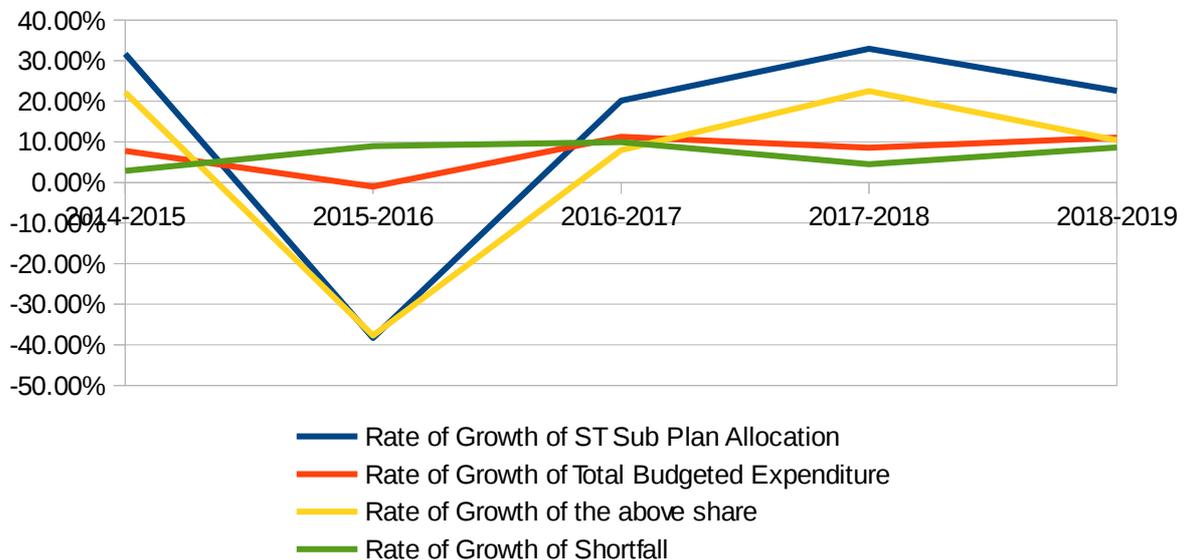
| SC Sub Plan | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Actual Expenditure | | | | | | |
| PARTICULARS | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 |
| SC Sub Plan | 28,535 | 33,161 | 34,722 | 30,035 | 30,604 | 34,334 |
| Rate of Growth of SC Sub Plan Actual Expenditure | | 16.21% | 4.71% | -13.50% | 1.89% | 12.19% |
| Total Actual Expenditure | 1,304,365 | 1,410,372 | 1,559,447 | 1,663,673 | 1,790,783 | 2,021,956 |
| Rate of Growth of Total Actual Expenditure | | 8.13% | 10.57% | 6.68% | 7.64% | 12.91% |
| Share of SC Sub Plan to Total Actual Expenditure | 2.19% | 2.35% | 2.23% | 1.81% | 1.71% | 1.70% |
| Rate of Growth of the Share of SC Sub Plan to Total Actual Expenditure | | 7.48% | -5.30% | -18.92% | -5.34% | -0.64% |
| Ideal Share (Based on Population) % | 16.60% | 16.60% | 16.60% | 16.60% | 16.60% | 16.60% |
| Ideal Share (Based on Population) Amount | 216,525 | 234,122 | 258,868 | 276,170 | 297,270 | 335,645 |
| Shortfall (Ideal Share – SC Sub Plan) | 187,989 | 200,961 | 224,146 | 246,135 | 266,666 | 301,311 |
| Rate of Growth of Shortfall | | 6.90% | 11.54% | 9.81% | 8.34% | 12.99% |
| Budgeted Expenditure | | | | | | |
| PARTICULARS | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 |
| SC Sub Plan | 41,519 | 50,548 | 30,851 | 38,833 | 52,393 | 56,619 |
| Rate of Growth of SC Sub Plan Allocation | | 21.75% | -38.97% | 25.87% | 34.92% | 8.07% |
| Total Budgeted Expenditure | 1,665,297 | 1,794,892 | 1,777,477 | 1,978,060 | 2,146,735 | 2,383,741 |
| Rate of Growth of Total Budgeted Expenditure | | 7.78% | -0.97% | 11.28% | 8.53% | 11.04% |
| Share of SC Sub Plan to Total Budgeted Expenditure | 2.49% | 2.82% | 1.74% | 1.96% | 2.44% | 2.38% |
| Rate of Growth of the above share | | 12.96% | -38.37% | 13.11% | 24.32% | -2.68% |
| Ideal Share (Based on Population) % | 16.60% | 16.60% | 16.60% | 16.60% | 16.60% | 16.60% |
| Ideal Share (Based on Population) Amount | 276,439 | 297,952 | 295,061 | 328,358 | 356,358 | 395,701 |
| Shortfall (Ideal Share – SC Sub Plan) | 234,920 | 247,404 | 264,210 | 289,525 | 303,965 | 339,082 |
| Rate of Growth of Shortfall | | 5.31% | 6.79% | 9.58% | 4.99% | 11.55% |
| Divergence – Actual Expenditure Vs Budgeted Expenditure | | | | | | |
| | | | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 |
| SC Sub Plan Divergence | | | 83.63% | 59.42% | 99.20% | 88.41% |
| Total Budget Divergence | | | 93.64% | 92.69% | 100.75% | 102.22% |
| Rate of Growth of SC Sub Plan Divergence | | | | -28.95% | 66.95% | -10.87% |
| Rate of Growth of Total Budget Divergence | | | | -1.02% | 8.69% | 1.46% |

From the table concerning the ST Sub-plan, it can be determined that ST sub-plan suffers the same fate as the SC Sub-plan wherein despite growth in ST Sub-plan's budgeted expenditure over shooting total budgeted expenditure growth, actual expenditure portrays a divergent picture. This leads us to conclude that despite increased allocations, though not at ideal levels yet, the true budgetary marginalization of Dalit and Tribal communities occurs not in the budgeted allocations which attract a great degree of scrutiny but in actual expenditures which due to the budgetary process is released in the public domain two years after the budgetary allocation is made.

Actual Expenditure



Budgeted Expenditure



| ST Sub Plan | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Actual Expenditure | | | | | | |
| PARTICULARS | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 |
| ST Sub Plan | 17,454 | 20,184 | 22,039 | 19,921 | 21,217 | 21,811 |
| Rate of Growth of ST Sub Plan Actual Expenditure | | 15.64% | 9.19% | -9.61% | 6.50% | 2.80% |
| Total Actual Expenditure | 1,304,365 | 1,410,372 | 1,559,447 | 1,663,673 | 1,790,783 | 2,021,956 |
| Rate of Growth of Total Actual Expenditure | | 8.13% | 10.57% | 6.68% | 7.64% | 12.91% |
| Share of ST Sub Plan to Total Actual Expenditure | 1.34% | 1.43% | 1.41% | 1.20% | 1.18% | 1.08% |
| Rate of Growth of the Share of ST Sub Plan to Total Actual Expenditure | | 6.95% | -1.25% | -15.27% | -1.05% | -8.95% |
| Ideal Share (Based on Population) % | 8.60% | 8.60% | 8.60% | 8.60% | 8.60% | 8.60% |
| Ideal Share (Based on Population) Amount | 112,175 | 121,292 | 134,112 | 143,076 | 154,007 | 173,888 |
| Shortfall (Ideal Share – ST Sub Plan) | 94,722 | 101,108 | 112,073 | 123,155 | 132,791 | 152,078 |
| Rate of Growth of Shortfall | | 6.74% | 10.85% | 9.89% | 7.82% | 14.52% |
| Budgeted Expenditure | | | | | | |
| PARTICULARS | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 |
| ST Sub Plan | 24,598 | 32,387 | 19,980 | 24,005 | 31,920 | 39,135 |
| Rate of Growth of ST Sub Plan Allocation | | 31.66% | -38.31% | 20.15% | 32.97% | 22.60% |
| Total Budgeted Expenditure | 1,665,297 | 1,794,892 | 1,777,477 | 1,978,060 | 2,146,735 | 2,383,741 |
| Rate of Growth of Total Budgeted Expenditure | | 7.78% | -0.97% | 11.28% | 8.53% | 11.04% |
| Share of ST Sub Plan to Total Budgeted Expenditure | 1.48% | 1.80% | 1.12% | 1.21% | 1.49% | 1.64% |
| Rate of Growth of the above share | | 22.16% | -37.70% | 7.96% | 22.52% | 10.41% |
| Ideal Share (Based on Population) % | 8.60% | 8.60% | 8.60% | 8.60% | 8.60% | 8.60% |
| Ideal Share (Based on Population) Amount | 143,216 | 154,361 | 152,863 | 170,113 | 184,619 | 205,002 |
| Shortfall (Ideal Share – ST Sub Plan) | 118,617 | 121,974 | 132,883 | 146,108 | 152,700 | 165,867 |
| Rate of Growth of Shortfall | | 2.83% | 8.94% | 9.95% | 4.51% | 8.62% |
| Divergence – Actual Expenditure Vs Budgeted Expenditure | | | | | | |
| | | | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 |
| ST Sub Plan Divergence | | | 89.60% | 61.51% | 106.19% | 90.86% |
| Total Budget Divergence | | | 93.64% | 92.69% | 100.75% | 102.22% |
| Rate of Growth of ST Sub Plan Divergence | | | | -31.35% | 72.64% | -14.44% |
| Rate of Growth of Total Budget Divergence | | | | -1.02% | 8.69% | 1.46% |

