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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOUR AND WELFARE**

(1998-99)

TWELFTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF WELFARE

318

[Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare on Ministry of Welfare—Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes]

FIRST REPORT



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

June, 1998/Jyaishta, 1920 (Saka)

FIRST REPORT
STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOUR & WELFARE
(1998-99)

(TWELFTH LOK SABHA)

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*[Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations
contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Labour
and Welfare on Ministry of Welfare — Special Central Assistance
to Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes]*

Presented to Lok Sabha on

Laid in Rajya Sabha on

34 JUL 1998
3 JUL 1998



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

June, 1998/Jyaistha, 1920 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON LABOUR AND WELFARE
(1998-99)

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2. Shri J.P. Sharma — *Deputy Secretary*
3. Shri R.S. Misra — *Under Secretary*
4. Shri Jagdish Prashad — *Committee Officer*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this First Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Welfare — Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes.

2. The Third Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 19 December, 1996. The Ministry of Welfare furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 4 December, 1997. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare at their sitting held on 16 June, 1998.

3. The Report has been divided into following chapters:—

- I. Report.
- II. Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government.
- III. Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply.
- IV. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee.
- V. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Eleventh Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix.

NEW DELHI;
17 June, 1998
27 Jyaishta, 1920 (Saka)

HARIN PATHAK,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

1.1 This Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Labour and Welfare on the Ministry of Welfare on Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes.

1.2 The Third Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 19 December, 1996. It contained seven recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all recommendations have been examined and are categorised as under:—

- (i) Recommendations and observations which have been accepted by the Government:

Sl. Nos. 1, 3 and 7.

(Total 3 included in Chapter II of the Report)

- (ii) Recommendations and observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue taking into consideration the replies of the Government:

Sl. No. 4

(Total 1 included in Chapter III of the Report)

- (iii) Recommendations and observations, replies to which have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration:

Sl. Nos. 2 and 6

(Total 2 included in Chapter IV of the Report)

- (iv) Recommendations and observations in respect of which final replies have not been received:

Sl. No. 5

(Total 1 included in Chapter V of the Report)

1.3 The Committee will now deal with those action taken replies of the Government which need reiteration or merit comments.

**A. Survey for the Scheduled Castes Living Below the Poverty Line
Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para 2.11)**

1.4 The Committee had noted that the Ministry of Welfare was not having an authentic data of Scheduled Castes living below the poverty line. Earlier on the recommendations made by the Committee in their Fifth Report on Demands for Grants for the year 1994-95 to conduct a State-wise survey on a time bound scale, the Ministry of Welfare had entrusted the survey work to NSSO after taking into account the 1991 Census Report. The Committee had been informed by the Ministry that though the survey Report was expected by the end of 1995 or early part of 1996 from National Sample Survey Organisation, yet the same had not been received by them. The Committee, had therefore, recommended that the Ministry of Welfare should take up the issue with NSSO and Planning Commission on priority for early release of Survey Report and communicate the progress achieved in this regard to the Committee.

1.5 In their action taken reply the Ministry of Welfare has stated that the Poverty Estimates for SC & ST population has since been received from Planning Commission (Perspective Planning Division). As per the information received from the Planning Commission, the Commission has adopted the methodology outlined in the report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor to estimate the incidence of poverty at national and state level separately for rural and urban areas. These estimates relate to all sections of the population taken together. State-wise poverty lines were worked out from state specific price indices separately in rural and urban areas. These, in conjunction with the state specific distribution of persons in different expenditure groups as obtained from the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure produced the poverty ratio.

1.6 The Ministry has further stated that the Expert Group did not specify a separate methodology of estimation of poverty for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population. The data at hand do not allow estimation of separate poverty lines for SCs and STs. The distribution of persons in different expenditure groups, however, are available separately for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from

the NSS data on consumer expenditure of 50th Round. The incidence of poverty among SC and ST population have been worked out by the Planning Commission from the respective States distribution of persons in different expenditure groups and the poverty lines of all population. All India poverty ratio for SCs and STs is worked out from the NSS distribution of persons and (implicit) All-India poverty line. The estimates of poverty for SCs and STs are made for 16 major states only because of limitations of data.

