

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

(FIFTH LOK SABHA)

THIRD REPORT

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE
(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE)**

Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Fourth Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Department of Social Welfare and Ministry of Education and Youth Services Hostel Facilities for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Students.

(Presented on the 8th December, 1971)



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

December, 1971/Agrahayana, 1893 (S)

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Corrigenda

to the

Third Report of the Committee on the
Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Sched-
uled Tribes (Fifth Lok Sabha)

<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
(iv)	9	Mukerjee	Mukherjee
(v)	19	Under	Deputy
(viii)	10 & 11	IV. Recommenda- tions/Observa- tions in respect of which replies mendations	5. An analysis of the action taken by Govern- ment on the recommendations
	17	recomendations	recommendations
1	28	recomendation	recommendation
10	22	17th	27th
11	Second from bottom	are the	are of the
13	24	Scheme	Schemes,
14	34	expected	executed
	35	rport	report

C O N T E N T S

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE ON SCHEDULED CASTS AND SCHEDULED TRIBES (1971—73)	(iii)
COMPOSITION OF STUDY GROUP VII (1971) ON ACTION TAKEN REPORTS	(v)
INTRODUCTION	(vii)
CHAPTER I - Report	1
CHAPTER II - Recommendations Observations that have been accepted by Government	4
CHAPTER III - Recommendations Observations in respect of which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government replies	9
CHAPTER IV - Recommendations Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration	13
CHAPTER V - Recommendations in respect of which final reply has not been received from Government.	16
 APPENDICES	
I. Letter No. F. 19-6-71, T. 5 dated 5th February, 1971	20
II. Letter No. F 16-6-70-U.I. dated 27th February, 1971	22
III. Extract from Letter No. 10-2-71—RU, dated 27th August, 1971	23
IV. Analysis of the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations	26

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES (1971—73)

Sardar Buta Singh—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri B. K. Daschowdhury
3. Shri D. Deb
4. Shri Hukam Chand Kachwai
5. Kumari Kamla Kumari
6. Shri Arjun Shripat Kasture
7. Shri M. Kathamuthu
8. Shri Kinder Lal
9. Shri Nihar Laskar
10. Shri Kartik Oraon
11. Shri Bhaljibhai Ravjibhai Parmar
12. Shri Dhan Shah Pradhan
13. Shri K. Pradhani
14. Shri Ram Dhan
15. Shri Ram Swaroop
16. Swami Ramanand Shastri
17. Shri S. M. Siddayya
18. Shri Babu Nath Singh
19. Shri K. Subravelu
20. Shri Tulmohan Ram

Rajya Sabha

21. Shri G. A. Appan
22. Shri Balram Das
23. Shri Golap Barbora

(iv)

24. Shri Ganeshi Lal Chaudhary
25. Shri B. T. Kemparaj
26. Shri K. P. Subramania Menon
27. Shri Brahmananda Pandā
28. Shri Roshan Lal
29. Shri Sukhdev Prasad
30. Shi Melhupra Vero.

SECRETARIAT

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

STUDY GROUP VI

(On Action Taken Reports)

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES (1971)

1. Sardar Buta Singh—*Chairman*
2. Shri G. A. Appan—*Convener*
3. Shri Kartik Oraon
4. Shri K. P. Subramania Menon
5. Shri B. K. Daschowdhury
6. Shri Arjun Shripat Kasture
7. Shri S. M. Siddayya
8. Shri Sukhdev Prasad
9. Shri Golap Barbora
10. Kumari Kamla Kumari
11. Shri Ganeshi Lal Chaudhary
12. Shri B. T. Kemparaj
13. Shri Nihar Laskar.

SECRETARIAT

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

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 Third Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes contained in their Seventeenth Report (Fourth Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Department of Social Welfare and Ministry of Education and Youth Services—Hostel Facilities for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students.

