

Role of Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) in the Development of Tribal Areas (A Study in Visakhapatnam Dist., A.P.)



Dr.V.Chittabai

**Lecturer in Commerce & Principal Investigator,
UGC Minor Research Project,**

Dr.V.S.Krishna Govt. Degree College (A), Visakhapatnam, A.P.

India is a fast growing economy for the past two and half decades and achieving a number of targets in economic and technological development. Since Independence, the Government of India has been implemented a large number of welfare schemes for the development of this country. It adopted the Five year plans and successfully implementing the plans with huge amounts on various developmental activities. After 1991, with the introduction of economic reforms viz., Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation (LPG) Policies, India's economic growth accelerated and increased by leaps and bounds. The human resources of this country, especially the productive population of this country is the main asset for the development achieved so far. Recently, some policy makers and administrators are enquiring whether all sections of people and all sectors of economy are equally participating in the development process and enjoying the benefits of faster development of this country or not. As a result of their enquiry, the concept of inclusive growth has become popular and the government is taking initiatives to achieve the inclusiveness in the growth process. The tragedy is that even after sixty Five years of our independence, developmental experience and journey, some sections of people in the Indian society especially from Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes are excluded from the development process due to lack of proper education, sufficient economic support from government and so on.

Though the government is implementing a large number of welfare schemes and spending huge amounts, the socio-economic conditions of these excluded sections are not improved. The condition of tribal communities is very poor as they are living in the forest areas which are far away from the developed cities and towns. There are also not suitable habitation for regular productive livelihood activities. Late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, laid down the approach of development of Scheduled Tribes during the times of generous of the community. Article 339 of the Constitution of India also endorsed this approach and observed that the tribals should be integrated with the rest of the Society while allowing them to continue their traditions, ethos, arts, culture and their identity. Their right on land and forest should be safeguarded and they should be trained for their administration and development (Tribal Welfare Department 2013) . The Schedule Tribe (ST) population accounts for 8.8 per cent of the total population in the country. The conditions of tribal people, has no doubt improved over the years but their situation vis-à-vis of the population in the country has worsened on all counts of development. The tribal people in India are residing in remote areas without any direct contact with the rest of the society, without sufficient medical facilities, without proper educational facilities, without accessibility to the developmental and welfare programmes of the government.

Both central and State Governments in our country have initiated so many welfare programmes for upliftment of tribal population in terms of education, health, employment and many more. But the condition of tribal people could not be/has not been improved. The constitution has devoted more than 20 articles on the redressal and upliftment of the underprivileged, following the policy of positive discrimination and affirmative action, particularly with reference to the Schedule Tribes. Recognizing the special needs of STs, the Constitution of India made certain special safeguards to protect these communities from all the possible exploitation and thus ensuring social justice. The tribals are also the citizens of India and hence promotion of their welfare is of equal importance. Not only the Central and the State Governments have undertaken various steps in this regard, but also various voluntary organisations have evinced interest in this task. Organisations such as the Bharatiya Adim Jati Sevak Sangh, the Bhil Seva Mandal, The Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, the Indian Red Cross Society, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, The Ramakrishna Mission, The Rashtreeya Swayam Sevak Sangh, etc., carry on welfare activities among the tribals. The Government through its Department of Tribal Welfare and through its Five-Year Plans has been trying to elevate the tribals from the state of ignorance, illiteracy and poverty. The Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs) have been created for the development of tribals in the Tribal Schedule Areas in order to provide single line administration so as to deliver prompt and accessible government services. Legal provisions such as special agency courts were also set up to give speedy justice to the tribals. The main schemes implemented by ITDAs include minor irrigation, soil conservation, horticulture, fisheries, sericulture, health and infrastructure for social support services. Centrally sponsored schemes are also being implemented to tackle special problems namely, malnutrition, adult literacy and rehabilitation of shifting cultivators. Tribal administration vastly improved after creating these institutions.

However, it has not managed to address the crucial issues of basic human and fundamental rights of the tribal people. The Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) was formed, consisting of political representatives and administrators, in order to advise and guide the policies of the state on tribal matters.