Also to be highlighted is that the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Report No. 44 of 2017, Page 133-134) observed that there exists multiple cases of unauthorised diversion of supplementary provisions from the SC and ST Sub-plans. These diversions run into thousands of crores and key beneficiaries are at the will of the Department of Higher Education, National Rural Drinking Water Programme, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, etc.

These diversions defeat the purpose of maintaining these sub-plans which is to ensure exclusive usage of the funds for the betterment of Dalit and Tribal communities so as to chip away at the historic and still prevalent injustice meted out to them in a casteist, feudal and increasingly sectarian and un-equal society.

Examples of neglect from Detailed Demands for Grants:

Demand No. 58, Department of Higher Education: Expenditure in the year 2015-16 for Scheduled Castes Welfare is Rs. 2465.94 Cr. Budget Estimate for welfare of these communities in the year 2016-17 is Rs. 2953 Cr and in the year 2018-19 is Rs. 2960 Cr. At a glance it shows that budget is increasing.

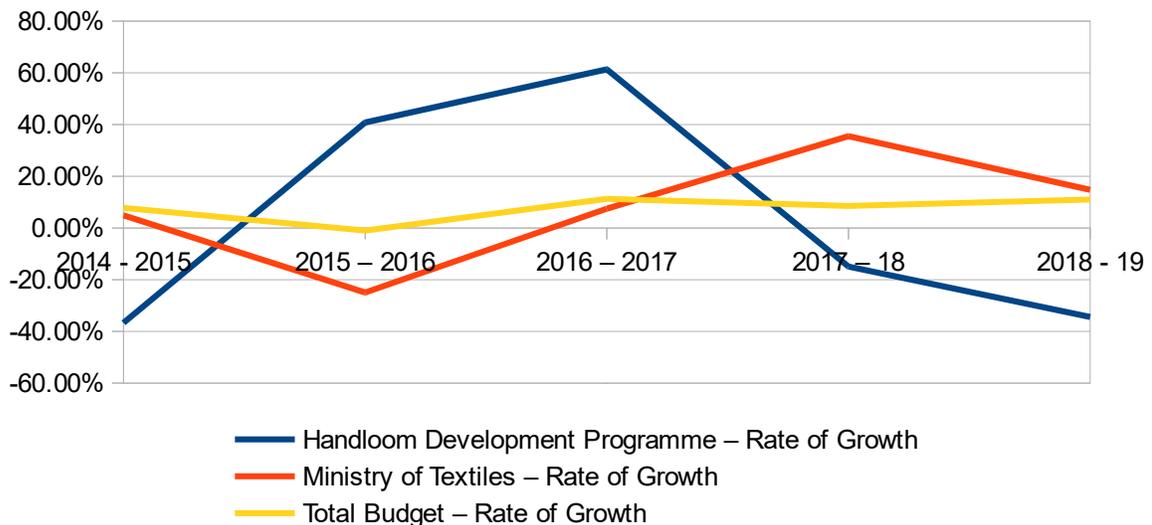
It is further examined in DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (DDG) 2017-18. Page No. 9: Budget is allocated under Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes, University Grants Commission, Central Universities, Grants to Central Universities, Grants-in-aid-Salaries (Budget Code Minor Head 789, Sub Head 03, Detailed Head 02 and Object Head 36) Rs. 46.64 Cr was actual expenditure to meet the expenses of Scheduled Castes employees (may be under General Financial Rules 2017, Rule 230, Section 17). This allocation is discontinued from the year 2016-17 and 2017-18. Detailed Demands for Grants of the year 2018-19 is not available at present.

This example gives the idea about the treatment of educated SC/ST youth in central universities at teaching and non-teaching levels. Size of allocation in overall departmental budget is increased but the allocation made to meet salary expanses of SC/ST is abandoned, at least in this head.

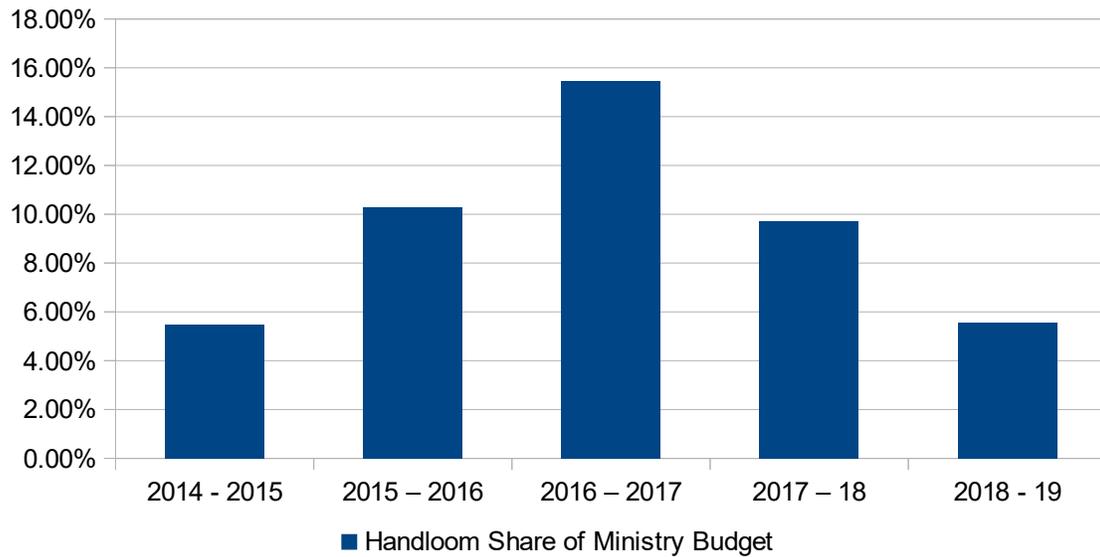
Handloom Weavers

Budgetary allocations towards the handloom sector have witnessed one of the most severe cuts of the 2018-19 budget with the sector being allocated less than 2/3rds of what it got in the previous budget. However, this is not unexpected as cuts in the handloom budget started in the 2017-18 budget after a substantial hike in the preceding year. At an average, handloom allocations account for less than 10% of the total allocations made to the Ministry of Textiles. This share dipped to half the average in 2018-19, where handloom allocations accounted for only 5.5%. The rate of growth of allocations to the handloom sector, post 2016-17 have also been significantly less than those of the Ministry of Textiles and the Total Budget, displaying the government's lack of concern with a sector which is both labour intensive as well as indigenous.

