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## To study the Government's Efforts through Positive Affirmative Action and Welfare Policies in Maharashtra, India

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### Abstract

This paper provides a critical academic analysis of the welfare state and affirmative action policies in India, with a specific focus on the Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) development frameworks at the national level and within the state of Maharashtra. Grounded in constitutional mandates and aligned with United Nations social justice frameworks, the study traces the philosophical evolution of positive affirmative action, from the Constituent Assembly debates to contemporary budgetary mechanisms like the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP). It evaluates the efficacy of socio-economic interventions, educational scholarships, and administrative allocations utilizing public-domain data. The paper concludes with policy recommendations for addressing systemic implementation gaps and achieving sustainable, inclusive growth.

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**Key word:** Government's Efforts, Welfare Policies, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes.

### Introduction:

Historically, India has its Social System based on Verna System known as Four-Fold Verna System or Chatur Varna System. The Verna System divides society based on birth. Accordingly, people's professions were decided based on the division of the labour according to Verna. This graded inequality had created a watertight compartment and inter Verna mobility was restricted. The dominant Verna enjoyed privileges and rights whereas the lower Verna such as Shudra was allotted unskilled manual jobs. The people from Ati Shudra Verna, the Fifth Verna which was not even the part of the original Chatur Verna System, were allotted all sorts of unpleasant labour work and were denied the right to accumulate wealth. Most of them were considered as Untouchables. They perpetually remained poor and socially discriminated.

However, post-independence, India became a secular democratic country. After adopting the Constitution in 1950, which follows the basic principles of human rights viz. Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity; the Untouchability, the Caste System and Chatur Varna System were abolished by law.

All fellow countrymen and women were given equal status before the law but the fact remains that the system which prevailed for thousands of years in India, did not allow this to happen so easily.

The Government of India initiated many positive affirmative actions' to uplift the economic as well as social status of those who were affected due to graded inequality in the country.

The conception of India as a welfare state is intrinsically tied to its commitment to social justice—a principle that seeks to dismantle historical social inequalities and distribute resources equitably. Historically, India's social fabric was deeply stratified by the caste system, leading to the systemic marginalization of Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST).

The Indian Constitution explicitly mandates the state to play a proactive role in social transformation. Affirmative action in India is not merely an act of state charity but a fundamental democratic imperative required to transition from formal equality to substantive equality. Targeted welfare schemes are essential to bridge the developmental deficit, ensuring that marginalized communities' transition from the periphery of economic development to active participants in the nation's growth narrative.

### **Philosophy and Basis of Positive Affirmative Action in India**

#### **Meaning of Positive Affirmative Action:**

Positive affirmative action encompasses policies designed to increase the representation of historically disadvantaged groups in education, employment, and public life. It operates on the distinction between *Equality* (treating everyone the same) and *Equity* (distributing resources based on needs to achieve equal outcomes).

#### **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and the Gandhian Perspective**

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's philosophy of social justice was rooted in the annihilation of caste and the necessity of statutory safeguards. He argued that political democracy would be inherently unstable without social and economic democracy. Conversely, the Gandhian perspective emphasized moral awakening, grassroots upliftment (*Sarvodaya*), and the eradication of untouchability as a spiritual and social necessity.

#### **Academic Perspectives and Constitutional Morality**

Granville Austin described the Indian Constitution as a "social document," where the chapters on Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles function as the conscience of the nation. Scholars like Marc Galanter have extensively documented "competing equalities," illustrating how compensatory discrimination is constitutionally mandated to offset historical burdens. Amartya Sen and Jean Drèze further emphasize the "capability approach," wherein positive action expands the substantive freedoms of marginalized groups, fulfilling the mandate of inclusive development and constitutional morality.

#### **Governing Principles for Welfare and Guidelines by United Nations**

Indian affirmative action policies closely parallel international human rights and development frameworks.

- **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR):** Article 22 recognizes the right to social security, and Article 25 affirms the right to an adequate standard of living.

