

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

(FOURTH LOK SABHA)

EIGHTH REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Fourth Lok Sabha) on the Department of Social Welfare---Post-Matrice Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students for Studies in India.



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**COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES**

SHRI D. BASUMATARI—Chairman

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri P. C. Adichan
- *3. Shri Bhagaban Das
4. Sardar Buta Singh
5. Shri Benoy Krishna Daschowdhury
6. Shri Tulsiram Dashrath Kamble
7. Shri Bajj Nath Kureel
8. Shri V. Mayavan
9. Shri Meetha Lal Meena
10. Shrimati Minimata Agam Dass Guru
11. Shri Dahyabhai Parmar
12. Shri Nanubhai N. Patel
13. Shri Ramji Ram
14. Shrimati B. Radhabai Ananda Rao
15. Shri Bhola Raut
16. Chawdhury Sadhu Ram
17. Shri B. Shankaranand
18. Shri Suraj Bhan
19. Shri Ramchandra Ulaka
20. Shri R. S. Vidyarthi

Rajya Sabha

21. Shri M. V. Bhadram
22. Shri Ganeshi Lal Chaudhary
23. Shri K. S. Chavda
24. Shri B. T. Kemparaj
25. Shri Lokanath Misra
26. Shri Neki Ram

*Elected on 22.4.1970 *vice* Shri Jaipal Singh died.

(iv)

- *27. Shri E. M. Sangma
- **28. Shri K. P. Subramania Menon
- **29. Shri Sukhdeo Prasad
- 30. Shri Man Singh Varma

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary.*
2. Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary.*

*Ceased to be Member of the Committee on his retirement from Rajya Sabha with effect from 2nd April, 1970 and re-elected on 19th May, 1970.

**Elected on 19th May, 1970 *vice* Shri B.D. Khobaragade who resigned from the Committee with effect from 27th February, 1970 and Shri Dayaldas Kurre who ceased to be Member of the Committee on his retirement from Rajya Sabha with effect from 2nd April, 1970.

STUDY GROUP V

(ON ACTION TAKEN REPORTS)

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES

(1970)

1. Shri D. Basumatari—*Chairman*
2. Shri Benoy Krishna Daschowdhury—*Convenor*
3. Shri B. T. Kemparaj
4. Sardar Buta Singh
5. Shri Man Singh Varma
6. Shri Tulsiram Dashrath Kamble
7. Chaudhary Sadhu Ram
- *8. Shri E. M. Sangma
9. Shri Dahyabhai Parmar.

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary.*
2. Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary.*

* Nominated *vice* Shri Dyaldas Kurre who ceased to be Member of the Committee on his retirement from Rajya Sabha with effect from 2nd April, 1970.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Eighth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes contained in their Third Report (Fourth Lok Sabha) on the Department of Social Welfare—Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students for Studies in India.

2. On the 26th February, 1970, an "Action Taken" Study Group was appointed to scrutinise the replies received from Government in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Committee in their earlier Reports. The Study Group was constituted with the following Members:

1. Shri D. Basumatari—*Chairman*
2. Shri Benoy Krishna Daschowdhury—*Convener*
3. Shri B. T. Kemparaj
4. Sardar Buta Singh
5. Shri Man Singh Varma
6. Shri Tulsiram Dashrath Kamble
7. Chaudhary Sadhu Ram
- *8. Shri Dayaldas Kurre
9. Shri Dahyabhai Parmar.

3. The draft Report was considered and adopted by the Study Group at their sitting held on the 8th May, 1970 and finally adopted by the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on 20th May, 1970.

4. The Report has been divided into the following Chapters:—

- I. Report.
- II. Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government.
- III. Recommendations|Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee.

*Ceased to be Member of the Committee on his retirement from Rajya Sabha w.e.f. 2nd April, 1970.

5. For facility of reference the main conclusions/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report.

6. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Fourth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix. It would be observed therefrom that out of 13 recommendations made by the Committee in their Third Report nine minor recommendations have been accepted by Government but four important and crucial recommendations of the Committee have not been accepted by Government.

D. BASUMATARI,
Chairman,
Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

NEW DELHI;

July 14, 1970.

Asadha 23, 1892 (Saka).

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Committee deals with action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Third Report. (Fourth Lok Sabha) on the Department of Social Welfare—Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students for Studies in India. Action taken statements have been received on all the 13 recommendations contained in the Report.