NEED FOR THE STUDY:

The government has been designing and implementing a number of welfare schemes for the welfare of the tribal people throughout India but the living styles and socio-economic conditions of tribal people have not improved. The Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh is also not exception to this. So that a lot of research is of utmost important to study the tribal welfare measures of the governments of both state and centre. Most of the existing studies on tribal welfare measures are at district level and state level. These studies mostly concentrated on the socio-economic profile of the tribal people and neglected the functioning of the administrative set up i.e., Integrated Tribal Development Agency, Paderu, Visakhapatnam Dist., which is the implementation agency for all the tribal welfare schemes of both State and Central Government. Hence, it can be said that there is dearth of studies on the functioning of ITDA, Paderu and its welfare measures. In reality, the Integrated Tribal Development Agencies take important decisions that are useful to the dwellers of the tribal areas. Thus, it is an urgent need to study the activities of ITDA, Paderu, Visakhapatnam and how the ITDA has been organizing various tribal welfare measures viz., nutrition programmes, agriculture, educational programmes, horticulture, training programmes, immunization programmes, medical facilities etc. With this background, an attempt has been made to study the tribal welfare measures of Integrated Tribal Welfare Agency, Paderu, Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh in the present study which entitled "Role of ITDAs in the Development of tribal areas (A Study in Visakhapatnam Dist., A.P.)"

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The specific objective of the study is to analyze the perceptions of respondents on various issues related to the Welfare Programmes for upliftment of Tribal people that are being implemented by the ITDA, Paderu.

METHODOLOGY:

The present study was confined to the selected organisation i.e., Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu, Visakhapatnam District. This study is based on both primary and Secondary Data.

Primary Sources:

The primary data have collected through a well structured and pre tested interview schedule specially designed for the purpose of the study. The data on various issues related to the welfare measures that are being taken up by the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu were collected with help of interview schedule.

Secondary Sources:

The major source for the secondary data which was extensively used in this study is the Annual Reports of ITDA, Paderu. In addition to that the secondary data were collected from various published and unpublished sources like Journals, News Dailies available from the different libraries and other records and reports of Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu.

SAMPLING:

For the purpose of selecting respondents, a multi stage random sampling technique has been adopted. In the first Stage, the Integrated Tribal Development Agency has been selected purposively for the study. In the second stage the total 11 tribal mandals which comes under the administrative jurisdiction of Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Paderu have been divided into four areas i.e., Area – I, Area –II, Area – III and Area – IV and three mandals from each area have been selected except area – III.

Area – III comprises only two mandals. So that the total number of total Sample Mandals are 11. The details of mandals selected from each area have been presented in table – 1.1. In the third stage, three villages from each sample mandal based on the distance from mandal head quarter have been selected which constitutes 33 sample villages. In the fourth stage, 20 sample households have been selected randomly from each village which constitutes 60 sample households from each mandal and 660 sample from the entire study area.

TABLE 1.1 Distribution of Respondents by their Mandals

| S.No. | Area | Mandal | Frequency | Per cent |
|-------|-------------|--------------|------------|-------------|
| 01 | Area – I | Ananthagiri | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Arakuvally | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Dumbriguda | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Total | 180 | 27.3 |
| 02 | Area – II | Hukumpeta | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Muncingiput | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Pedabayalu | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Total | 180 | 27.3 |
| 03 | Area – III | Paderu | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | G Madugula | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Total | 120 | 18.2 |
| 04 | Area – IV | Chinthapalli | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Koyyuru | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | G.K.Veedhi | 60 | 9.1 |
| | | Total | 180 | 27.3 |
| 05 | Grand Total | | 660 | 100.0 |

PERCEPTIONS OF THE RESPONDENTS ON VARIOUS WELFARE SCHEMES OF ITDA:

In this section an attempt has been made to analyse the perceptions of respondents on various issues relating to tribal welfare. The welfare measures of ITDA that are considered for the study are Economic Support Schemes like coffee project, growing coffee land, performance of coffee intervention agricultural development, Indira prabha land development programme, horticulture development, model nursery programme, ability of horticulture department in agency, plantation services, LTR Act, etc., and quality and supervision of basic infrastructure facilities like supervision of government officials on the development works of ITDA like construction of buildings and roads etc., the presence of government officials during process of work, satisfaction about power supply, insurance and so on.