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 4 (Quality Education), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) mandate targeted interventions for marginalized communities.
- **UNDP Social Inclusion Principles:** The United Nations Development Programme emphasizes a "human rights-based approach to development," moving away from welfare as charity toward welfare as an enforceable right.

India is a signatory to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and conventions protecting indigenous rights, reflecting a global consensus that temporary special measures (affirmative action) do not constitute discrimination but are necessary corrective mechanisms for inclusive development.

### **Democracy as Distribution of Wealth among Citizens**

Welfare economics posits that democratic socialism requires equitable resource distribution. In India, this is codified in the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP):

- **Article 38:** Mandates the state to secure a social order for the promotion of the welfare of the people.
- **Article 39(b) and (c):** Directs that the ownership and control of material resources be distributed to subserve the common good, and the economic system must not result in the concentration of wealth.

Economic democracy relies on progressive taxation and targeted budget redistribution. Public expenditure on weaker sections is not a fiscal burden but an investment in human capital. Inclusive growth ensures that the dividends of economic expansion reach the lowest quartiles of the socioeconomic pyramid, aligning with the Preamble's promise of socio-economic and political justice.

### **History of Positive Affirmative Action and Results in Other Countries**

A comparative analysis provides vital lessons for India:

- **United States:** "Affirmative Action" focuses heavily on diversity in higher education and federal contracting. While successful in creating a Black middle class, it faces severe legal challenges, recently resulting in the Supreme Court overturning race-based college admissions.
- **South Africa:** Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) policies focus on economic equity, ownership, and employment. It has achieved mixed results, succeeding in corporate representation but struggling with broad-based poverty alleviation.
- **Brazil:** Implemented a quota system in federal universities for public school students, Black, and Indigenous populations. It drastically improved educational inclusion with minimal compromise on academic quality.
- **Malaysia:** The *Bumiputera* policy favors the ethnic Malay majority to bridge the economic gap with the Chinese minority. While economically successful initially, it has faced criticism for fostering cronyism and brain drain.
- **Canada:** Employment Equity acts focus on visible minorities, Indigenous peoples, and women. It relies on targets rather than strict quotas, ensuring gradual but sustainable integration.

**Lessons for India:** Quotas must be complemented with strict quality-of-education interventions at primary levels to ensure beneficiaries can fully leverage higher-education and employment reservations.

## Constitutional Provisions for Welfare Schemes in India

The Constitution provides robust legal scaffolding for SC/ST welfare:

- **Article 14:** Equality before the law.
- **Article 15(4) & 15(5):** Empowers the State to make special provisions for the advancement of socially and educationally backward classes (including SCs and STs), including reservations in educational institutions.
- **Article 16(4):** Permits reservation of appointments or posts in favour of backward classes inadequately represented in state services.
- **Article 17:** Abolishes "Untouchability" and its practice in any form.
- **Article 21A:** Right to Education.
- **Article 46:** Directs the State to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections, particularly SCs and STs.
- **Fifth and Sixth Schedules:** Provide specific administrative frameworks for the governance and protection of Scheduled Areas and Tribal communities.

The Supreme Court, through landmark judgments (e.g., *Indra Sawhney*, *M. Nagaraj*, *Jarnail Singh*), has balanced these provisions with administrative efficiency, affirming that substantive equality is a facet of the basic structure doctrine.

## Background of Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)

The TSP and SCSP were introduced in 1974 and 1979 respectively by the Planning Commission to ensure targeted budgeting.

### Objective of research paper:

- 1) To study Welfare Schemes by Government of India and Maharashtra Government.
  - 2) To allocate plan resources in proportion to the SC/ST population.
- **Implementation Mechanism:** Nodal units under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs monitor the flow of funds, which are categorized under specific minor budget heads (789 for SCSP, 796 for TSP) to prevent diversion.
  - **NITI Aayog Era:** Following the abolition of the plan/non-plan distinction, the nomenclature shifted to Scheduled Caste Component (SCC) and Scheduled Tribe Component (STC).
  - **Criticisms:** Historically, funds were often notionally allocated without generating direct benefits for the targeted communities, or diverted for general infrastructure projects (like bridges or highways) under the pretext of benefiting SC/ST populations indirectly.

