



## INTRODUCTION

You have read about people like kanta (from ch 1), the Ansaris, (from ch1) Melani (from ch 4) and Swapna (from ch 7). the thread that connects all of these lives is that they



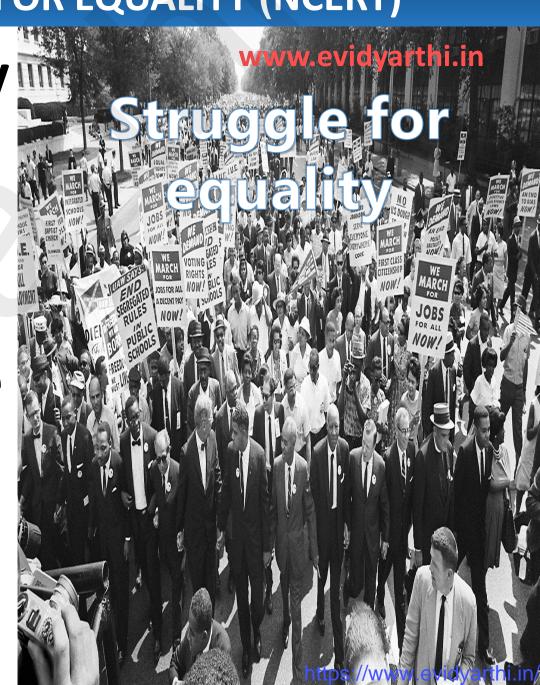
have been treated unequally.

>History is full of examples of persons who have come together to fight against INEQUALITY and for issues of justice.





- Do you RECALL the story of rosa parks in CHAPTER 1?
- >IN THIS CHAPTER you will learn about **SOME** of the WAYS in which people have STRUGGLED against inequality.



> All of these persons are

**DISCRIMINATED** against

their social and cultural

background as well as

because they are

women.

>DALIT, ADIVASI and MUSLIM girls drop out of

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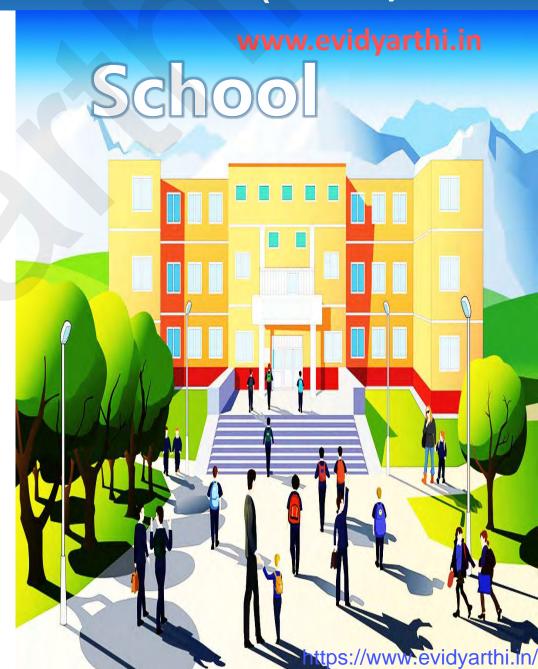
The Civil Right Act of 1964 forbids the discrimination of firing, hiring, or raising an employee's wage based on their national origin,

race, religion, or sex.



school in LARGE NUMBERS.

> This is a COMBINED OUTCOME of poverty, social discrimination and the lack of good QUALITY school FACILITIES for these communities.



### STRUGGLES FOR EQUALITY

>There are some **PEOPLE** who are known and RESPECTED because of their fight for equality cos they stood up against an act of discrimination



that they faced or which they WITNESSED or because they treat all persons with DIGNITY.

> These PERSONS
become more WIDELY
RECOGNIZED because
they have the



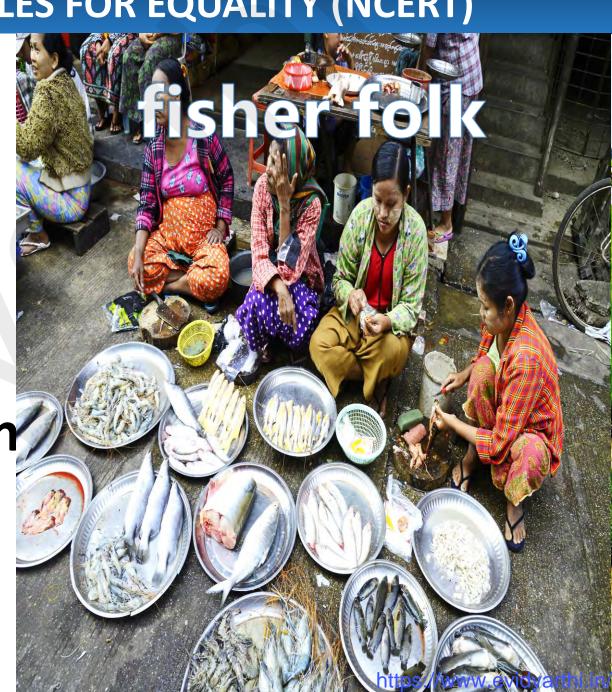
NUMBERS of people who have issues like inequality.