1.7 It has been further stated that as per the estimates made by the Planning Commission, the percentage of SC population below the poverty line in the country during 1993-94 was 48.11 in rural areas and 49.48 in urban areas. State-wise details of SC population below poverty line during 1993-94 in respect of 16 States are given below:

S. No.	States	% of SC population below poverty line	
		Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26.02	43.82
2.	Assam	45.38	14.34
3.	Bihar	70.66	55.16
4.	Gujarat	32.26	44.99
5.	Haryana	46.66	23.58
6.	Himachal Pradesh	36.89	18.52
7.	Karnataka	46.36	61.59
8.	Kerala	36.43	31.59
9.	Madhya Pradesh	45.83	65.00
10.	Maharashtra	51.64	52.56

1	2	3	4
11.	Orissa	48.95	47.45
12.	Punjab	22.08	27.96
13.	Rajasthan	38.38	48.63
14.	Tamil Nadu	44.05	61.50
15.	Uttar Pradesh	58.99	58.02
16.	West Bengal	45.29	37.73

1.8 The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Government. The Ministry of Welfare has not furnished the complete figure of SCs living below the poverty line. Further the Methodology adopted by the National Sample Survey Organisation for the estimation of SC population living below poverty line is not acceptable to the Committee. The data submitted by the Expert Group is based on the distribution of persons in different expenditure groups which should be based on the income of the Scheduled Caste persons. At present the SCA is released to 24 States/UTs but the NSSO have made the estimates of poverty for SCs in 16 major States only because of limitation of data. The Committee therefore desire that the Ministry of Welfare should pursue the matter with the Planning Commission to obtain correct figures of Scheduled Castes living below poverty line so that proper planning could be made under the scheme in the Ninth Five Year Plan. The Committee also desire that the survey should be conducted in the remaining States/UTs.

B. Monitoring and Implementation of Special Component Plan

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para 5.6)

1.9 The Committee had noted that the Ministry of Welfare did not have a thorough monitoring mechanism for evaluation and implementation of Special Component Plan. The Ministry had however, suggested that Special Component Plan formulation and implementation would be improved if separate budget heads are opened for SCP and Social Welfare Departments of State Government are made the nodal agency. The Committee had suggested that the monitoring mechanism

of the Ministry should be strengthened and the suggestions given by the Ministry should be taken up at the highest level for its effective implementation by the State Governments. The Committee were of the view that in order to check effectively the diversion and misutilisation of funds earmarked under Special Component Plan Scheme, there should be a Vigilance Committee at the National level and Monitoring Committees at State and District levels so as to ensure that the benefits of the scheme reaches the grass root level.

1.10 In their action taken reply, the Ministry of Welfare has stated that funds for Special Component Plan of States are earmarked by the States from their State Plan outlays under various sectors of development. The Central Government provides Special Central Assistance to States in addition to their Special Component Plans for SCs and the States have to utilise the funds in conjunction with SCP on income generating schemes of economic development of SCs. Special Central Assistance is to give an added thrust to family oriented schemes of economic development of SCs by providing resources for filling the critical gaps and for providing vital milling inputs so that the schemes can be more meaningful. States are, therefore, required to monitor progress of implementation of schemes and proper utilisation of funds by various implementing agencies. States are already having Monitoring Committees at State and District levels. Opening of separate budget heads for SCP by States is to ensure adequate allocation of funds for SCP and to check diversion/misutilisation of SCP for SCs; 18 States have already opened separate budget heads for SCP. In the case of the remaining five States and one UT the matter has been taken up with the concerned Chief Ministers and Administrator to get the matter expedited within this Financial Year.

1.11 The Ministry has further stated that the SCP allocations to States are reviewed by the Ministry annually and shortcomings in formulation and implementation of SCP in various sectors of the State Plans are communicated to the concerned States for taking necessary remedial action. Wherever necessary, suggestions are given to States for improving/augmenting SCP allocations particularly in the sectors directly relevant to SC development. Officers of the Ministry also visit the States and review the implementation of schemes and utilisation of funds. Detailed discussions are held on the matter in the States' Welfare Ministers' Conference organised by the Ministry. Recommendations of such conferences are circulated to the States/UTs

for taking necessary action to implement the recommendations. The Ministry of Welfare do their best to monitor SCP allocation and expenditure by States/UTs. A Vigilance Committee at National level can function as a Monitoring Committee only as the audit of State accounts come under the purview of Comptroller and Auditor General of India, and so the Committee has to rely upon the data/information furnished by the State/UTs. In view of this, it is not necessary to set up a Vigilance Committee at National level.