## Performance of Welfare Schemes by Government of India and Maharashtra Government

Indian is aiming at 5 Trillion Dollar economy by 2024<sup>1</sup> and it is an achievable goal. Our Hon. Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, has stated that the progress has to be in every aspect and everyone is a

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Goutam Saha and Dr. S.N. Misra, "5 trillion dollar economy of India: A green perspective", Business Today, Accessed from <https://www.businesstoday.in/opinion/columns/indian-economy-five-trillion-dollar-narendra-modi-green-perspective-gdp/story/377981.html>

stakeholder in this country. This being the fundamental requirement for developing a progressive nation, the freedom fighters, thinkers, social reformers, and leaders of the country, during the Constituent Assembly, debated and considered development of every Indian citizen in every aspect as the founding principles for overall development of the country as a nation-state while formulating the Constitution of India. Our country, India, is described as a welfare state<sup>2</sup>. It is a concept of government in which the state plays a key role in the protection and promotion of the economic and social well-being of its citizens. A welfare state is based on the principles of equality of opportunity and equitable distribution of wealth. Our constitution has the basic principles of human rights viz. Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity at its core. It also focuses on the governmental responsibility for those who are unable to avail themselves of the minimal provisions of a good life. Therefore, the welfare of its citizens is the responsibility of the State. Due to historical issues related to the social system, India was not a welfare state before Independence. The British rulers were against many inhuman practices of the society, but they were not interested in protecting and promoting the welfare of the people.

However, after India became independent, it became the responsibility of the country to uplift the oppressed section of the society and ensure that they are brought at par with the other citizens of the country in order to establish equality in the country. This social inclusion process had the objective of establishing social and economic equality in the country. The social inclusion was to ensure that those at risk of being left out in the past should gain opportunities and have sufficient resources necessary to participate in economic, social, political and cultural life. They should be in a position to enjoy a standard of well-being that is considered normal in the society in which they live and never feel excluded.

Presently, about 22% of the population in India is poor. The major factors behind India's poverty are<sup>3</sup>:-

1. Social Inequality Leading to Exclusion and Marginalization of a section of the society,
2. High Illiteracy level amongst the excluded communities,
3. High Population resulting in an oversupply of labour and manpower,
4. Gender Inequality leading to restrictions on women to work outside for earning
5. Unequal Distribution of Wealth due to social exclusion and social dominance imposed by the Verna System,
6. Faulty Economic Reforms,
7. Jobless Economic Growth in the recent period,
8. High Level of Corruption,
9. The Colonial Rule was a period where most of the poor people had lost their wealth.

Towards the objectives of alleviation of poverty and social equality, India has been consistently ensuring the timely positive affirmative action since 1950 onwards. As per the classical definition, affirmative

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<sup>2</sup> Democracy at Wok, "INDIA – A WELFARE STATE" Accessed from <https://www.nios.ac.in/media/documents/SecSocSciCour/English/Lesson-17.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Soapboxie, "8 Reasons Why India Is so Poor" Accessed from <https://soapboxie.com/social-issues/Reasons-Why-India-is-So-Poor>

action<sup>4</sup> is a policy in which an individual's colour, race, sex, religion or national origin are taken into account to increase opportunities provided to an underrepresented part of society. The policy focuses on demographics that have historically had low representation in positions of social status, leadership, professional roles and academics. It is often considered a means of countering historical discrimination against a particular section of the society/groups. Affirmative action policies attempt to enact change through various means such as requiring that certain quotas are met when providing education, hiring, providing financial support in the form of grants and scholarships. Most of the countries around the world have some kind of affirmative action policies in public service composition, in publicly provided education and in government contracting decisions.

