

**VARIOUS ACTIVITIES TAKEN FOR EQUALITY OF EDUCATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITIES**

**(CC-10, UNIT -3 (CONCEPT OF SC, ST, OBC))**

Some of the initiatives in this regard include a number of centrally sponsored schemes for SCs, STs and other backward sections of society. These are:

- i) Initiatives to indigent families to send their children to school regularly till they reach the age of 14 years.
- ii) Pre-matric scholarship scheme for children of families engaged in occupations such as scavenging, flaying and tanning from Class 1.
- iii) Post-matric scholarships.
- iv) Grant-in-aid to voluntary organisations working to promote education among SC and ST children.
- v) Abolition of tuition fee in all states in government schools at least up to upper primary level. Most of the states have abolished tuition fee for SC and ST students up to senior secondary level: these states also provide incentives like free textbooks, uniforms, mid-day meal, school bags, slates etc. to these children.
- vi) Special educational development programmes for girls belonging to scheduled castes of very low literacy level.
- vii) Provision of boys and girls hostels for SC and ST children.
- viii) Reservation in recruitment of teachers from SCs and STs.
- ix) Location of school buildings, Balwadis and adult education centres in such a way as to facilitate full participation of the children from SC and ST communities.
- x) Provision of a primary school or non-formal education centre in every scheduled tribe habitation.
- xi) Provision of educational complex in low literacy pockets for development of girls's education in tribal areas. Some of such complexes are exclusively meant for tribal girls.
- xii) Residential schools including ashram schools are being established on a large scale for ST children as their effectiveness has been demonstrated in many states like Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.
- xiii) Major programmes of the department of education like UEE, Operation Blackboard, Non-Formal Education, DPEP etc. accord priority to the education of SC and ST children. 'Lok Jumbish' and 'Shiksha Karmi' projects have a specific focus on SC and ST inhabited areas.
- xiv) Reservations for SC/ST children in educational institutions at all levels of education.

xv) Under total literacy campaigns the SC/ST populations are the main targets

xvi) In Navodaya Vidyalayas, admission for SC and ST children are reserved on the basis of either the national norm of 15 per cent and 7.5 per cent respectively or of the percentage of SC and ST population in the district, whichever is higher.

xvii) Coaching and remedial teaching classes are being organised for SC and ST and other backward sections in order to enhance scholastic achievement of these students. Special coaching for entrance examinations for institutions of higher learning particularly for professional courses is being provided to SC/ST students of classes X and XII.

xviii) Additional scholarships are provided for ST/ST girl students in the secondary and senior secondary classes. Special coaching and remedial courses are being organised for SC/ST girl students.

So, the following classes have to be given opportunities:

1. Opportunities for women's education:

- a. More girls college.
- b. Co -education and co- teacher.
- c. Incentives
- d. Vocational Institution.
- e. Special curriculum for women.
- f. Universal primary education.
- g. Non formal and Informal education.
- h. use of mass media.
- i. Open and distance education.