Rates of Growth of Budgeted Expenditure



x
Handloom Weaver's Share of Textile Budget



Sector Overview:

The Handlooms are an important sector in our country, employing over 6.5 million families. Handloom products of our country are well known across the world. What is fascinating is that India, being a diverse country of multiple cultures, the handloom products are incredibly diverse as well. Each state has its own special weave, style, pattern and material that they produce with pride. Even within States there is a host of varieties due to different communities that reside within. The weavers usually belong to specific communities that sustain their art and skill by orally preserving their traditional knowledge. Their handiwork is more than the product they create, it is also an economic / income generation activity that helps them feed their families.

Handloom products are not limited to the buying or selling of clothes/handicrafts/articles made by hand but it is also about the reciprocity of art and history amongst those who make it and those who buy it. The weavers and the workers who engage in this craft are traditionally skilled and have been doing the same work for generations, it is a matter of culture and pride for them.

One fourth of the total cloth production in the country is from the handloom sector. In terms of employment it ranks next to the agricultural sector. With the development of technology, power looms are providing increasing competition and handlooms are getting deprived. India is one of the few countries that still has a major sector which employs artisans who weave for a living and produce almost 40% of the cloth in the country.

However, lately it has become solely a means for survival due to the apathy of the government in preserving these traditions and these communities. With shrinking support systems, in terms budget allocation and policy implementation, weavers are forced to survive on local money lender on exorbitant interest rate. In a vicious circle of poverty, they usually caught up debt trap and ends in loss of human capital or suicides.

The Ministry of Textiles has been established to ensure the welfare of the weavers and their livelihoods. This purpose of ensuring their welfare is then defeated when one closely observes the plight of the weavers' communities, a reflection of which can be found in the Comptroller and Auditor General of India's report (hereafter referred to as the CAG report). Discrepancies and irregularities in the implementation and its resulting consequences on the communities, the weavers have proposed to elect their own representatives from within their community to represent their issues at the national level.

Earning Pattern of Handloom Weavers:

Daily average income of handloom weavers in 15 States / Territories is less than Rs.100 per day, this is less than the stipulated minimum wage per day. Handloom Weavers in Arunachal Pradesh earns Rs. 161/day and in Punjab Rs 30 / day. Daily earning of handloom weavers must be compared with minimum wage fixed by the Government of India. Minimum wage rates vary in different sectors. Lowest minimum wage rate is in Agriculture. In Agriculture lowest wage for unskilled labour is Rs. 193 per day and lowest wage rate for highly skilled labour is Rs. 235 per day. Wage rate for others are higher. From the above it is clear that the per day earning of handloom weavers is less than that of the unskilled agricultural labourers. In Bihar for example, average earning of handloom weavers is one third of the minimum wage of unskilled agriculture worker.

Table : Average Earning of Handloom Households¹ (Rs Annum 2009-10)

| State | All Households | Weaver Households | Allied Households |
|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|

1

¹ Figures are taken from Handloom Census of India 2009-10

| | Annual Income | Daily Income | Annual Income | Daily Income | Annual Income | Daily Income |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Arunachal Pradesh | 57,232 | 157 | 58,761 | 161 | 56,623 | 155 |
| Nagaland | 57,208 | 157 | 56,963 | 156 | 57,352 | 157 |
| Manipur | 56,261 | 154 | 56,188 | 154 | 64,486 | 177 |
| Mizoram | 43,973 | 120 | 44,079 | 121 | 36,569 | 100 |
| Rajasthan | 43,921 | 120 | 42,077 | 115 | 44,643 | 122 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 43,285 | 119 | 36,619 | 100 | 47,504 | 130 |
| Haryana | 40,896 | 112 | 40,877 | 112 | 40,999 | 112 |
| Assam | 40,343 | 111 | 40,595 | 111 | 36,654 | 100 |
| Kerala | 39,991 | 110 | 41,198 | 113 | 34,496 | 95 |
| Delhi | 39,697 | 109 | 44,204 | 121 | 29,685 | 81 |
| Meghalaya | 39,418 | 108 | 40,024 | 110 | 33,094 | 91 |
| Maharashtra | 38,366 | 105 | 38,603 | 106 | 37,529 | 103 |
| Tripura | 38,299 | 105 | 38,450 | 105 | 32,902 | 90 |
| Gujarat | 37,289 | 102 | 36,979 | 101 | 38,936 | 107 |
| Sikkim | 34,235 | 94 | 34,160 | 94 | 21,714 | 59 |
| Orissa | 29,782 | 82 | 30,313 | 83 | 27,623 | 76 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 29,543 | 81 | 31,208 | 86 | 26,346 | 72 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 28,305 | 78 | 30,054 | 82 | 22,975 | 63 |
| West Bengal | 26,571 | 73 | 26,934 | 74 | 26,588 | 73 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 26,539 | 73 | 28,050 | 77 | 17,278 | 47 |
| Karnataka | 24,897 | 68 | 25,933 | 71 | 21,400 | 59 |
| Puducherry | 24,327 | 67 | 24,624 | 67 | 22,872 | 63 |
| Tamil Nadu | 24,181 | 66 | 24,707 | 68 | 20,841 | 57 |

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|----|
| Bihar | 23,903 | 65 | 24,810 | 68 | 23,211 | 64 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 22,547 | 62 | 23,218 | 64 | 20,347 | 56 |
| Uttarakhand | 18,433 | 51 | 16,153 | 44 | 20,729 | 57 |
| Jharkhand | 17,967 | 49 | 19,452 | 53 | 15,650 | 43 |
| Chhattisgarh | 16,959 | 46 | 17,240 | 47 | 15,557 | 43 |
| Punjab | 10,701 | 29 | 11,098 | 30 | 10,492 | 29 |
| All India | 36,498 | 100 | 37,704 | 103 | 29,300 | 80 |

To find the reason behind the low minimum wages in the handloom sector we can see the observations of Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, published in the year 2012, for the Kerala State Handloom Development Corporation Limited.

Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India

The basic objective of the Company is to develop handloom industry. We, however, found that the benefits accrued to weavers were negligible.

- *Though there were 6500 weavers registered with the Company, only 1200 to 1580 weavers (22 per cent) were active during the review period, indicating poor achievement of its social objective.*
- *As on 31 March 2011, the Company had 297 staff to support the activities of the weavers and to carry out other operations. We observed that for every rupee of sale, the weavers on an average received only 25 paise as against 37 paise paid to the staff of the Company. Further, average annual monetary benefit received by a weaver during the period was only Rs. 0.25 lakh as compared to Rs 1.58 lakh received by an employee.*

While accepting that low earnings of the weaver was the main reason for downfall in weaver strength, the Company stated that the wage of the weavers was fixed based on the industrial standards. It was also clarified that a proposal for semi-automation of production was submitted to Government for increasing the productivity and the earning capacity of the weavers. The fact, however, remained that the Company could not achieve the social objective which was to uplift the living conditions of the traditional weavers in the State.

The earning patterns and its reasons are clear from the above reports. Nowhere do handloom weavers earn minimum wage prescribed in the Ministry of Labour &

Employment Order No 1 / 2 (1)/2014-LS – II dated 4th March 2014. Position of other states are clear.

