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GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

REPORT OF THE
CASE STUDIES OF THREE
ADIVASI CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES
IN TRIBAL SUB PLAN AREA IN
THANE DISTRICT OF
MAHARASHTRA

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1985

P R E F A C E

The tribal population of Maharashtra which constitutes 9.20% of the total population is leading unsatisfactory economic life, majority of them being peasant cultivators with inadequate holdings and few being artisans with no knowledge of modern technology. Isolation from the mainstream, ignorance and addition to vices such as drinking has kept them in the dirth of poverty and made victime of chicaneries played by moneylenders, landlords and traders.

The main aim of the Tribal Sub Plan is to stop the exploitation of tribals in all forms by building inner strength of the tribals and improving their organisational capabilities. The formation of 275 Adivasi Co-operative Societies in Tribal Sub Plan area in Maharashtra was given utmost priority under Tribal Sub Plan with the hope that they would attend the needs such as credit, marketing, employment and supply of essential commodities of the tribals and that too by initiating local leadership.

Whether or not the societies have been able to fulfil the desired objectives needs to be evaluated. The case studies of three Adivasi Co-operative Societies in Thane district which has significant tribal population was just in order. The three sample societies i.e. Adivasi Co-operative Society, Sakhare, Adivasi Co-operative Society, Shahapur and Adivasi Co-operative Society, Kasa represent three different tahsils. The affairs of these societies were studied at length and their supervisory officers were interviewed, in order to assess the performance

understand the difficulties confronted by them in managing their affairs and also to offer suggestions for better functioning.

Shri S.P.Karve, Lecturer of this Institute has done the field work and analysis and has drafted the report under the supervision of Shri M.B.Surana, Deputy Director and under my guidance. The recommendations contained in this report would be of immense use, to those working in the field of tribal development and co-operation.

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