➤In India, there are several STRUGGLES in which people have come together to FIGHT for ISSUES that they



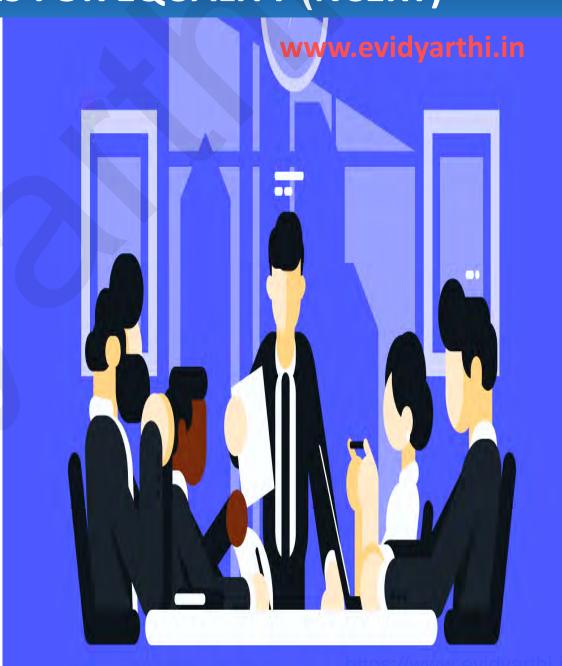
believe are IMPORTANT.

>Struggles such as those among **BEEDI** WORKERS, FISHER FOLK, AGRICULTURAL LABORERS, SLUM DWELLERS and each group is struggling for justice in



its OWN WAY.

> People should create their ORGANIZATIONS or other COLLECTIVE ways by which people can have more control OVER RESOURCES.



### TAWA MATSYA SANGH

>When dams are built, thousands of people were DISPLACED. Villages are uprooted and people are forced to go and build new homes, Start new

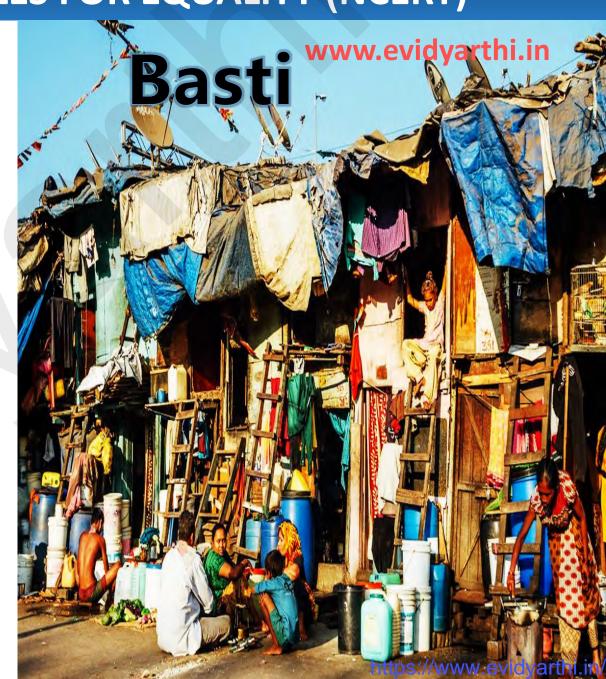


lives elsewhere.

- In urban areas too,

  BASTIS in which poor
  people lives are often

  UPROOTED.
- Their WORK and their CHILDREN'S SCHOOLING is severely DISRUPTED cos



they were removed from the CITIES too.

There are several organizations across the COUNTRY FIGHTING for the rights of the displaced.