The following is an excerpt from the CAG report:

The concerns of the handloom weavers has already been studied and countermeasures are proposed by several agencies including CAG to the Textile Ministry of Union and States. CAG in its report “Audit Report (Civil) for the year ended 31 March 2011” states as follows:

Various studies conducted by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (2002), State Government (2009-10) and Centre for Economic and Social Studies (2010) to ascertain the main problems faced by the weaver community and causes behind suicidal deaths of weavers had disclosed the following:

- 1. Handloom weaving is a traditional and hereditary profession using traditional methods of production and designs due to lack of exposure, awareness and knowledge about changing consumer preferences, protection technologies and methods of marketing.*
- 2. Competition from products manufactured by power loom sector*
- 3. Meagre wages resulting in reluctance of younger generation to enter/continue the profession*
- 4. Steep increase in prices of hank yarn and chemicals and their non-availability*
- 5. Inadequate credit from financial institutions*
- 6. Inadequate marketing infrastructure*
- 7. Production related stress, occupational health hazards and lack of social security measures thereby making artisans vulnerable to distress and hence suicides.*

The above issues had not been addressed by the department/Government, resulting in the benefits of the scheme not fully reaching the intended beneficiaries. Incidentally, there were 251 suicidal deaths of weavers in the State during the years 2007 to 2010.

What Handloom weavers want?

There is a need for quick redressal of the conditions that are plaguing the workers. Keeping the above facts in mind, the following are the

demands/suggestions/points that handloom weavers and handicraft workers would like to be raised and redressed in the Parliamentary sessions by the custodians of the Constitution of India.

1. The purposes of the offices established for handloom sector should be fulfilled responsibly and without any fail.
2. Without affecting budget provisions for other heads; additional budget should be allocated in budget heads.

Justification of Demand, as if needed:

1. In national and international cultural festivals, the handloom products from India usually garner a lot of awe and fascination. The handloom products of our country are well known across the world and for that very reason, the traditional process of producing them and the people who do so should be helped in every manner to continue their work. What is even more fascinating is that India, being a diverse country of multiple cultures, the handloom products vary as well. Each state has its own special weave, style, pattern and material that they produce with pride. Even within States, there is a host of varieties due to different communities that reside within in. During the British rule and even after independence, Indian handloom weavers were able to afford education for their children but after adaptation of the market economy they have been unable to afford schooling and higher education despite the Handloom Reservation Act. The handloom weavers are being deprived of the resources that will help them to survive and continue their artisanal work. This deprivation is resulting in their migration to other occupations and they are being forced to give up their traditional art and knowledge. This is quite problematic because this is destroying their skills and turning them into unskilled labourers in other sectors. Their ability to be independent and become self-actualised gets lost due to the budget cuts and non-implementation of programs.
2. There are 43 lakhs of handloom in India as per the handloom census 2010. One handloom is a source of livelihood for one family, i.e. handloom provides employment to nearly 1.24 Cr population.
3. Handloom products are better in quality and durability.
4. Handloom production is labour intensive occupation that saves electricity and utilizes human creativity for the people operating at low level of economy.
5. Handloom sector is ecological friendly occupation and it gives strength to rural economy.
6. At national level handloom sector requires budget less than subsidy given to Diamond and Gold Traders. Subsidy (Revenue Forgone) to diamond and gold industry is Rs. 44,926 Cr in 2014-15 and Rs. 61,126 Cr in 2015-16 (Ref. Receipt Budget 2016-17, page No 67, Union Budget). In the budget documents 2017-18, Revenue forgone for Diamond & Gold industry is not traceable but data of effective tax rate on "Diamond Cutting" is given at page 63, Receipt Budget 2017-18. As per this document effective tax rate is 29.3% and Revenue receipt is Rs.

662.3 Cr in the year 2015-16. Reasons for omission and insertion of data is known to government; neither public nor our representatives are not told about it. Thereby, demand of handloom weavers is justified.

7. Making extravagant to Gold & Diamond Industry and depriving Handloom leads to inflation and defeat the purpose constitution of India, e.g. Articles 38, 39 and 39A.
8. Diamond and gold industry is sound and well in their occupation compared to handloom industry.
9. Thereby, it is with grave concern that the government should look into the factors that are responsible for the deprivation of handloom weavers / handicraft workers.

Fishworkers

The assault on the livelihoods of fish-worker communities has picked up pace during the BJP's tenure in power. Displaced by purported development projects like Sagarmala and the rapid onset of mechanization and large scale trawler based fishing practices, fish-workers communities look to state intervention and the union budget as a means to escape and improve their ever-increasingly precarious existence. This unfortunately proves once again to be futile hope.

Though budgeted allocations to schemes aimed at fish-workers have clocked over 60% year on year increase in the last two budgets (after repeated contractions in the two preceding years), there exists a great degree of opacity in the allocative process. In 2013-14, there existed 11 schemes or programmes under the head "Blue Revolution". By the following year, these were reshuffled as 6 schemes viz. Marine Fisheries, Inland Fisheries, Assistance to Fisheries Institutes, other Fisheries Programme, National Fisheries Development Board and Package for Replacement of Fishing Vessels Seized by Pakistan.

In the 2017-18 budget, only 2 schemes appear namely, Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries and Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund. The former is a combination of "Marine Fisheries" and "Inland Fisheries" heads which existed from 2014-15 to 2016-17. Though budgetary allocations under the Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries has increased from Rs. 400.73 crore in 2017-18 to Rs. 632.61 crore in 2018-19, the restructuring renders it difficult for fish-worker communities to ascertain the quantum allocation towards marine and inland fishing.

Additionally, Rs. 10 crore has been allocated for to Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund. The Finance Minister in the budget speech had stated that a Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FAIDF) and an Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) would be set up for financing infrastructure in both sectors, with total corpus of Rs. 10,000 crores. Only Rs. 37 crore has been allocated to Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund. (AHIDF). It remains to be seen as to how a Rs. 47 crore will lead to creating a corpus that is over two hundred times the amount allocated.

Sector Overview:

The tenth Five Year Plan states that 56% of Indian population consumes fish. According to the livestock census 2003, roughly 1.45 crore people were involved in fisheries occupation. The Economic Survey of India 2017-18, Vol 2, give continuous rise in fish production from 9040 Thousand Tonnes in year 2012-13 to 10795 thousand tonnes in the year 2015-16. Fishery Sector "constitutes about 6.3% of the global fish production

and 1.1% of the GDP and 5.15% of the agricultural GDP”¹. The allocation for fishery sector does not match to its growth and contribution to GDP.

Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

Mandates of the Department:

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) is a department in the Ministry of Agriculture. It is responsible for various issues like livestock production (animals, fishes and birds) and matters related to it, preservation of livestock from diseases, improvement of dairy and dairy development through the Delhi Milk Scheme and the National Dairy Development Board. Furthermore, it also takes charge in all matters related to fishing, fisheries (inland and marine) and issues pertaining to fishing communities. In terms of finances, it is responsible for providing aid to various State Undertakings, Dairy Development Schemes through State agencies/Co-operative Unions. The Department also gives insurances for livestock, birds and fishes.

The Department has also a notorious tendency to underutilise its funders. Expenditure of department and schemes are audited by the CAG to observe physical and financial quality of service of all the government departments. In one such audit it was found that during the financial year 2013-14 the Ministry had provision of Rs. 12 Cr for the purpose of “Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure & Post Harvest Operations (Budget Code 3602.04.632.01)” but ministry did not spend any amount. This program was for the benefit of fish workers. The other perspective is to look at the kind of budget allocations and expenditures. The budget is mostly allocated for institutional management like Fisheries Institutes, Fisheries Development Boards, etc. Budget allocated for the programs for fish workers welfare are highly underutilised. For example in the year 2014-15 Rs. 461.3 Cr was allocated but the government spent only Rs. 387.96 Cr and Rs. 73.34 Cr remained unutilised.

| Particulars | Actual Expenditure | | | Budgeted Expenditure | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
| Marine Fisheries | 121.57 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 137.96 | 105.28 | 3.9 | 0 | 0 |
| Inland Fisheries | 42.72 | 196.66 | 384.01 | 104.6 | 126.8 | 242.88 | 0 | 0 |
| Assistance to Fisheries Institutes | 80.74 | 0 | 0 | 99.58 | 97.84 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Fisheries Programme | 3.43 | 0 | 0 | 4.66 | 4.61 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| National Fisheries Development Board | 137.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Package for Replacement of Fishing Vessels Seized by Pakistan | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 400.73 | 632.61 |
| Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Total | 387.96 | 199.96 | 387.81 | 346.8 | 334.53 | 246.78 | 400.73 | 642.61 |