1.2. In their Third Report (Para 3.22) the Committee after giving careful consideration to the implications of the treatment of the expenditure on the scheme for Post-Matric scholarships as non-Plan committed expenditure of the States up to the level of expenditure on the scheme in 1968-69 had observed that not only the existing level of expenditure on the scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be maintained in each State and Union Territory but that it should be considerably and suitably increased. The Committee had further recommended that the necessary amounts required for awarding Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be treated as a non-Plan committed expenditure of the Central Government. The scheme should continue to be treated as a Central scheme to be controlled and financed by the Central Government and to be operated by the State Governments.

1.3. In their reply dated the 4th April, 1970, the Department of Social Welfare have stated as follows:—

“This issue has been very carefully considered in consultation with the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. It was decided that the Plan outlay on the Centrally sponsored scheme of post-matric scholarships should represent the net increase over the level of expenditure on the scheme in 1968-69.”

1.4. The Committee regret that the Government have not accepted the salutary recommendation of the Committee that the entire expenditure on Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be treated as non-Plan committed expenditure of the Central Government even though the Minister of Law and Social Welfare had assured* Parliament that he would abide by the decision of this Committee with regard to the scheme of post-matric scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and would stay the implementation of the new order in its entirety till the Committee had given their decision. The Committee also regret to note that the order transferring the expenditure incurred on this

*See Rajya Sabha debate, Dt. 31.7.69, Cols. 1820-1838.

scheme as non-plan committed expenditure of State Governments was not rescinded or even stayed. The Committee would like to reiterate their earlier recommendations that (i) the entire expenditure on post-matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be treated as 'Non-Plan committed expenditure' of the Central Government; (ii) the scheme should continue to be treated as centrally sponsored scheme to be controlled and financed by the Central Government and to be operated by the State Governments; and (iii) not only the existing level of expenditure on the scheme of post-matric scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be maintained in each State and Union Territory but it should be considerably and suitably increased. The Committee would strongly emphasise that Government should accept the recommendations of the Committee in toto.

1.5. The Committee further observed in paras 4.9 and 4.10 of their Third Report (Fourth Lok Sabha) that they were constrained to observe that while the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had in his 1962-63 Report made a specific suggestion to the Government for increasing the rate of post-matric scholarships to meet the general rise in the cost of living, no positive action was taken by the Government in this direction, with the result that the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students, who were economically backward, continued to undergo great hardships in prosecuting their studies. The Committee however, felt encouraged by the assurance given by the Minister of Law and Social Welfare in Parliament that there would be 100 per cent increase in the rate of scholarships for those undergoing technical courses and 50 per cent in the case of those pursuing academic courses. The Committee hoped that the Ministry of Finance would give early clearance to the scheme so that it could be implemented without avoidable delay.

1.6. In their action taken note dated the 4th April, 1970, the Department of Social Welfare have stated:

"The question of enhancement of rates was considered but it was felt that it would be more desirable to cover as many students from the limited resources available rather than increase the value of the scholarships which may result in the restriction of the range of coverage under the Scholarships scheme."

1.7. The Committee regret that in spite of the clear assurance given by the Minister of Law and Social Welfare in Parliament that there should be increase in the quantum of scholarships for those

*At the time of factual verification the Department of Social Welfare has stated as follows :

"In view of the clarification given by the Minister of Law and Social Welfare in his letter dated the 16th August, 1969 (printed at page 84 of the Third Report of the Committee) it would not be correct to take the observations made in the Rajya Sabha as clear or categorical assurance."

doing technical and academic courses the Department of Social Welfare have stated that it would not be possible to effect any increase in the rate of scholarships. The Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire that this matter should be reconsidered and the categorical assurance given by the Minister on the Floor of the House be fully implemented.

1.8. In Para 5.21 of the same Report, the Committee after considering the economic backwardness of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also the rising cost of living, had recommended that Government should grant full scholarships to those students whose parents'/guardians' income did not exceed Rs. 800 per month. Half maintenance charges and full fee grant should be given to those students whose parents'/guardians' income exceeded Rs. 800 but did not exceed Rs. 1200 per month. In the case of students whose parents'/guardians' income exceeded Rs. 1200 per month no scholarship might be given. The Committee also recommended that no income limit should be fixed in the case of students who desired to pursue post-graduate studies and research, as no such limitations existed in regard to the Government of India's National Scholarship Scheme and National Loan Scholarship Scheme.