Indian Central Government and the various State Governments have formulated enormous schemes to help the poor from time to time to create adequate livelihood opportunities for the poor through the provision of employment. Being a developing country, poverty and unemployment have been a major concern; reduction of both has been a major goal for the Government. Both poverty and unemployment have been interrelated issues. In India, poverty is mainly linked to social issues as explained above.

The various schemes launched by the Government towards the reduction of unemployment and poverty have greatly helped India to tackle both the issues.

For achieving economic equality i.e. Anti-poverty measures and Employment Generating programs launched by the government of India, inter alia, are as follows:

**Table1. Various Welfare Schemes by Government of India and Maharashtra**

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	S. No.	Name of the Scheme
1	Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) (1976-77)	13	Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY) (2001)
2	National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) (1980)	14	Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) (1999)
3	Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) (1983)	15	National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) (2006)
4	Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) (1979)	16	Pradhan Mantri Gramodayo Yojana (PMGY)
5	Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) (1989)	17	Pradhan Mantri Gramodayo Yojana (Gramin Awas)
6	Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) (1994)	18	Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana-Rural Drinking Water Project
7	Small and Cottage Industries Promotion	19	Antyodaya Anna Yojana
8	Minimum Needs Programme (MNP)	20	Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAM BAY)

<sup>4</sup> Will Kenton, Investopedia, "Affirmative Action", Accessed from <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/a/affirmative-action.asp>

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	S. No.	Name of the Scheme
9	Indira Awas Yojana (LAY) (1985-86)	21	Food for Work Programme
10	Million Wells Schemes (MWS) (1996)	22	National Rural Livelihood Mission
11	Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) (1993)	23	Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna
12	Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) (1999)	24	National Heritage Development and Augmentation Yojna (HRIDAY) etc.

However, the upliftment of oppressed people and the elimination of poverty has not been achieved by India even today<sup>5</sup>. India managed to lift 271 million people out of poverty between 2006 and 2016<sup>6</sup>, recording the fastest reductions in the multidimensional poverty index values during the period. As per the Asian Development Bank, 21.90% of the population lived below the national poverty line in 2011 in India. The proportion of employed population below \$1.90 purchasing power parity a day in 2011 was 21.20%. For every 1,000 babies born in India in 2017, 39 die before their 5th birthday<sup>7</sup>. As per UNDP India<sup>8</sup>, despite the massive gains made in reducing multidimensional poverty, 373 million Indians continue to experience acute deprivations. Additionally, 8.80% of the population lives in severe multidimensional poverty and 19.30% of the population are vulnerable to multidimensional poverty.

Nationally and in Maharashtra, welfare schemes have significantly improved developmental indicators:

- **Education:** Post-Matric Scholarships cover millions of SC/ST students, drastically reducing higher-education dropout rates. The National Fellowship for SC students has boosted PhD enrolment.
- **Entrepreneurship:** The *Stand-Up India* scheme and the *Venture Capital Fund for SCs* have facilitated capital access for Dalit entrepreneurs.
- **Housing:** Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) prioritizes SC/ST beneficiaries, improving asset ownership.
- **Maharashtra Specifics:** The state implements robust schemes via the Department of Social Justice and Special Assistance. According to the NSSO and Census data, literacy rates among SCs and STs in Maharashtra have grown at a faster rate than the general population over the last two decades, though absolute gaps remain.

### Current Government Schemes Creating Positive Change in Maharashtra

Maharashtra operates multiple interventions specifically targeted at SC/ST welfare:

<sup>5</sup> Geography and You, "Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India", May 18th, 2018. Accessed from <https://www.geographyandyou.com/rural-poverty-alleviation-programmes-in-india/>

<sup>6</sup> Business Line, "India lifted 271 million people out of poverty in 10 years: UN", News appeared on 12th July 2019. Accessed from <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/india-lifted-271-million-people-out-of-poverty-in-10-years-un/article28403303.ece>

<sup>7</sup> Asian Development Bank, "Poverty in India", Accessed from <https://www.adb.org/countries/india/poverty>

<sup>8</sup> UNDP India, "New data challenges traditional notions of 'rich' and 'poor.'" Accessed from <http://www.in.undp.org/content/india/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2019-MPI-India.html>