Revenue and Expenditures

Growth in development is the key factor each government of the past and present been coining to allure the mob sentiment for the purpose of political power. To examine the relation amongst component responsible for development we can see the position of these components in budget document:

| Year | Budget | | GDP - Advance Estimate | Revenue Foregone | Interest Payment | Fiscal Deficit = Borrowing |
|------------|-----------|-------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| | Estimate | Expenditure | | | | |
| 2008-09 BE | 7,50,884 | 8,83,956 | 53,21,753 | 4,58,516 | 1,90,807 | 1,33,287 |
| 2009-10 BE | 10,20,838 | 10,24,487 | 61,64,178 | 4,82,432 | 2,25,511 | 4,00,996 |
| 2010-11 BE | 11,08,749 | 11,97,328 | 78,77,947 | 4,59,705 | 2,48,664 | 3,81,408 |
| 2011-12 BE | 12,57,729 | 13,04,365 | 89,12,179 | 5,33,583 | 2,67,986 | 4,12,817 |
| 2012-13 BE | 14,90,925 | 14,10,372 | 100,28,118 | 5,66,235 | 3,19,759 | 5,13,590 |
| 2013-14 BE | 16,65,297 | 15,59,447 | 113,55,073 | 5,72,923 | 3,70,684 | 5,42,499 |
| 2014-15 BE | 17,94,892 | 16,63,673 | 126,53,762 | 5,89,285 | 4,27,011 | 5,31,177 |
| 2015-16 BE | 17,77,477 | 17,90,783 | 135,67,192 | 6,11,128 | 4,56,145 | 5,55,649 |
| 2016-17 BE | 19,78,060 | 19,75,194 | 150,65,010 | 3,02,104 | 4,92,670 | 5,33,904 |
| 2017-18 BE | 21,47,000 | | 168,47,455 | 1,94,984 | 5,23,078 | 5,46,532 |
| 2018-19 BE | 24,42,213 | | 187,22,302 | | 5,75,795 | 6,24,276 |

In the year 2015-16, Government spent more than the estimate. In the year 2016-17 expenditure is nearly the same as estimated and figures of Revenue Foregone has come down. Isolated meaning of each component is the responsibility of the concerned agency and it should substantiate the other agency. How growth in three major components namely Budget, GDP, Interest Payment and Fiscal Deficit satisfy the definition of 'DEVELOPMENT'? Answer to this question is not traceable from the facts given in the document.

Liabilities of the Union of India

Liability is written in the constitution and is the nature of Republic Country. The liabilities of the ruling party may or may not match. To examine one has to get into formulation of program, its budget and implementation. Limiting size of this report we take excerpts from the report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Report No. 44 of 2017:

Against the total collection of Rs. 83,497 crore as Secondary and Higher Education Cess (SHEC) in the Consolidated Fund of India during 2006-07 to 2016-17, no amount could be transferred to the earmarked fund in Public Account as neither the schemes were identified on which the cess proceeds were to be spent nor the designated fund was opened in the Public Account to deposit the proceeds of SHEC.

(Para 2.3.3)

In accordance with Article 114(3) of the Constitution of India, no money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI) except by appropriations made by law. However, during 2016-17, there was an excess disbursement of Rs. 1,90,270.18

crore over the authorisation from the CFI, out of which an excess disbursement of Rs. 1,89,154.26 crore occurred in three segments of two Grants/Appropriations in Civil Ministries/Departments, Rs. 936.48 crore in one segment of one Grant of Posts, Rs. 146.31 crore in two segments of one Grant of Defence and Rs. 33.13 crore in six segments of three Grants of Railways. These excess disbursements require regularization under Article 115(1) (b) of the Constitution.

(Para 3.4)

Savings of more than Rs. 100 crore, which need a detailed explanatory note to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), had occurred in 84 segments of 67 Grants (including Civil, Posts, Railways and Defence Services) during the financial year 2016-17. Large savings were noticed in Grants: Department of Food and Public Distribution (Rs. 53,478 crore), Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (Rs. 46,838 crore), Department of Economic Affairs (Rs. 13,355 crore), Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (Rs. 8,206 crore), Department of Financial Services (Rs. 6,273 crore), Transfer to States (Rs. 6,044 crore), Ministry of Power (Rs. 5,623 crore), Department of Health and Family Welfare (Rs. 4,387 crore), Appropriation - Interest Payments (Rs. 4,268 crore) and Department of Fertilisers (Rs. 4,009 crore). Savings⁴ under various Grants / Appropriations of Rs. 100 crore or more aggregating Rs. 2,28,639.60 crore are detailed in Annexure 3.5.

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One of the liabilities of the government is to allocate budget for the adequate representation of SC/ST/OBC under section 17 of Rule 230 of General Financial Rule 2017. From the statements / note of budget document this liability is not traceable. The priorities and liabilities of the ruling party are not distinguishable between the lines of Constitutional and Non-Constitutional.

Conclusion:

A rosy picture has been painted by the BJP by announcing the words like 'development' and 'infrastructure'. The infrastructure such as the roads, highways, railways are not so much being made for the poor but for serving the interests of the corporates who need these linkages to enter remotest of the areas and capture maximum resources. Infrastructure development should focus on serving the poor and no highway or industrial corridor shall be of any use to the poor as much as a road constructed in a poor person's village. While the irrigation facilities need to be spent on, when will the government begin to allocate land to the landless? The rant of Swachh Bharat is doing rounds everywhere but the most marginalized communities which have been made to keep the country clean since generations have been provided a lower share in the budget and no discussion to take them out of this servitude has ever been initiated. What is needed is not to just read the figures and numbers in the budget but to understand the ideology on which the Brahmanical and capitalist government is functioning so as not to get caught in the web of words but be able to make a clear judgment on its plans and policies.

Power Sector: dogma of developmental claim

1. The govt of India has been supporting massive and fast expansion of both Coal power plants and Coal Mining, even in recent times, with policy and public investment support. This is done with the old logic of -- "India' needs more and more power/ electricity to 'grow' economically" - whose result will ultimately reach the poor (trickle down concept, which has failed).

Over the last 3 decades, India's power and energy capacities have increased manifold, with power capacity increasing by 6-7 times. Yet, the income inequality, deprivation levels and large scale distress among rural and urban poor and marginalised have not decreased much. On top of this, the discriminatory access and marginalization based on old societal fault lines like caste have also become sharper, with recent state supported spread of discrimination on basis of religious communities. The result is that well over 70% of last year's national income accrued to the top/rich 1% Indians, with the rich list still overwhelmingly dominated by upper castes, majority community.

The reality of the power sector in India (and globally) has changed drastically over the last 5 years, with the result --

a) for the 3rd year running, Indias grids are power surplus, with nearly 25% of installed capacity having no assured power off take/market.

b). Many Coal power plants, about 35000 MW, are on the blocks for 'distress sale'.

c) the peak generations for the last 3 years are well above peak demand, and the capacity is even much higher.

d) over 30000 MW of Coal power plants are in the blocks (nearly in a state of distress sale) as there are not enough demand for the power they will generate .

e) yet, the 'pipeline' of new Coal power plants is active with government pushing and incentivizing them.

F) over the last 5 years, new Renewable power - specially specially grid connected solar PV and wind - have become increasingly more competitive with new Coal power. As of 2018 January, industry estimates point to new solar PV generation being 10-15% cheaper than new coal power plant's generation on per MW hour basis.

G) the environment tak and social costs of Coal power us becoming unacceptably high, with an estimated 25 lakh people in India having premature deaths due to pollution, out of which 19 lakh are due to air pollution. Coal power is responsible for a major part of both air and water pollution.