1.9. In their reply dated 4th April, 1970, the Department of Social Welfare have stated:

"The question of increasing the income limit upto Rs. 1000 p.m. for the award of post-matric scholarships was considered but could not be agreed to as the Government's entire scholarships programme is based on the criterion of economic backwardness. Even for the general students, the eligibility ceiling was recently reduced from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 500 p.m.

As regards exempting the post-graduate students from any income ceiling, the matter is under correspondence with the Finance Ministry."

1.10. The Committee are not convinced with the reply of the Department of Social Welfare. In their opinion, economic backwardness is a factor which prevents a large number of meritorious but poor Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students from pursuing a course of higher studies after the matriculation stage. Keeping in view the conditions under which such students live and study, the Committee are firmly of the opinion that the conditions of eligibility for award of post-Matric Scholarships should be liberalised on the lines recommended by them in para 5.21 of their Report. The Committee, therefore, would like to reiterate their earlier recommendation.

1.11. As regards (b) of the recommendation (exempting post-graduate students from any income ceiling), the Committee would like to be informed in due course about the decision taken by Government in the matter.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendations (Sl. Nos. 5, 6 & 7—Paras 5.22, 5.23 & 5.24)

The Committee are not convinced with the arguments advanced by the Department of Social Welfare for introducing an upper age-limit of 30 years to new scholarships. They do not agree with the conclusions arrived at by the Department of Social Welfare on the basis of stray cases stated to have been brought to their notice by the Government of West Bengal. The Committee feel that pursuit of courses like Homeopathy, Law, Humanities, etc. by the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons in service cannot be regarded as misuse of the scholarships. Rather the Committee are firmly of the opinion that the award of scholarships for these courses is both legitimate and proper.

The Committee are also unable to agree with the argument advanced by the Department of Social Welfare that the upper age-limit of 30 years is desirable because a candidate who is older than 30 years will normally be ineligible for Government service. People do not get educated merely to enter into Government service. An educated person has various avenues open to him to make a respectable living without entry into Government service. No statistics are available to the Committee as regards the number of students above 30 years of age who have availed of post-matric scholarships. The Committee, however, feel that the number of such cases would be very low. The Committee, therefore, do not find any justification for introducing an upper age-limit so as to prevent a negligible percentage of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students of 30 years and above from pursuing a course of higher studies. The Committee would urge that this upper age-limit of 30 years should be removed altogether.

In regard to the introduction of merit test in new regulations (1969-70), the Committee are of the view that no restriction whatsoever should be imposed on the admission of scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students to educational institutions or on grant of scholarships to them. The insistence on the requirement to obtain at least 45 per cent marks in the last qualifying examination for a post-graduate course is, in the opinion of the Committee, wholly unjustified. There is no bar to the employment under the Government of India or the Government of any State of a student who merely

obtains pass marks in his qualifying examination. The Committee, therefore, are unable to understand why a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribes student who graduates with less than 45 per cent marks should be debarred from the grant of scholarships for pursuing post-graduate studies. The Committee hope that the merit test in the new regulations, i.e. the requirement of 45 per cent marks at the last qualifying examination, will be done away with.

Reply of Government

The Government accepts the recommendations.

[Furnished with Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 9/56/69-SCT. III dated 4th April, 1970.]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 8 Para 5.25)

The Committee would also urge the Government to give urgent consideration to the recommendations made by the Yardi Working Group as well as the Elayaperumal Committee that the standard of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students at pre-matric stage should be raised by providing coaching facilities so that there is no wastage or stagnation at the post-matric stage.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been conveyed to the State Governments for consideration.

[(Furnished with Department of Social Welfare O. M. No. 9/56/69-SCT. III dated 4th April, 1970.)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 9, para 6.20)

The Committee note that with a view to avoid delay in the disbursement of post-matric scholarships, the scheme was decentralised in 1959-60 and the administration of the scheme was transferred from the Ministry of Education to the Department of Social Welfare in January, 1968. The Committee are constrained to note that there have been inordinate delays in the disbursement of scholarships. The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in his 16th Report (1966-67) has already invited the attention of the Government to the delays that take place in the disbursal of scholarships and has also suggested the steps that should be taken by the State Governments/Union Territories concerned to obviate such delays.

Reply of Government

The recommendation of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes made in the 16th Report has been forwarded to the State Government/Union Territory Administrations for

necessary action. The Department of Social Welfare constantly reviews the working of the scheme and takes suitable action to obviate delays in the award of scholarships.