2. On the 14th October, 1971, a Study Group on Action Taken Report 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. Sardar Buta Singh—*Chairman*
2. Shri G. A. Appan—*Convener*
3. Shri Kartik Oraon
4. Shri K. P. Subramania Menon
5. Shri B. K. Daschowdhury
6. Shri Arjun Shripat Kasture
7. Shri S. M. Siddayya
8. Shri Sukhdev Prasad
9. Shri Golap Barbora
10. Kumari Kamla Kumari
11. Shri Ganeshi Lal Chaudhary
12. Shri B. T. Kemparaj
13. Shri Nihar Laskar

3. The draft Report was considered and adopted by the Study Group at their sitting held on the 30th November, 1971, and finally adopted by the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the 7th December, 1971.

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

I. Report.

II. Recommendations|Observations that have been accepted by Government.

III. Recommendations|Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies.

IV. Recommendations|Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration.

V. Recommendations in respect of which final replies have not been received from Government.

IV. Recommendations|Observations in respect of which replies contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Fourth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix IV. It would be observed therefrom that out of 25 recommendations made by the Committee in their Seventeenth Report, 10 recommendations have been accepted by Government; 6 recommendations the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies; 4 recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee; and final replies are awaited in respect of 5 recommendations.

BUTA SINGH,
Chairman.

Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

NEW DELHI;

December 7, 1971

Agrahayana 16, 1893 (S)

CHAPTER I

REPORT

The Committee in para 2.30 of their **Seventeenth Report** (Fourth Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Department of Social Welfare and Ministry of Education and Youth Services—**Hostel Facilities for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students** had observed that funds allotted for construction of hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students were often diverted by State Governments to other heads of expenditure and sometimes this was done with the approval of the Government of India, which was also contributory factor in the shortfall in the achievement of physical targets of the scheme. The Committee were strongly of the view the Government of India should have a definite policy so that such diversion of funds could not be resorted to by the State Governments. They were also of the view that the matter should be discussed at the Chief Ministers' Conference so that diversion of funds allotted for construction of hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students did not take place in future.

1.2. Government in their reply dated June 3, 1971 stated:—

“The recommendation is accepted in so far as the Central sector scheme is concerned. As for the scheme of hostels under the State sector, it may be mentioned that as per the general policy approved by the National Development Council, the Central assistance to the States for implementing the schemes in the State plans are in the form of block grants and loans, and are not tied to individual heads of development.”

1.3. While reiterating their recommendation, the Committee would like to observe that it should be the responsibility of the Department of Social Welfare to evolve, in consultation with the State Governments and Planning Commission a system under which no diversion of funds earmarked by the State Governments for the welfare of Scheduled Caste/Tribe students could be resorted to.

1.4. In para 3.14 the Committee recommended that the research and statistical unit of the Department of Social Welfare should undertake a study through their own agency about the actual utilisation of hostel facilities by students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the overall shortage being felt by them and

the projects being executed at different levels to meet the shortage and submit a report to the Committee in due course.

1.5. In their reply dated June 3, 1971, Government stated:—

“The recommendation is noted. It is, however, added that due to limitation of resources and staff the study by Research Unit, has necessarily to be a sample study of the problem.”

1.6. The Committee would like to stress that in the absence of authentic data about the actual availability and utilisation of hostel facilities for Scheduled Caste/Tribe students, it is absolutely necessary that such a comprehensive study is undertaken to assess the shortfalls and requirements of hostel facilities for Scheduled Caste/Tribe students.

1.7. In para 3.30 the Committee urged that the administrative machinery in the Department of Social Welfare should be improved so that any complaint of discrimination made towards Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in any educational institutions, hostels, etc., especially those run with assistance given by the Central and State Governments, was investigated in the field and proper remedial action taken. Such cases should be brought before De-Parliament through the Annual Reports of the Department in suitable form to focus public attention to such anachronism in social life.

1.8. Government in their reply dated June 3, 1971 stated:—

“Education is a State subject. Accordingly, if any complaint is received it is forwarded to the State Government concerned for comments; if necessary, remedial measures are also suggested. The State Governments through their own machinery investigate into such complaints and take remedial measures.

The Department of Social Welfare does not have the necessary personnel to investigate in the field all complaints of discrimination. However, there is already a machinery at the Central level, viz., the organisation of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to safeguard the interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in respect of all matters including investigation of complaints of discrimination in educational institutions. Such areas, if the Commissioner thinks fit, may be brought

to the notice of Parliament through his annual reports. The recommendations have been brought to the notice of the Office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes."