H) in spite of presenting progressive Renewable energy targets to the nation and the world, the indian government is pushing all kinds of power sources - like Nuclear, Coal, mega hydro - with massive environmental, social and health impacts. Proper assessments of their damages has not been done with any scientific rigour.

I). The health costs of dirty energy choices - both Coal and Nuclear, are increasing fast, and with a large gap in needed health service delivery existing, this dirty power industry is precipitating a crisis of public health in India

J) even with this being the 3rd year of india being power surplus, nearly 25 crores people do not have electricity connections, with another 30crore plus getting erratic, low quality and infrequently available power. Those lacking electricity are not benefitting from excess generation, as many of them are unable to purchase the power available in the market, at comparatively higher prices. This problem needs to be addressed through progressive social_economix measures, not by adding new capacity .

K) the deep and claimed connections between power/ energy and employment/ jobs/livelihoods is breaking, with additional power not creating new jobs/ livelihoods, but just adding to centralized production and profit.

L) in spite of the global slump in Nuclear power industry after Fukushima, looking at both the unacceptably high risks, very high capital investments needed and high real (unsubsidised) costs of nuclear power, the govt is pushing for a rapid expansion of nuclear power plnnts, often if the imported reactors with astronomical costs.

M) the basic drivers of unrealistically high power demand projections - being the energy policies and gdp oriented economic thinking are still skewed towards the high growth rate-high demand-high consumption paradigm. The realization that the stress levels of the consumerist-capitalist systems (repeated bubbles and collapses over the last 20 years) have reached breaking points, are yet to be internalized by our governing mechanisms. In contrast, the government is pushing the safety valves to even more stresses.

N). These mistakes of the earlier Integrated Energy Policy IEP prepared by the erstwhile planning commission are being largely carried forward by the NITI Ayog promoted and soon to be ready National Energy Policy.

O). Extremely high levels of both power and petroleum consumption demand projected by NEP, with over 81% of petroleum being imported, will lead to huge economic stresses with possible balance of payment crises. These seem to be of no concern to this government.

P) with the power sector under increasing stress due to unrealistic high demand projections and capacity additions, this sector has become the 2nd largest contributor to bank stressed assets and NPAs. This is resulting in the public finances being wasted, the public banking sector under threat of high default and lack of public trust. This is causing huge stresses and strains on public finances and Indian economy.

Q)

Budgeting for Losses – NPAs, Recapitalization and Budgetary Allocations

Recapitalization or capital infusion of Public Sector Banks from budgetary allocations has been making news for the past few years on a regular basis. In August 2015, government under its Indradhanush framework announced that Public Sector Banks would be provided Rs 70,000 crores from budgetary allocations spread over four years between FY 2015-16 and FY 2018-19.¹ By December 2017, Finance Ministry intimated that they had so far infused Rs 51,858 crores in Public Sector Banks under the Indradhanush plan². The step towards recapitalization has been taken basically to bail-out the banks from the NPA crisis, where most of the Public Sector Banks have been unable to keep a check on it, along with ensuring that Public Sector Banks adequately meet the Basel III norms by March 2019. With stressing further the need of recapitalization, government came up with a mega-plan of recapitalization of Public Sector Banks in October last year, which sent the stock markets soaring.³ The government had announced a recapitalization plan of Rs 2.11 lakh crores where it would infuse Rs 18,000 crores from the budget, Rs 58,000 crores would be raised by the banks by selling shares and Rs 1.35 lakh crores would be raised through Recapitalization Bonds. Even though government is coming up with different instruments for implementing its recapitalization plan, the matter of concern is that public money is being used to meet these ends. Even the interest payments for the Recapitalization Bonds would have to be paid through budgetary allocations. Taking the step forward in implementing its plan, government announced on 24th January this year that government would infuse Rs 88,139 crores in Public Sector Banks where Rs 8,139

¹ For Some Years, Banks Are Facing Challenging Time But No Cause Of Panic – Press Information Bureau – August 14, 2015 - <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=126074>

² Nearly rs. 52,000 crore capital infused in psbs under indradhanush plan - Press Information Bureau – December 20, 2017 -<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=174573>

³ - Govt announces mega Rs 2.11 lakh crore bank recapitalisation and Rs 7 lakh crore road plan - The Economic Times - October 25, 2017 - <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/modi-govt-announces-mega-rs-2-lakh-11-thousand-crore-bank-recapitalisation-and-rs-7-lakh-crore-road-plan/articleshow/61202075.cms>

crores would be direct infusion from budgetary allocations and Rs 88,000 from Recapitalization Bonds.⁴

While this may sound like a much needed step from the government towards providing some relief to the ailing Public Sector Banks deeply saddled by the NPA crisis, the citizens should ask the question as why the government is not prioritizing improving the recovery of NPAs than resorting to recapitalization from budgetary allocations adding further strain on the fiscal deficit. While a slew of measures had been announced over last couple of years to address the NPA woes of Public Sector Banks, but no concrete steps have been taken to recover the loans from the defaulters. With the government being the promoter of Public Sector Banks, the onus lies on the government to take firm actions for addressing any crisis faced by these banks. However, the responsibility of the government should not kick-in only at the time of the crisis, but larger question looms that whether there is enough monitoring of Public Sector Banks by the government and the RBI, especially in cases of loans extended to corporate accounts. There have also been various instances of political interference in extending loans favoring the corporate borrowers. According to RBI, by end of September 2017, NPAs of Public Sector Banks had reached a mammoth figure of Rs 7.34 lakh crores and 77 percent of these NPAs belong to corporate accounts.⁵ The NPA figures of Rs 7.34 lakh crores should be seen in context of our budgetary spending on key social sectors such as education and health. To put the Rs. 7.34 lakh crores in context, let's look at Union Government's budgetary allocation to some of the key sectors for 2017-18:

| Key Sectors | Budgetary Allocation |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Education | Rs 79,686 crores |
| Health | Rs 48,853 crores |
| Social sectors with welfare orientation | Rs 65,258 crores |
| Agriculture and Allied sectors | Rs 58,663 crores |
| Rural Development | Rs 1,28,560 crores |
| Allocation for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes across all ministries | Rs 31, 920 crores |

⁴ - Govt kicks off banking reforms, to infuse Rs88,000 crore in PSU banks by March - Livemint - January 24, 2018 - <http://www.livemint.com/Industry/3HbxxnbDhmb4P1g83OBXII/Govt-to-infuse-over-Rs8800-crore-in-20-PSU-banks-as-part-of.html>

⁵ Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No: 1291, Answered on: 22.12.2017 - <http://164.100.47.194/Loksabha/Questions/QResult15.aspx?qref=59322&lsno=16>

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Allocation for the welfare of Scheduled Castes across all ministries | Rs 52,393 crores |
| Allocation under various schemes for the welfare of women across all ministries | Rs 1,13,327 crores |
| Allocation under various schemes for the welfare of Children across all ministries | Rs 71,305 crores |

(Source: Union Budget Full Speech 2017-18 - <http://www.indiabudget.gov.in/ub2017-18/bs/bs.pdf>)

Even though the government, the RBI and the banks have blamed the external economic conditions as one of the key reasons for the humungous rise in the NPAs of Indian banks, the scrutiny on the day-to-day functioning of the banks goes unnoticed. Banks are custodians of depositors' money and they carry huge responsibilities in taking financially sound decisions while extending the loans to their borrowers. Doling out easy loans to companies with poor balance sheets and then blaming the external economic condition as the guise for lack of due diligence does not sound like responsible banking. If the bankers at Public Sector Banks admit that they are bowing under the pressure of cronyism to extend loans under the pressure from the government then it is a serious case of moral hazard. On the other hand, if banks claim that they are exercising absolute due diligence before extending the loans to the corporates and despite that the loans are turning into NPAs, then this raises stark questions on the ability of the bankers to safeguard the depositors' hard-earned money.