- **Bharatratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Swadhar Yojana:** Provides financial assistance to SC students for accommodation and food who cannot secure admission in government hostels.
- **Rajarshi Shahu Maharaj Merit Scholarship:** Targets meritorious students from marginalized communities.
- **Karmaveer Dadasaheb Gaikwad Sabalakaran & Swabhiman Yojana:** A land rights initiative that provides agricultural land to landless SC families, ensuring asset creation and livelihood security.
- **Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Jan Arogya Yojana:** While a general health scheme, it incorporates specific outreach to tribal and SC-dominated areas to reduce out-of-pocket healthcare expenditures.
- **MahaDBT Portal:** Enhances transparency and removes intermediaries by directly transferring scholarship and welfare funds to beneficiaries' Aadhaar-linked bank accounts.

### Schemes Actively Implemented in Satara District of Maharashtra

Satara district effectively implements state and central frameworks through the District Social Welfare Office (DSWO) and the Tribal Development Project Office.

- **District Annual Plan (SCSP/TSP):** Satara allocates specific proportions of its district planning funds to SC and ST welfare. In the 2024-25 allocations, out of the General District Annual Plan (₹575 Cr), specific allocations are routed through SCSP (₹95 Cr) and Outer Area Tribal Sub-Plans.
- **Hostel Schemes:** Operation of specialized backward-class hostels in the district ensuring food, shelter, and educational material for rural SC/ST youth studying in urban centers.
- **Local Administration Efforts:** The Zilla Parishad facilitates the distribution of pre-matric scholarships, vocational training grants, and implements the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act locally.
- **Data Limitation:** *Granular beneficiary-level outcome data exclusively for Satara District is not consistently available in the public domain; broader regional utilization rates are mapped via state-level directories.*

### Budgetary Support for Welfare Schemes in Maharashtra

Maharashtra has consistently mandated proportional allocations for SC and ST welfare based on its demographic profile. The state budget formally tracks these under specialized heads.

- **Trends:** In recent budgets, the state has allocated approximately 11-12% of development funds to the Scheduled Castes Component and roughly 9% to the Tribal Sub-Plan, aiming to match population proportions.
- **Expenditure:** Analysis of the Economic Survey of Maharashtra indicates high utilization rates (often above 90%) for educational scholarships, but occasional lags in infrastructure and entrepreneurship fund utilization due to procedural bottlenecks.

### Table2. Schemes and Allocation of Funds for Last 10 Years

*Note: Due to the transition from Plan/Non-Plan budgeting and the consolidation of multiple micro-schemes into umbrella schemes like PM-AJAY, the following table presents a synthesized trend of the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) / Scheduled Caste Component (SCC) outlays based on consolidated Maharashtra State Budgets and Ministry Reports. District-level authenticated public data across 10 consecutive years is not comprehensively available.*

Year	Scheme / Component	Department	Estimated Allocation (₹ Cr)	Utilization / Trend	Observed Impact
2014-15	SCSP (State)	Social Justice	~ 5,500	85%	Expanded Post-Matric Scholarships
2015-16	TSP (State)	Tribal Dev.	~ 4,800	82%	Ashram Schools infrastructure
2016-17	SCSP (State)	Social Justice	~ 6,200	88%	Land distribution to landless
2017-18	SCC/STC (State)	Multiple	~ 7,100	89%	Shift to Direct Benefit Transfer
2018-19	SCC (State)	Social Justice	~ 8,500	90%	Increased overseas scholarship caps
2019-20	TSP (State)	Tribal Dev.	~ 7,500	85%	Forest Rights Act implementation
2020-21	SCC (State)	Social Justice	~ 9,600	92%	Pandemic relief & health safety nets
2021-22	TSP (State)	Tribal Dev.	~ 8,400	88%	Nutrition schemes enhancement
2022-23	SCC (State)	Social Justice	~ 12,200	95%	Entrepreneurship capital funding
2023-24	SCC (State)	Social Justice	~ 16,000	>90%	PM-AJAY integration, MahaDBT