>TAWA MATSYA SANGH — a

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# TOWN MOTSYN SANGH

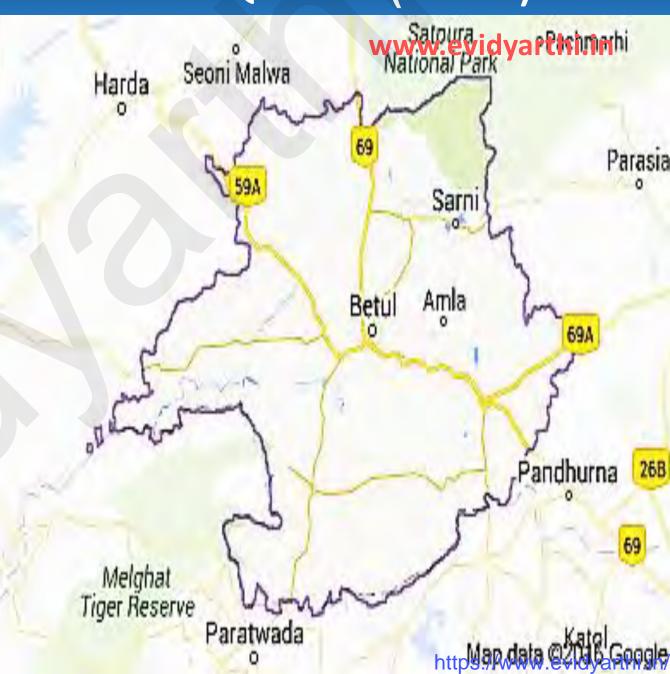




organization fighting for the RIGHTS of the displaced FOREST **DWELLERS** of the Satpura forest in Madhya Pradesh.



Originating in the MAHADEO HILLS of Chindwara DISTRICT, the TAWA FLOWS through Betul, before joining the Narmada in Hoshangabad.



The TAWA DAM = built 1958

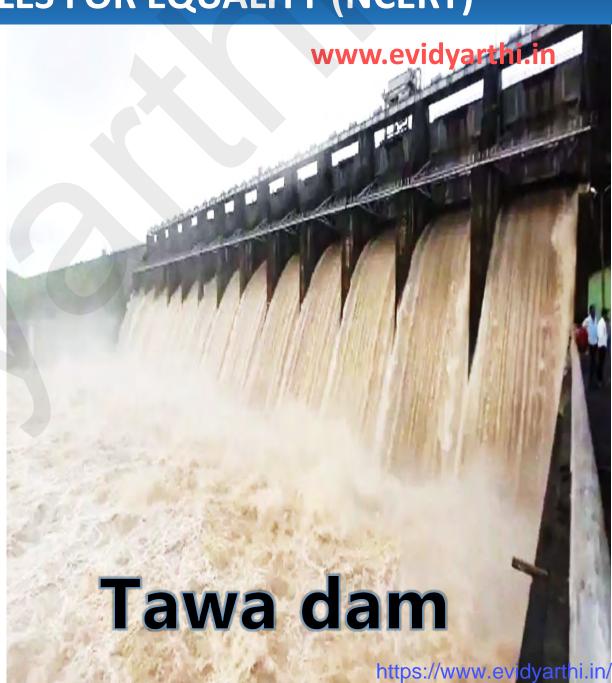
Completed = 1978

and it submerged

large areas of forest

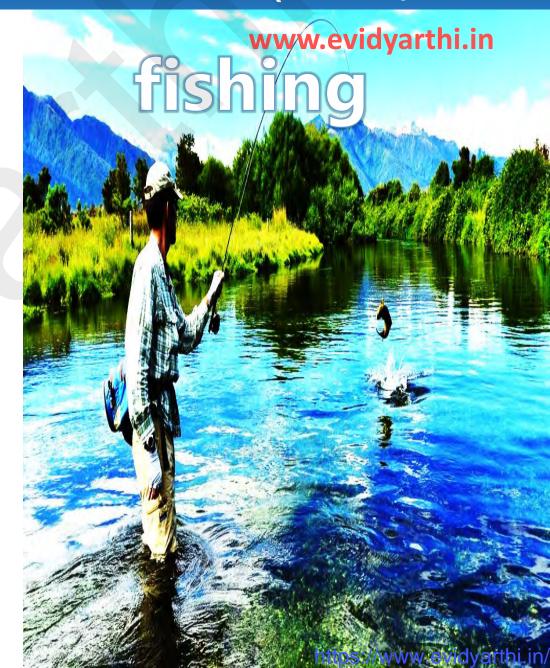
and agricultural land.

➤ Government gave the



rights for FISHING in the \*tawa reservoir=1994 to private contractors and they drove local people away with the help of goons.