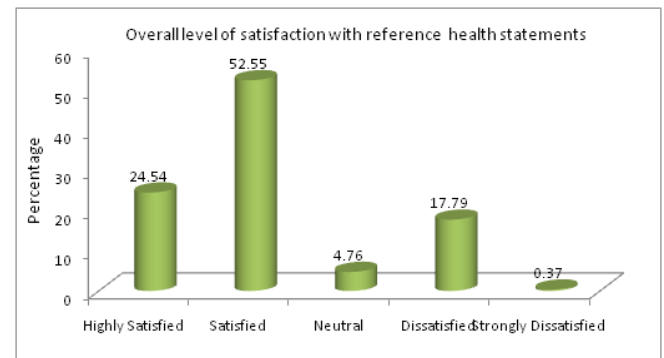
HEALTH:

The perceptions of the respondents on various dimensions of health services has been measured on a five point scale and presented in table –2 . It can be observed from the table that the around 77 per cent of the respondents expressed their positive opinion towards the health services provided by the ITDA, Paderu. Around 4.77 per cent of the respondents didn't show the interest to perceive their opinion and kept neutral, whereas the remaining 18.16 per cent are opined that they are not

TABLE 2 Distribution of Respondents According to their Opinion on the Level of Satisfaction with Reference to the Following Health Services

| S.No | Name of the health institutions and services offered in the agency area | Highly Satisfied | Satisfied | Neutral | Dissatisfied | Strongly Dissatisfied |
|---------------------------|---|------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Primary health centers – services | 38.00 | 61.20 | 0.30 | 0.50 | 0.00 |
| 2 | Community health centers – services | 32.70 | 67.00 | 0.00 | 0.30 | 0.00 |
| 3 | Access of CHW (Community Health Workers) services | 76.20 | 22.70 | 0.90 | 0.20 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Visit of ANM (M/F) to village | 85.80 | 14.10 | 0.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5 | Medical camps at sandy points | 9.10 | 82.70 | 1.80 | 6.40 | 0.00 |
| 6 | Malathiyam – anti Mosquito – spraying | 11.50 | 86.70 | 1.40 | 0.30 | 0.20 |
| 7 | Awareness of 108,104 services | 10.60 | 85.80 | 1.70 | 2.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | Institutional deliveries | 4.40 | 72.00 | 11.70 | 12.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | Food provision at CHCs | 5.20 | 71.80 | 7.00 | 16.10 | 0.00 |
| 10 | Family planning | 81.20 | 17.10 | 0.80 | 0.90 | 0.00 |
| 11 | Bed Nets Distribution | 12.40 | 67.00 | 13.00 | 7.60 | 0.00 |
| 12 | Indoor Residual Spray | 0.50 | 55.20 | 17.60 | 25.90 | 0.90 |
| 13 | Interior Habitations Medical Camp | 0.30 | 43.80 | 12.10 | 42.60 | 1.20 |
| 14 | Special Medical Camp for Skin Diseases | 0.30 | 20.90 | 2.30 | 74.80 | 1.70 |
| 15 | Anti-tuberculosis Campaign | 0.00 | 20.60 | 0.60 | 77.30 | 1.50 |
| Average Percentage | | 24.54 | 52.55 | 4.76 | 17.79 | 0.37 |

Satisfied with the health services provided by the ITDA, Paderu. The graphical representation is shown below as a bar chart.



ECONOMIC SUPPORT SCHEMES

TABLE 3 Particulars of Impact of Area on Economic Support Schemes Provided by ITDA

| S.No. | Particulars | Area | | | | Total |
|-------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1. | No | 65 (36.10) | 72 (40.00) | 38 (31.70) | 81 (45.00) | 256 (38.80) |
| 2. | Yes | 115 (63.90) | 108 (60.00) | 82 (68.30) | 99 (55.00) | 404 (61.20) |
| 3. | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

The particulars of impact of area on Economic Support Schemes of ITDA, Paderu have been presented in table – 3. It is evident from the table that around 61 percent of the respondents opined that there is a positive impact of Economic Support Schemes of ITDA on the tribal area of Visakhapatnam Dist. A similar opinion was expressed by around 64 per cent of respondents in area-I, 60 per cent in area-II, 69 per cent in area-III and 55 per cent of the respondents in area-IV.

TABLE-4 Distribution of Respondents According to their Perception on Access to Economic Support Schemes by Area

| S.no | Particulars | Area | | | | Total |
|------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1. | No | 105 (58.30) | 97 (53.90) | 74 (61.70) | 88 (48.90) | 364 (55.20) |
| 2. | Yes | 10 (5.60) | 11 (6.10) | 8 (6.70) | 11 (6.10) | 40 (6.10) |
| 3. | N/A | 65 (36.10) | 72 (40.00) | 38 (31.70) | 81 (45.00) | 256 (38.80) |
| 4. | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

Table – 4 furnishes the distribution of respondents according to their perceptions on the access to Economic Support Schemes by area. It is very interesting to note that around 55 percent of the respondents perceived that they have no access to the Economic Support Schemes implemented by the ITDA, Paderu and only 6 percent of the respondents opined that they have accessibility to the ESS of ITDA, Paderu. The remaining 39 percent of the respondents not interested to perceive on this issue.