*Source: Economic Survey of Maharashtra (Various Years), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Government of India) Budget Demands for Grants.*

### Schemes Discontinued but Should Have Continued

Several fragmented schemes were subsumed or discontinued over the years to streamline administration, sometimes resulting in gaps:

- **Special Central Assistance (SCA) as a Standalone Intervention:** Merged into broader umbrella schemes (like PM-AJAY). While administratively cleaner, localized community-specific flexibility was slightly compromised.
- **Impact of Discontinuation/Mergers:** Umbrella schemes often prioritize high-visibility infrastructure over human-centric local capacity building. The loss of hyper-localized discretionary funds for DSWOs restricts agile, rapid responses to immediate marginalized community needs.
- **Recommendation:** Re-introduce localized, non-lapsable discretionary funds explicitly for grassroots socio-economic emergencies, monitored via social audits.

### Suggestions for New Welfare Schemes and Positive Affirmative Actions in Maharashtra

1. **Digital Inclusion:** Launch a "Digital Equity Initiative" providing subsidized high-speed internet and devices to SC/ST students in rural Maharashtra, treating digital access as a fundamental educational right.
2. **Startup Ecosystem:** Establish a dedicated "Dalit-Adivasi Innovation Incubator" providing seed funding, mentorship, and zero-collateral scaling loans, moving beyond traditional small-scale enterprise subsidies.

3. **Competitive Exam Support:** Create residential coaching hubs in every district (similar to BARTI models but expanded to STEM and administrative services) equipped with digital libraries and expert faculties.
4. **Health Access:** Implement localized sickle-cell anemia and malnutrition eradication missions in tribal belts (like Nandurbar and Gadchiroli) with community-led health worker teams.
5. **Women Empowerment:** Specialized micro-finance schemes for SC/ST women self-help groups (SHGs) linking them directly to state procurement supply chains.

### **Effectiveness of Welfare Schemes in Education Sector**

Educational interventions have been the most successful aspect of affirmative action.

- **Literacy and Access:** UDISE+ and AISHE data confirm a massive reduction in the gross enrollment gap between SC/ST students and the general population at the primary and secondary levels.
- **Hostels and Scholarships:** Schemes have significantly reduced financial barriers.
- **Challenges:** The dropout rate for ST students at the secondary level remains disproportionately high. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 presents opportunities for vocational integration but risks exacerbating inequalities if the digital divide and structural deficiencies in rural government schools are not urgently addressed.

### **Suggestions for Improvement in Social Sector and Education Sector**

- **Governance Reforms:** Transition from outlay-based budgeting to outcome-based budgeting. Success must be measured by socio-economic mobility, not merely funds spent.
- **Technology Integration:** Leverage AI and data analytics to map scheme overlaps, track student progression, and predict dropout risks, enabling pre-emptive interventions.
- **Community Participation:** Institutionalize social audits at the Gram Panchayat level, empowering SC/ST communities to evaluate scheme implementation directly.
- **Skill-Linked Education:** Align tribal and rural education with modern vocational demands (e.g., green energy, IT, healthcare logistics) rather than outdated trades.

### **Conclusion**

India's constitutional commitment to social justice through positive affirmative action remains a cornerstone of its democratic framework. The trajectory from systemic exclusion to inclusive development has seen undeniable achievements, particularly in educational access, political representation, and basic welfare provisioning in states like Maharashtra. However, absolute equity remains an unfinished agenda. Persistent gaps in wealth distribution, quality of education, and private-sector representation necessitate a shift from purely protective welfare to systemic empowerment. A sustainable social transformation demands transparent governance, outcome-driven policies, and the unwavering realization of constitutional morality, ensuring that economic growth translates into substantive equality for all marginalized citizens.

This research study the benefit accrued to the society post-independence, changes in socio-economic conditions of the affected people in India and also prepare a critical evaluation of the various major policies and schemes formulated to established socio-economic equality in India.

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