1.12 The arguments put forth by the Ministry that it is not necessary to set up a Vigilance Committee at National level to check the diversion and misutilisation of funds earmarked under the Special Component Plan Scheme is not acceptable to the Committee. The reasons put forth by the Ministry that a Vigilance Committee at National level can function as a Monitoring Committee only as the audit of State accounts come under the purview of Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the Committee has to rely upon the data/information furnished by the States/UTs is not at all convincing. In their view several shortcomings in the implementation of scheme by the State Governments are still persisting which need in-depth monitoring at the National level. While reiterating their earlier recommendation, the Committee are of the view that in order to check effectively the diversion and misutilisation of funds earmarked under SCP Scheme, the Ministry should set up a Vigilance Committee at the National level.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No. 1, Para 1.12)

2.1 The Committee note that the Special Component Plan Scheme was introduced in the year 1979 for channelising the flow of funds/outlays for the development and welfare of Scheduled Castes through specific schemes. The Committee, however, regret to note that the funds proposed by the Ministry of Welfare for Special Component Plan Schemes in their Plan outlay for the last three financial years was not acceded to by the Planning Commission and the funds allocated to the Ministry were not enough to meet the committed liability of the Ministry towards the scheme. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the matter may be taken up at the highest level with the Planning Commission for enhancing the budget-allocation during the Ninth Five Year Plan period to enable the Ministry to run the Scheme effectively.

Reply of Government

2.2 Planning Commission in their circular to all States and Central Ministries have intimated that the initial estimate of the public sector outlay for the Ninth Five Year Plan could be around Rs. 800 thousand crore at 1996-97 prices which is about 35% more than the Eighth Plan anticipated expenditure. The Commission have, therefore, instructed the States and Central Ministries to initially frame their Ninth Plan proposals on the basis of such an assumption. The Ministry of Welfare have, however, proposed Rs. 1845.50 crore for Special Central Assistance for Ninth Five Year Plan. This is about 42.41% more than the budget allocations for this scheme during Eighth Five Year Plan. The budget allocation for the first year of Ninth Plan *i.e.* for 1997-98 is Rs. 326.60 crore. It is about 18.76% more than the budget allocation for 1996-97. The final approval for Ninth Plan proposal for the scheme is yet to be known from the Planning Commission.

Recommendation (Sl No. 3, Para 3.16)

2.3 The Committee are distressed to note that the allocation to the Special Component Plan by States/UTs has been between 10 to 11%

and it has never reached to the level of SC population percentage in the country i.e. 16.48%. In some of the States namely Assam, Gujarat, Maharashtra the allocation to SCP has been 6.68%, 4.23% and 5.17% respectively. Further the average percentage of expenditure out of the amounts allocated has been ranging between 6.30% and 9.64%. The reasons for shortfall put forth by the Ministry that the funds were spent on the sectors like power, electricity, bridges and roads are not at all satisfying to the Committee. Despite the clear guidelines issued by the Government in regard to allocation of funds by States/UTs in proportion to the SC population in their respective States, most of the States have not allocated funds for SCP so far. This clearly shows the lack of initiative, coordination and monitoring. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Welfare should take up the issue with the States/UTs and ensure that the allocation of funds for SCP reaches to the SC population percentage during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Reply of Government

2.4 The Ministry of Welfare have been repeatedly insisting upon the States/UTs to ensure allocation for SCP in proportion to SC population percentage in the respective State/UT. In January 1997, the Welfare Minister has requested the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission that Annual Plans of Central ministries as well as States should not be finally approved unless they formulate SCP and allocate resources in proportion to the SC population.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para 5.7)

2.5 The Committee note that the Ministry of Welfare has set up a Monitoring Cell called "PREM Division" but the officers in that Division have been allocated other duties. In view of the Committee the officers of "PREM Division" should be entrusted with Planning, research and evaluation work only so that the Monitoring Cell run smoothly.