[Furnished with Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 9/56/69-SCT. III dated 4th April, 1970.]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para 6.21)

The Committee, in particular, would like to invite the attention of the Government to the suggestion made by the Commissioner in his 17th Report that "the authorities concerned in all States/Union Territories should issue suitable instructions to the various educational institutions to ensure that before the applications of Scheduled Caste/Tribe students are forwarded to the State Governments/Union Territory Governments/Administrations, these are thoroughly vetted and checked to ensure that they have been filled properly and are complete in all respects. And, if in any particular case, it is discovered later by the authorities concerned that the application form is not properly filled, it should not be rejected and instead the institutions concerned should be requested to fill it properly and the student granted the scholarship due to him." The Committee hope that the above suggestion of the Commissioner would be given the consideration that it deserves. They also commend for adoption the procedure which is being followed by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh in this regard.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been conveyed to the State Governments/U. T. Administration for consideration.

[Furnished with Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 9/56/69-SCT. III dated 4th April, 1970.]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para 6.22)

The Committee note there is no official machinery in the Department of Social Welfare to deal with complaints regarding delayed payment of scholarships and that such complaints are received by the Zonal Directors and the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee suggest that the Department of Social Welfare should set up a specific cell within the Department for receiving complaints regarding non-payment or delay in the payment of scholarships. In this connection, they would also invite the attention of Government to the recommendation made by the Yardi Working Group that a cell should be set up in the Centre and in the States to obtain complete information about the number of students getting scholarships in each course, number appearing in the examinations and number passing. The Committee hope that

the cell suggested for receiving complaints would also be made responsible for collecting the type of information suggested by the yardi Working Group.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been noted and the Ministry of Finance is being approached. The recommendation has also been conveyed to the State Governments/U.T. Administrations for consideration.

[Furnished with Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 9/56/69-SCT. III dated 4th April, 1970.]

Comments of the Committee

The final decision taken in the matter may be communicated for the information of the Committee.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para 6.23)

While the Committee appreciate the steps taken by the Department of Social Welfare to bridge the time-gap between the receipt of applications and the award of scholarships, they would urge that vigorous steps should be taken in cooperation with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for expeditious disposal of applications. The Committee would like to reiterate the recommendations of the Elayaperumal Committee that the students should be awarded the scholarships within 30 days on submission of applications. It is for the concerned departments in the State to devise suitable methods for processing the applications and sanctioning them. The Department of Social Welfare should suggest suitable guide-lines to the States for their adoption.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been conveyed to the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. To eliminate delays in the payment of scholarships, the State Governments/U.T. Administrations have been advised to streamline the procedure by decentralisation of the authority (in the matter of disbursement) at District level and adopt measures like *ad hoc* advances, introduction of entitlement/identity card system etc. The Minister has recently addressed a letter to all Chief Ministers bringing to their pointed attention their recommendation that scholarships should be awarded within 30 days of the submission of application forms complete in all respects.

[Furnished with Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 9/56/69-SCT. III dated 4th April, 1970.]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para 6.26)

The Committee note that a pilot project for the direct disbursement of inter-State scholarships has been taken up for implementation in 1969-70 and the work has been entrusted to the Zonal Director posted at Chandigarh. The Committee hope that the experiment, if successful, would be gradually extended to other Zones.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been noted.

[Furnished with Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 9|56|69-SCT. III dated 4th April, 1970.]

Comments of the Committee

The result of the Pilot Project may be intimated to the Committee.

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation (Sl. No. 1, Para 3.22)

The Committee have given careful consideration to the implications of the treatment of the expenditure on the scheme for Post-Matric scholarships as non-Plan committed expenditure of the States up to the level of expenditure on the scheme in 1968-69. Whatever might have been the considerations with the Ministry of Finance or with the Planning Commission for introducing this change in the pattern of financing of this scheme, the Committee are of the view that this will jeopardise the educational interests of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled community. As the States will not be bound to make specific provisions upto a particular level for the award of Post-Matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Committee apprehend that the States, out of various considerations, may divert their resources to other projects which they might consider to be more urgent or more important. If this happens, the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students receiving these scholarships will go down considerably and this may retard the already none too satisfactory progress of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee, therefore, strongly urge that the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance should reconsider the matter and restore the same pattern for financing the scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students as existed prior to the year 1969-70. The Planning Commission and the Government of India have already agreed to meet the expenditure in excess of the level reached in 1968-69 on this scheme. After all the level of expenditure on this scheme in 1968-69 was only to the tune of Rs. 7 crores. The Committee are anxious that not only the existing level of expenditure on the scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be maintained in each State and the Union Territory but that it should be considerably and suitably increased. The Committee therefore recommend that the necessary amounts required for awarding post-Matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be treated as a non-Plan committed expenditure of the Central Government. The scheme should continue to be treated as a Central scheme to be controlled and financed by the Central Government and to be operated by the