>The villagers stood



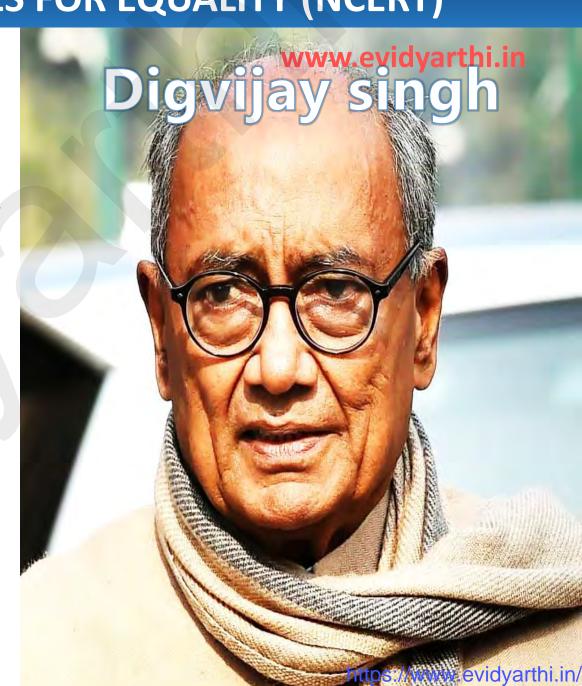
united and decided to set up an organization and do something to protect their RIGHTS.

The villagers stood united and formed tawa matsya sangh (tms) organized RALLIES, CHAKKA



jam, demanding right to continue FISHING FOR THEIR LIVELIHOOD.

➤ Madhya Pradesh government give fishing rights = 1996.





A five-year lease agreement was SIGNED TWO MONTHS later. On January 2, 1997, people from 33 villages of tawa started the new year with the FIRST CATCH.



The TMS arrange to transport and sell this in markets where they get a GOOD PRICE.

They earned THREE
TIMES MORE than they
earned EARLIER. The TMS
also gave fish workers





loans for REPAIR and BUYING of new NETS.

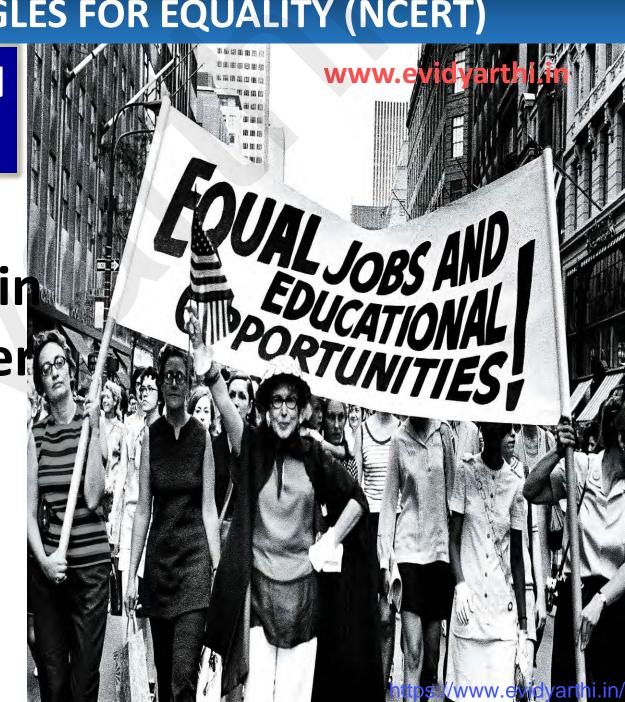
>TMS has shown that when people's organizations get their RIGHTS to LIVELIHOOD, they can do much better and live happily.



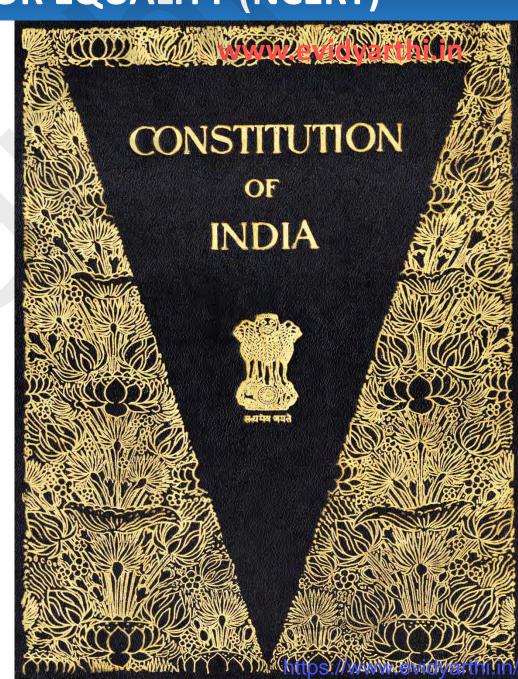


# THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION AS A LIVING DOCUMENT

> Movements and struggles for equality in INDIA CONTINUOUSLY refer to the Indian constitution to make their point about **EQUALITY** and



- justice for all.
- The fish workers in the TAWA MATSYA SANGH hope that the provisions of the CONSTITUTION will become a REALITY
- Constitution is referred as a 'living document'



something that has real meaning in our lives.

>The dignity and selfrespect of each person and their community can only be realized if they have **ADEQUATE** RESOURCES