Reply of Government

2.6 The PREM Division of the Ministry of Welfare have been entrusted with the work relating to planning, research and evaluation.

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY

Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para 3.17)

3.1 The Committee are further constrained to note that the States/UTs are utilising SCA funds in the areas like power, electricity, bridges and roads etc. In fact the SCA funds is meant for Scheduled Castes to raise their income through specific schemes and areas like power, electricity, bridges etc. do not help Scheduled Castes directly in the upliftment of their living conditions. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Welfare should make all out efforts to ensure that the funds allocated under SCP should not be diverted to other sectors and are utilised in the upliftment of the living conditions of Scheduled Castes. Also the Ministry should immediately take up the matter with State Governments for opening of separate budget heads for SCA to SCP so that the funds allocated under SCP are not misutilised.

Reply of Government

3.2 As per the guidelines on utilisation of *Special Central Assistance*, the States/UTs have to utilise the funds in conjunction with SCP on income generating economic development schemes, infrastructure development incidental to income generation, skill development training in appropriate technologies and other training programmes useful for self employment, etc. for Scheduled Castes. *As per the amplified guidelines issued in 1993, SCA funds can also be utilised for infrastructure developmental programmes in the blocks having 50% or more of SC population subject to the condition that the SCA allocation should be made use of in such a way as to encourage larger efforts on development of Scheduled Castes on the part of States/UTs. The Ministry of Welfare thoroughly analyse the scheme-wise utilisation of SCA funds through the annual progress reports on utilisation of SCA*

furnished by the States/UTs. in the prescribed proforma devised for the purpose, to watch the diversion of SCA funds, if any, to other purposes which are not related to SC development. As regards opening of separate budget heads for SCP/SCA to SCP, 18 States have already opened the same and the remaining 5 States and 1 UT have initiated action to open separate budget head for SCP. The matter has been taken up with the concerned Chief Ministers/Administrator i.e. the Chief Ministers of Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Goa and the Administrator of Chandigarh Admn.

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION

Recommendation (Sl No. 2, Para 2.11)

4.1 The Committee note that the Ministry of Welfare are not having an authentic data of Scheduled Castes living below the poverty line. Consequent upon the recommendation made by the Committee in their Fifth Report on Demands for Grants for the year 1994-95 to conduct a State-wise survey on a time bound scale, the Ministry of Welfare entrusted the survey work to NSSO after taking into account the 1991 Census Report. The Committee have been informed by the Ministry that though the Survey Report was expected by the end of 1995 or early part of 1996 from National Sample Survey Organisation, yet the same has not been received by them so far. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Welfare should take up the issue with NSSO and Planning Commission on priority for early release of Survey Report and progress achieved in this regard should be communicated to the Committee within three Months time.

Reply of Government

4.2 Poverty Estimates for SC & ST population has since been received from Planning Commission (Perspective Planning Division). As per the information received from the Planning Commission, *the Commission has adopted the methodology outlined in the report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor to estimate the incidence of poverty at national and state level separately for rural and urban areas. These estimates relate to the all sections of population taken together. State-wise poverty lines were worked out from state specific price indices separately in rural and urban areas. These in conjunction with the state specific distribution of persons in different expenditure groups as obtained from the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure produced the poverty ratio.*

4.3. *The Expert Group did not specify a separate methodology of estimation of poverty for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population. The data at hand do not allow estimation of separate poverty lines for SCs and STs. The distribution of persons in different expenditure groups, however, are available separately for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from the NSS data on consumer expenditure of 50th Round. The incidence of poverty among SC and ST population have been worked out by the Planning Commission from the respective States distribution of persons in different expenditure groups and the poverty lines of all population. All India poverty ratio for SCs and STs is worked out from the NSS distribution of persons and (implicit) all-India poverty line. The estimates of poverty for SCs and STs are made for 16 major States only because of limitations of data.*