TABLE 5 Distribution of Respondents According to the Level of Satisfaction on Economic Support Scheme by Area

| S.no | Particulars | Area | | | | Total |
|------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1. | Very good | 1 (0.60) | 0 (0.00) | 0 (0.00) | 0 (0.00) | 1 (0.20) |
| 2. | good | 0 (0.00) | 2 (1.10) | 2 (1.70) | 0 (0.00) | 4 (0.60) |
| 3. | satisfaction | 9 (5.00) | 7 (3.90) | 6 (5.00) | 8 (4.40) | 30 (4.50) |
| 4. | poor | 0 (0.00) | 2 (1.10) | 0 (0.00) | 3 (1.70) | 5 (0.80) |
| 5. | N/A | 170 (94.40) | 169 (93.90) | 112 (93.30) | 169 (93.90) | 620 (93.90) |
| 6. | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

The levels of satisfaction of the respondents on the accessibility of Economic Support Schemes of ITDA, Paderu has been measured on a five point scale and presented in table – 5. It is very interesting to note from the table that around 94 per cent of the respondents were not interested to perceive on this issue. It can be concluded that the percentage of respondents to whom the economic support schemes are accessible according to table – 4., is only around 6 percent and among these 6 per cent respondents only 6 percent were perceived their opinion. So that the officials of ITDA, Padru has to take initiatives improve the accessibility of ESS among all the dwellers of ITDA, Pareru area by giving wide publicity through different mediums of broadcasting.

TABLE 6 Distribution of Respondents According to the Awareness of Coffee project being Implemented by ITDA by Area

| S.no | Particulars | Area | | | | Total |
|------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1 | No | 13 (7.20) | 3 (1.70) | 7 (5.80) | 17 (9.40) | 40 (6.10) |
| 2 | Yes | 167 (92.80) | 177 (98.30) | 113 (94.20) | 163 (90.60) | 620 (93.90) |
| 3 | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

The distribution of respondents according to their awareness on the coffee project implemented by ITDA, Paderu has been presented in table – 6. It is evident from the table that around 94 percent of the respondents perceived that they are aware of Coffee Project implemented by ITDA, Paderu and the remaining 6 percent of the respondents reported that they are not aware of the coffee project of ITDA. Area wise analysis also shows a similar picture with slight variations in the percentages.

TABLE 7 Distribution of Respondents According to their Opinion on the Usefulness of Coffee Project of ITDA, Paderu by Area

| s.no | Particulars | Area | | | | Total |
|------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1 | No | 2 (1.10) | 0 (0.00) | 0 (0.00) | 3 (1.70) | 5 (0.80) |
| 2 | Yes | 165 (91.70) | 177 (98.30) | 113 (94.20) | 160 (88.90) | 615 (93.20) |
| 3 | N/A | 13 (7.20) | 3 (1.70) | 7 (5.80) | 17 (9.40) | 40 (6.10) |
| 4 | Total | 180 (100.0) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.0) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

The distribution of respondents according to their opinion on the usefulness of coffee project of ITDA, Paderu by area has been presented in table – 7. It is evident from the table that around 93 percent of the respondents reported that the coffee project implemented by ITDA, Paderu is usefull to the tribal community and around 6 percent were not interested to perceive and only around only 1 percent are perceived that the project is not useful to the agency area of Visakhapatnam dist.

TABLE 8 Opinion of Respondents on the Efforts of ITDA Officials in Motivating the People for Growing Coffee by Area

| S.NO | Opinion | Area | | | | Total |
|------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1. | Very Good | 1 (0.60) | 1 (0.60) | 1 (0.80) | 1 (0.60) | 4 (0.60) |
| 2. | Good | 1 (0.60) | 9 (5.00) | 7 (5.80) | 1 (0.60) | 18 (2.70) |
| 3. | Satisfaction | 151 (83.90) | 159 (88.30) | 89 (74.20) | 121 (67.20) | 520 (78.80) |
| 4. | Poor | 14 (7.80) | 8 (4.40) | 16 (13.30) | 40 (22.20) | 78 (11.80) |
| 5. | N/A | 13 (7.20) | 3 (1.70) | 7 (5.80) | 17 (9.40) | 40 (6.10) |
| 6. | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

The opinion of respondents on the efforts of ITDA officials in motivating the people for growing the coffee according to area has been presented in table – 8. It is observed from the table that the around 78 per cent of the respondents expressed that the efforts of officials in this regard are at satisfactory level, whereas around 12 per cent of the respondents opined that the efforts of ITDA officials in this regard are poor. Area wise analysis also exhibits a more or less similar picture with slight variations in percentages.