One is not arguing that government should not pitch in for rescuing the banks when they are hit by a crisis. It is government's duty to do that, especially as healthy functioning of Public Sector Banks is crucial for the stability of Indian economy, which showed its resilience during the 2008 global economic recession. However, as the old saying goes that prevention is better than cure and government should also find ways to stem the NPA crisis from its origin, i.e. addressing the poor lending practices of the banks. This should be clubbed with government showing the political will to recover loans and taking punitive actions against the defaulters. A frequent bank recapitalization, without taking punitive measures on the wilful defaulters not only encourage borrowers to default, but also eats up large amount of budget which otherwise should go for critical sectors like education, health etc.

In order to reduce the need of recapitalization in the long run, Public Sector Banks should be strengthened. The need of the hour is to bring transparency policies in the

functioning of the Public Sector Banks, especially as they are public institutions. There should be due diligence and social & environmental safeguard policies in place, which the public can use to monitor the large scale lending by Public Sector Banks in high risk sectors. A large number of NPAs of corporate accounts have arisen primarily because lending by Public Sector Banks has escaped any scrutiny of the public. Moreover, there should be clearly defined accountability to fix responsibilities of bank officials if their poor decision-making leads to large scale NPAs. The decision-making of Public Sector banks should also be free from any political interference in lending to corporations having close ties with the regime in power. Privatizing the banks cannot be a panacea for addressing the NPA crisis or obviating the need for recapitalization. Privatizing the Public Sector Banks is something which India economy cannot afford as still a large section of population is under-banked and financially excluded, especially in rural areas. The budgetary allocations made for recapitalization comes from the taxpayers' money, which should instead be used for strengthening our spending on social sector such as education, healthcare or rural employment. If the government takes some of the steps suggested above then the need for recapitalization would be lessened and we would have more robust Public Sector Banks.

Government is withering away SC/ST/OBC from Economic Survey 2017-18

In the Economic Survey of 2013-14, exclusive paragraphs explain about the socio-economic status of SC/ST/OBC and government show its commitment to improve conditions of marginalized sections. Once government admits the laps and put it in official documents then it becomes an obligation. Now it is the matter of political priority. Politics of the past and present has always been carrying a character of not complying political manifesto after the victory in election. Political priority of the day can be seen in Economic Survey 2017-18. Chapters highlighting the socio-economic condition are missing in current economic survey.

Example 1:

From Table 4.5 of the Economic Survey 2013-14, we see that advances to SC/ST in agriculture sector by Public Sector Banks in the year ending Mar 2012 was Rs. 114 Cr. If we see same data in the Economic survey 2017-18 then figures from table are missing.

| Sectors | Number Of Accounts (In thousand) | | | | Amount outstanding (Cr) | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | March 2010 | March 2011 | March 2012 | March 2013 | March 2010 | March 2011 | March 2012 | March 2013 |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| 1. Agriculture | 48336 | 51231 | 51363 | 52594 | 702541 | 743577 | 902331 | 946850 |
| 13. State sponsored Organization for SC/ST Purchase & Supply of inputs & Marketing of outputs | 14 | 09 | 25 | – | 41 | 36 | 114 | – |

Example 2: Facts given in following paragraphs were available in the Economic Survey 2013-14, but they are missing in the Economic Survey 2017-18.

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Inclusive Development and Social-Sector Programmes

13.14 Inclusive development incorporates social and financial inclusion and in most cases the socially excluded are also financially excluded. Many segments of the population like landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmers, scheduled castes (SCs), scheduled tribes (STs), and other backward classes (OBCs) continue to suffer social and financial exclusion. The government's policies are directed towards bringing these marginalized sections into the mainstream. Towards this end, the central government has been implementing many social-sector programmes. They can be classified under the following broad heads viz. poverty alleviation and employment generation, social protection, rural infrastructure and development, urban infrastructure, education and skill development, health, women and child development, and welfare and development of weaker sections.

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Welfare and Development Programmes for Weaker Sections

13.25 Economic and social empowerment along with educational upliftment of socially disadvantaged groups and marginalized sections of society can help in achieving faster and more inclusive development. An amount of `Rs 5084.56 crore has been released for social justice and empowerment during 2013-14. Some schemes targeted at the different weaker sections are as follows:

SCs

- **Special Central Assistance (SCA) to the Schedule Castes Sub Plan (SCSP):** This aims at uplifting the SCs above the poverty line through self-employment or skill development for which subsidy is provided. During 2013-14, Rs 790.25 crore has been released to the states for an estimated 6.08 lakh beneficiaries. Several legislations have

been enacted for securing the civil rights of SCs and STs. For providing support to SCs, Rs 3990.14 crore has been released during 2013-14.

- **Scholarship schemes:** Pre-matric scholarships have been introduced in 2012, for classes IX and X for SC children so as to minimize the incidence of drop-out, especially in the transition from elementary to secondary stage. An amount of Rs 547.17 crore was released to the states during 2013-14 for an estimated 19.10 lakh beneficiaries for the purpose. Under the Post-matric Scholarship Scheme for SCs, central assistance of Rs 2153 crore was released to the states during 2013-14 for 52.78 lakh beneficiaries.
- **Other schemes:** There are other schemes for SC students like the Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme which aims at providing financial assistance to SC students pursuing M. Phil and Ph D courses, National Overseas Scholarship Scheme which provides financial support to students pursuing Master's level and PhD/post-doctoral courses abroad, and the Top Class Education Scheme which provides full financial support to eligible students who secure admission in notified premier institutions like the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT), Indian Institutes of Management (IIM), and National Institutes of Technology (NIT).

STs

13.26 Various policies and programmatic and legislative interventions have been made for the socio-economic development and empowerment of the STs. As per Planning Commission (2009- 10), 47.4 per cent of STs in rural areas and 30.4 per cent in urban areas were below the poverty line. Major schemes targeted at their welfare are as follows:

- **Tribal Sub Plan and Special Area Programmes:** The Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) is an instrument for accelerating socioeconomic development by bridging the developmental gaps between STs and the general population. During 2013-14, Rs 3879 crore (RE) was allocated for the welfare and development of STs. Major expenditure was incurred on central assistance to state governments under two special area programmes, (i) grants to states to supplement their TSP (SCA to TSP) for income generating schemes, creation of incidental infrastructure, community based activities and development of forest villages, and (ii) grants under article 275(I) of the constitution for development and up-gradation of administration in tribal areas. The latter is also used for setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) in states for providing quality education in remote areas. The revised allocation under these two programmes was Rs 2147.14 crore during 2013-14, which has been released to the states.
- **Economic Empowerment Programmes:** For economic empowerment of STs, financial support is extended through the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) in the form of loans and micro-credit at concessional rates of interest for income-generating activities. During 2013-14, the corporation disbursed Rs. 141.35 crore for various income-generation activities of STs. Forward linkage is provided by the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED). A new scheme was launched in 2013-14 as a mechanism for marketing of minor forest produce through minimum support price and development of value chain, for which Rs. 112.49 crore was released to state implementing agencies.
- **Educational Development Programmes:** Despite continued support by the government, low educational levels among STs remain an area of concern. To address this issue, a Prematric Scholarship scheme launched in July 2012 provides 100 per cent financial assistance. The Post-matric Scholarship scheme also provides 100 per cent financial assistance. The Top Class Education Scheme provides financial assistance for quality education to 625 students per annum for pursuing Master's and doctoral and post-doctoral studies in identified institutes. Under the pre-matric scheme and post-matric scheme Rs. 219.43 crore and Rs. 748.45 crore respectively have been released in 2013-14.