4.4 As per the estimates made by the Planning Commission, the percentage of SC population below the poverty line in the country during 1993-94 was 48.11 in rural areas and 49.48 in urban areas. State-wise details of SC population below poverty line during 1993-94 in respect of 16 States are given below:

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3.	Bihar	70.66	55.16
4.	Gujarat	32.26	44.99
5.	Haryana	46.66	23.58
6.	Himachal Pradesh	36.89	18.52
7.	Karnataka	46.36	61.59
8.	Kerala	36.43	31.59

1	2	3	4
9.	Madhya Pradesh	45.83	65.00
10.	Maharashtra	51.64	52.56
11.	Orissa	48.95	47.45
12.	Punjab	22.08	27.96
13.	Rajasthan	38.38	48.63
14.	Tamil Nadu	44.05	61.50
15.	Uttar Pradesh	58.99	58.02
16.	West Bengal	45.29	37.73

Comments of the Committee

Please See Para 1.8 of Chapter I.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para 5.6)

4.5 The Committee regret to note that the Ministry of Welfare does not have a thorough monitoring mechanism for evaluation and implementation of Special Component Plan. The Ministry has, however, suggested that Special Component Plan formulation and implementation will be improved if separate budget heads are opened for SCP and Social Welfare Departments of State Governments are made the nodal agency. In view of the Committee the monitoring mechanism of the Ministry should be strengthened and the suggestions given by the Ministry should be taken up at the highest level for its effective implementation by the State Governments. Also, the Ministry should set up a Vigilance Committee at the National level to check the diversion and misutilisation of funds earmarked under Special Component Plan Scheme. The Committee are also of the view that there should be monitoring Committees at State and District levels so that the benefits of the scheme reaches the grass root level.

Reply of Government

4.6 Funds for Special Component Plans of States are earmarked by the States from their State Plan outlays under various sectors of

development. The Central Government provide Special Central Assistance to States as an additive to their Special Component Plans for SCs and the States have to utilise the funds in conjunction with SCP on income generating schemes of economic development of SCs. Special Central Assistance is to give an added thrust to family oriented schemes of economic development of SCs by providing resources for filling the critical gaps and for providing vital missing inputs so that the schemes can be more meaningful. States are, therefore, required to monitor progress of implementation of schemes and proper utilisation of funds by various implementing agencies. States are already having Monitoring Committees at State and District levels. Opening of separate budget heads for SCP by States is to ensure adequate allocation of funds for SCP and to check diversion/misutilisation of earmarked funds for SC welfare and development. Out of the 24 States/UTs implementing SCP for SCs, 18 have already opened separate budget heads for SCP. In the case of the remaining five States and one UT the matter has been taken up with the concerned Chief Ministers and Administrator to get the matter expedited within this Financial Year. The Ministry of Welfare review the SCP allocations by States annually and shortcomings in formulation and implementation of SCP in various sectors of the State Plans are communicated to the concerned States for taking necessary remedial actions. Wherever necessary, suggestions are given to States for improving/augmenting SCP allocations particularly in the sectors directly relevant to SC development. Officers of the Ministry also visit the States and review the implementation of schemes and utilisation of funds. Detailed discussions are held on the matter in the States' Welfare Ministers Conference organised by the Ministry. Recommendations of such conferences are circulated to the States/UTs for taking necessary action to implement the recommendations. The Ministry of Welfare do their best to monitor SCP allocation and expenditure by States/UTs. *A Vigilance Committee at national level can function as a monitoring committee only as the audit of State accounts come under the purview of Comptroller and Auditor General of India, and so the Committee has to rely upon the data/information furnished by the States/UTs. In view of this it is not necessary to set up a Vigilance Committee at national level.*

Comments of the Committee

Please See Para 1.12 of Chapter I.

CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED

Recommendation (Sl. No. 5, Para 4.8)

5.1 The Committee regret to note that only 13 out of 30 Central Ministries/Departments namely labour, HRD, Science, & Technology, and Department of Bio-Technology, Industry, Textiles, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare, Commerce, Fertilizer, Rural Development, Non-conventional Energy Sources, Agriculture and Cooperation have formulated Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes so far. Further only 9 Ministries have made allocation for the development of Scheduled Castes but without formulating a proper Plan. The reply of the Ministry that earmarking of funds is a difficult task for the Central Ministries is not satisfying to the Committee. Also such serious matter has never been raised in the Cabinet. In view of the Committee every Central Ministry/ Department whose activities have or can have a bearing on the development of Scheduled Castes should atleast identify such scheme which directly benefit the Scheduled Castes. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the matter should be pursued vigorously by placing it before the Cabinet so that other Central Ministries fall in line so far as formulation of Special Component Plan is concerned. Progress achieved in this regard may be communicated to the Committee within three month's time.