State Governments. In this connection, the Committee note that the Department of Social Welfare have no objection to continue to operate the scheme as hitherto provided the necessary funds are placed at their disposal

Reply of Government

This issue has been very carefully considered in consultation with the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. It was decided that the Plan outlay on the Centrally sponsored scheme of post-matric scholarships should represent the net increase over the level of expenditure on the scheme in 1968-69.

[Furnished with Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 9/56/69-SCT. III dated 4th April, 1970.]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation (Sl. Nos. 2 & 3, Paras 4.9 & 4.10)

The Committee are constrained to observe that while the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had in his 1962-63 Report made a specific suggestion to the Government for increasing the rate of post-matric scholarships to meet the general rise in the cost of living, no positive action was taken by the Government in this direction, with the result that the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students, who are economically backward, continue to undergo great hardships in prosecuting their studies. Although a period of seven years has elapsed since the Commissioner's Report, the question of enhancement of the rate of scholarships has not yet been finalised. The Committee, however, feel encouraged by the assurance given by the Minister of Law and Social Welfare in Parliament that there would be 100 per cent increase in the rate of scholarships for those undergoing technical courses and 50 per cent in the case of those pursuing academic courses. The Committee hope that the Ministry of Finance would give early clearance to the scheme so that it could be implemented without avoidable delay.

The Committee are in agreement with the views expressed by the Elayaperumal Committee that the rate of scholarship should be linked with the cost of living and a formula for the revision of scholarships should be worked out by implementing authorities taking into consideration all the prevailing conditions.

Reply of Government

The question of enhancement of rates was considered but it was felt that it would be more desirable to cover as many students from

the limited resources available rather than increase the value of the scholarships which may result in the restriction of the range of coverage under the Scholarships Scheme.

[Furnished with Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 9|56|69-SCT. III dated 4th April, 1970.]

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para 5.21)

The Committee have considered the new regulations for the grant of post-matric scholarships and the conditions of eligibility contained therein. While the Committee appreciate that the cumbersome old system of 11 grades in the income slabs has been simplified and only three groups have been specified, they feel that there is scope for further liberalisation of the scheme so as to enable a larger number of poor and meritorious students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to pursue a course of higher studies after the matriculation stage. Considering the economic backwardness of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also the rising cost of living, the Committee recommend that Government should grant full scholarships to those students whose parents'/guardians' income does not exceed Rs. 800 per month. Half maintenance charges and full fee grant should be given to those students whose parents'/guardians' income exceeds Rs. 800|- but does not exceed Rs. 1200 per month. In the case of students whose parents'|guardians' income exceeds Rs. 1200 p. m. no scholarship may be given. The Committee would also recommend that no income-limit should be fixed in the case of students who desire to pursue post-graduate studies and research, as no such limitation exists in regard to the Government of India's National Scholarship Scheme and National Loan Scholarship Scheme.

Reply of Government

The question of increasing the income limit upto Rs. 1000 p.m. for the award of post-matric scholarships was considered but could not be agreed to as the Government's entire scholarships programme is based on the criterion of economic backwardness. Even for the general students, the eligibility ceiling was recently reduced from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 500 p.m.

As regards exempting the post-graduate students from any income ceiling the matter is under correspondence with the Finance Ministry.

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Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I.

D. BASUMATARI,
Chairman,
Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

NEW DELHI;

July 14, 1970.

Asadha 23, 1892 (Saka).

APPENDIX

(Vide Introduction)

Analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Fourth Lok Sabha).

I. Total number of recommendations	13
II. Recommendations which have been accepted by Government (<i>vide</i> recommendations at S. Nos. 5—13).	
Number	.. 9
Percentage to total	70
III. Recommendations Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee (<i>vide</i> recommendations at Sl. Nos. 1—4).	
Number	4
Percentage to total	.. 30

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