Minorities

13.27 For the development of minorities, the plan outlay was raised from Rs. 3135 crore in 2012-13 to Rs. 3511 crore in 2013-14. Three scholarships schemes, namely Pre-matric, Post-matric and Merit– cum-Means based, were implemented exclusively for the notified minorities with a total provision of Rs.1770 crore in 2013-14. The Multi-sectoral Development Programme, is a special area development initiative to address the 'development deficits' especially in education, skill development, employment, health and sanitation, housing, and drinking water in 196 minority concentration districts under which projects worth Rs.1466.98

crore were approved during 2013-14. The corpus of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation has been enhanced from Rs.100 crore in 2005-06 to Rs.910 crore up to March 2014 and will be further enhanced by Rs.113 crore during 2014-15 for expanding its activities.

13.28 There are also special programmes to benefit OBCs and persons with disabilities.

Example 3: Government claims in Economic Survey 2017-18, meant that government extend benefit to SC/ST in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). But the allocation made under Special Component Plan or Tribal Sub Plan has to be spent on creating assets like making barren land cultivable, well, etc. and can't be spent to pay wages, etc.

Texts of the Economic Survey 2017-18 are as follows:

10.18 Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is one of the important schemes which ensures participation by women in the economic activity by stipulating minimum 33 per cent participation by women. There has been highest ever budget allocation of Rs 48000 crore under MGNREGA during 2017-18. About 4.6 crore households were provided employment totaling 177.8 crore person days during 2017-18 as on 14th January, 2018. Out of this, 54 per cent were generated by women, 22 per cent by Schedule Castes and 17 per cent by Schedule Tribes. Trends from 2013-14 to 2017-18 show that participation by women in the total person days generated has been more than 50 per cent. Further, the scheme has been converged with ICDS scheme for construction of AWCs.

10.19 For economic empowerment of women through promoting the spirit of creating self-employment ventures, Mahila E-Haat, an initiative for meeting aspirations and needs of women entrepreneurs has been launched with the objective to provide an e-marketing platform by leveraging technology for showcasing product made/manufactured/sold by women entrepreneurs/SHGs/NGOs. This is impacting directly and indirectly over 26000 SHGs and 3.75 lakh beneficiaries.

Annexure S2

| Allocation / Expenditure in SC Sub plan | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Department / Ministry | Actuals 2016-17 | Budget 2017-18 | Revised 2017-18 | Budget 2018-19 |
| Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare | 1875 | 6668.89 | 6420.5 | 7654.09 |
| Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries | 201.13 | 329.3 | 329.3 | 475.36 |
| Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and | 50.89 | 71.43 | 71.43 | 56 |
| Department of Commerce | 11.85 | 40 | 40 | 25 |
| Department of Consumer Affairs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.81 |
| Ministry of Culture | 0 | 0 | 0 | 56.1 |
| Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region | 0 | 53 | 53 | 98.4 |
| Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation | 3629.85 | 4399.62 | 5279.62 | 4915.48 |
| Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology | 63.9 | 23.33 | 28.52 | 133 |
| Ministry of Food Processing Industries | 0 | 0 | 0 | 55 |
| Department of Health and Family Welfare | 561.87 | 5510.66 | 5421.6 | 6045.7 |
| Chandigarh | 0 | 12.99 | 20.83 | 21.37 |
| Daman and Diu | 2.66 | 1.74 | 3.48 | 3.38 |
| Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs | 1018.61 | 1433.25 | 1435.34 | 1519.57 |
| Department of School Education and Literacy | 7919.72 | 8473.94 | 8592.79 | 9175.91 |
| Department of Higher Education | 2465.94 | 2953 | 3060 | 2960 |
| Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises | 509.6 | 733.19 | 707.28 | 1160.83 |
| Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities | 108.91 | 113.17 | 118.58 | 133.13 |
| Ministry of Panchayati Raj | 100.8 | 121.5 | 113.4 | 133.63 |
| Ministry of Textiles | 101.61 | 172 | 168 | 212.01 |
| Ministry of New and Renewable Energy | 122.63 | 184 | 143 | 217 |
| Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports | 123.67 | 264.68 | 261.37 | 316.66 |
| Department of Land Resources | 266 | 355.3 | 292.95 | 415.17 |
| Ministry of Women and Child Development | 3350.45 | 3693 | 3573 | 3900.44 |
| Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change | 37.23 | 37.75 | 37.75 | 70.35 |
| Department of Social Justice and Empowerment | 5102.59 | 5418.91 | 5418.91 | 5562.58 |
| Department of Rural Development | 5647.42 | 8501.01 | 8518.7 | 7637.8 |
| Ministry of Power | 895.46 | 1141.1 | 1141.1 | 1867.4 |
| Ministry of Labour and Employment | 77.74 | 1114.3 | 1022.34 | 1200.68 |
| Department of Science and Technology | 88.14 | 101 | 101 | 104.85 |
| Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship | 0 | 470.49 | 345.21 | 485.8 |

| Allocation / Expenditure in ST Sub Plan | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Department / Ministry | Actuals 2016-17 | Budget 2017-18 | Revised 2017-18 | Budget 2018-19 |
| Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare | 1071.37 | 3293.28 | 3170.61 | 3965.37 |
| Department of Agricultural Research and Education | 112.07 | 75 | 93.16 | 125.82 |
| Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries | 0 | 0 | 0 | 246.64 |
| Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and | 20.55 | 20.55 | 28.57 | 26 |
| Ministry of Coal | 25.38 | 30.75 | 36.4 | 30.53 |
| Department of Commerce | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 |
| Department of Telecommunications | 29 | 39 | 18.72 | 677 |
| Department of Consumer Affairs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Department of Food and Public Distribution | 1.28 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Ministry of Culture | 24.76 | 35.1 | 34.97 | 35.1 |
| Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region | 0 | 716 | 716 | 527.25 |
| Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation | 1649.9 | 1999.83 | 2399.83 | 2234.31 |
| Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology | 185.42 | 78.16 | 95.53 | 206 |
| Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 70.35 |
| Ministry of Food Processing Industries | 0 | 0 | 0 | 55 |
| Department of Health and Family Welfare | 320.91 | 2972.86 | 2909.7 | 3155.08 |
| Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 129.6 | 169.36 | 308.27 | 252.54 |
| Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 47.73 | 46.12 | 47.27 | 47.76 |
| Daman and Diu | 23.04 | 21.91 | 25.48 | 25.15 |
| Lakshadweep | 654.79 | 719.65 | 835.2 | 1006.34 |
| Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs | 111.32 | 153 | 157.18 | 291.68 |
| Department of School Education and Literacy | 4343.98 | 4868.03 | 4873.19 | 4908.31 |
| Department of Higher Education | 1231.12 | 1477 | 1532.02 | 1480 |
| Ministry of Labour and Employment | 27.11 | 564.03 | 517.5 | 607.74 |
| Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises | 350.83 | 497.92 | 468.77 | 587.74 |
| Ministry of Mines | 12.52 | 12.7 | 11.7 | 9.63 |
| Ministry of New and Renewable Energy | 69.49 | 92 | 73 | 217 |
| Ministry of Panchayati Raj | 56.5 | 62.27 | 57.4 | 57.4 |
| Ministry of Power | 0 | 0 | 0 | 976.3 |
| Ministry of Road Transport and Highways | 379.96 | 400 | 577 | 2700 |
| Department of Rural Development | 4266.31 | 5931.69 | 5937.83 | 5741.93 |
| Department of Land Resources | 169 | 225 | 175 | 250.1 |
| Department of Science and Technology | 59.1 | 101 | 155 | 104.85 |
| Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship | 0 | 238.15 | 174.74 | 251.68 |

| | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities | 56.44 | 56.81 | 66.84 | 71.5 |
| Ministry of Textiles | 33.62 | 63.95 | 61.5 | 109.84 |
| Ministry of Tourism | 37.5 | 43.75 | 43.75 | 87.57 |
| Ministry of Tribal Affairs | 4793.96 | 5300.14 | 5293.3 | 5957.18 |
| Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga | 30.01 | 50.1 | 50.1 | 162.2 |
| Ministry of Women and Child Development | 1417.55 | 1420 | 1420 | 1677.19 |
| Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports | 62.94 | 138.9 | 137.39 | 164.65 |

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