Reply of Government

5.2 A note from the Ministry of Welfare regarding various issues relating to Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, Minorities, Handicapped, etc. has been circulated to the Council of Ministers during the Cabinet meeting which approved the draft Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan. In January 1997, Welfare Minister had sent a copy of the note to the

Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission requesting him to take up this issue at the NDC meeting for a favourable decision. In the note relevant and comprehensive planning for SCs and STs from IX Plan onwards has been suggested and it contained the following salient points:—

- (i) The population-equivalent proportion of the total Plan provision of Centre (17% for SCs and 8% for STs) and of State and UT should be set apart the SCP for SCs and TSP for STs and placed at the disposal of the National SC and ST Development Authority (NSDA) and the State SC and ST Development Authority (SSDA), from the Ninth Plan onwards. This should be done before the Plan outlays divided sectorally. Similarly, at the district level, District SC/ST Development Authority (DSDA) similar to DRDA may be set up with the Collector or President, Zilla Parishad as Chairman to coordinate with the Central and State authorities and to implement specific programmes using population equivalent Plan funds for SC/ST.
- (ii) These Authorities should be responsible for formulating and approving national and State Plans—Annual Plans, Five Year Plan and Perspective Plan based on the developmental needs of the SCs and STs and their priorities from the point of view of the SCs and STs, keeping in view the vital dimensions for the economic liberation, educational equality and human condition of life.
- (iii) Based on the SCP and TSP formulated by the NSDA to the extent of 17% and 8% respectively of the total Plan outlay, it should make scheme-wise, programme-wise and sector-wise allocation of outlays and issue sanctions in favour of appropriate Ministries/Departments/Agencies who shall be accountable to the NSDA for proper implementation. The NSDA shall supervise, monitor and direct the implementation of the development plans so as to achieve their basic objective. The SSDA/DSDA will perform similar functions.

- (iv) The above authorities will make use of the existing infrastructure and expertise in the Planning Commission, Planning Boards, Ministries and Departments etc. to the maximum extent possible.

This comprehensive planning suggested for SCs and STs aim at ensuring adequate flow of benefits to them both in physical and financial terms.

5.3 However, the Ministry of Welfare is considering to place the issue of SCP formulation and allocation of funds for SCP by the Central Ministries/Departments before the Cabinet separately.

NEW DELHI;
17 June, 1998

27 Jyaistha, 1920 (Saka)

HARIN PATHAK,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare.

APPENDIX

Analysis of Action Taken by the Government on the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Eighth Lok Sabha)

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	7	
II. Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government (Nos. 1, 3 and 7)	3	42.87
III. Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government replies (No. 4)	1	14.29
IV. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee (Nos. 2 and 6)	2	28.56
V. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited (No. 5)	1	14.28

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE HELD
ON MONDAY, 16 JUNE, 1998

The Committee met from 16.00 hrs. to 18.00 hrs. in Committee Room No. 53, Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Harin Pathak — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Surender Singh Barwala
3. Smt. Sandhya Bauri
4. Shri Manibhai Ramjibhai Chaudhuri
5. Shri Jaysinhji Manshingji Chauhan
6. Shri Thawarchand Gehlot
7. Shri Bheru Lal Meena
8. Shri Aman Kumar Nagra
9. Shri Shankar Sakharam Nam
10. Shri N.K. Premachandran
11. Shri Khagapati Pradhani
12. Dr. Ram Lakhan Singh
13. Shri A. Siddaraju
14. Shri Virendra Kumar
15. Shri Sita Ram Yadav

Rajya Sabha

16. Shri Govindrao Adik
17. Shri Sanatan Bisi
18. Shri Bangaru Laxman