TABLE 9 Distribution of Respondents According to the Support Received to take up Coffee Intervention

| S.No | Yes/No | Area | | | | Total |
|------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1. | No | 10 (5.60) | 1 (0.60) | 17 (14.20) | 41 (22.80) | 69 (10.50) |
| 2. | Yes | 157 (87.20) | 176 (97.80) | 96 (80.00) | 122 (67.80) | 551 (83.50) |
| 3. | N/A | 13 (7.20) | 3 (1.70) | 7 (5.80) | 17 (9.40) | 40 (6.10) |
| 4. | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

Distribution of respondents according to the support received from ITDA to take of coffee intervention by area has been presented in table – 9. It can be observed from the table that around 83 per cent of the respondents have received the ITDA’s support to take

up the coffee intervention, whereas around 11 percent of the respondents did not receive any support to this end and the remaining 6 percent are not interested to answer on this aspect. Almost similar picture can be seen at the area wise analysis also.

TABLE 10 Level of Satisfaction on Guidance, Training, Marketing Support and Linkages Established by ITDA by Area

| S.No | Level of satisfaction | Area | | | | Total |
|------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1. | Satisfied | 154 (85.60) | 170 (94.40) | 95 (79.20) | 119 (66.10) | 538 (81.50) |
| 2. | Dissatisfied | 13 (7.20) | 7 (3.90) | 18 (15.00) | 44 (24.40) | 82 (12.40) |
| 3. | N/A | 13 (7.20) | 3 (1.70) | 7 (5.80) | 17 (9.40) | 40 (6.10) |
| 4. | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

Area wise distribution of respondents according to their level of satisfaction on the guidance, training, marketing support and linkages to improve the coffee interventions by ITDA, Padru, has been presented in table – 10. It is evident from the table that around 86 percent of the respondents have satisfied on the support provided by the ITDA with regard to the coffee intervention programme. The percentage of respondents who are dissatisfied with the support of ITDA is just 12 percent which is very small and negligible. It can also be observed from the table that the percentage of respondents who were dissatisfied with the support schemes is higher in area-IV when compare to the other areas. The situation in other areas is almost same as overall analysis.

TABLE 11 Distribution of Respondents According to their Satisfaction on Performance of Coffee Interventions by Area

| S.no | Yes/No | Area | | | | Total |
|------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | Area-I | Area-II | Area-III | Area-IV | |
| 1 | No | 10 (5.60) | 4 (2.20) | 17 (14.20) | 44 (24.40) | 75 (11.40) |
| 2 | Yes | 157 (87.20) | 173 (96.10) | 96 (80.00) | 119 (66.10) | 545 (82.60) |
| 3 | N/A | 13 (7.20) | 3 (1.70) | 7 (5.80) | 17 (9.40) | 40 (6.10) |
| 4 | Total | 180 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 120 (100.00) | 180 (100.00) | 660 (100.00) |

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to totals.

Table – 11 furnishes the distribution of respondents according to their satisfaction on the performance of coffee interventions. It can be observed from the table that around 83 percent of the respondents reported that they are satisfied with the performance of the coffee intervention project. It can also be observed from the table that the percentage of respondents who are dissatisfied with performance of coffee intervention project is somewhat little bit higher in area IV when compare to the other areas.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSTIONS:

It can be summarized and concluded from the analysis carried out so far that the ITDA is implementing all the government sponsored developmental schemes and welfare schemes for improving the living conditions of tribal population living the study area. But the fruits of all these welfare programmes are not reaching the tribal populatin efficiently. It may be due to the lack of awareness among the tribal population of the study area on the welfare schemes implemented by the ITDA. Hence, It can be suggested that the ITDA officials should give more publicity on their welfare schemes and should create awareness on how to get benefitted from these programmes and schemes. For this the ITDA can take the help of Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) established in the tribal area of ITDA, Paderu.

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