1.9. The Department has referred to the organisation of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and suggested that such investigations could be done by the organisation and that the Commissioner, if he thought fit, could bring such matters to the notice of Parliament through his Annual Reports. The Committee are surprised that the Department should make such a suggestion when the field organisation of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been crippled and the Commissioner deprived of his 'eyes and ears' in the country. Since the field organisation of the Commissioner, as it existed before 1967, has not yet been restored by Government despite recommendations of this Committee in their First and Sixth Reports (Fourth Lok Sabha) and the Department of Social Welfare has its own Zonal Directors in all the zones of the country there is no reason why they should not be in a position to investigate complaints of discrimination against Scheduled Caste/Tribe students, in educational institutions, hostels, etc. and send their own reports to the Director General, Backward Classes Welfare.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS|OBSERVATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN AC- CEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No. 1, Para 1.12)

The Committee note that one of the functions of the Central Department of Social Welfare is to allocate and release funds for the hostels facilities to State Governments from the Backward Classes Sector. They also keep track of implementation of the scheme through the Zonal Directors of the Director General, Backward Classes Welfare and review the half-yearly progress reports furnished by the State Governments|Union Territory Administrations. The Committee, however, are constrained to observe that the field of operation of a Zonal Director is an extensive one and he has hardly got the time to visit all the hostels in his zone which have been constructed through Central Government funds. The Zonal Director can at best perform only sampling work. The Committee are unhappy that the Central Government only acts as the agency for the transmission of the reports of the Zonal Directors to the State Governments and that there is no machinery to see that the defects pointed out by the Zonal Directors are actually remedied by the State Governments. The Committee suggest that Central Government should persuade the State Governments to send to them detailed notes about the action taken on the reports furnished by the Zonal Directors in regard to the management of the hostels. It should be the responsibility of the Central Government to see that the money allocated by them is utilised for the purpose for which it is sanctioned.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU dated June 3, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para 1.13)

The Committee also suggest that the State Governments|Union Territory Administrations should be asked to furnish half-yearly progress reports to the Central Department of Social Welfare on a regular basis.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted. The State Governments/Union territory Administrations have been addressed accordingly.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 5, Para 1.36)

The Committee are strongly of the view that the Central Department of Social Welfare should be concerned more closely with the projects executed with the Central Government aid and they should be posted with more up-to-date information about the construction and maintenance of hostels run by non-official organisations.

Reply of Government

Recommendation is accepted.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para 2.29)

The Committee note that Governments at the Central and the State levels have accepted, as a principle, that setting up of hostels is an important step in the direction of promotion of educational facilities among Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students and that a Centrally sponsored scheme for construction of hostels for girls students belonging to these communities was specifically started during the last two years of the Second Plan to augment the activities of the State Governments in this field. Judging by the real achievements, the Committee are unhappy to find that there have generally been heavy shortfalls in the field of achievement in the projects both in the Central as well as the State Sectors. It is all the more surprising that reasons for shortfalls in the Central Sector scheme have not been furnished by many of the State Governments.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is noted.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like that there should be positive achievements in the implementation of the scheme and that the shortfalls should be made up as quickly as possible. The Department may apprise the Committee about the progress made in this regard.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 9, Para 2.31)

The Committee note that the Department of Social Welfare allocates funds from the Central sector for construction of hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe girls in backward areas, but that the Department has no specific guidelines in the matter of determining backwardness of an area. This pre-supposes that Government are not clear in their mind as to what should be categorised as backward areas for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee feel that the only criterion for setting up such hostels should be the need and demand coming from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para 3.11)

The Committee note that the Government of India have accepted as a policy the system of reserving for non-Scheduled Caste/non-Scheduled Tribe students a percentage of seats in existing hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students. Government do not, however, have up-to-date and authentic information about the actual utilisation by students belonging to other communities, of hostel facilities provided at State expenditure for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is noted. The State Governments have been addressed to let this Department know the extent to which hostel facilities provided for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being utilised by students belonging to other communities.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para 3.13)

The Committee therefore are of the view that Governments' administrative machinery should be geared up to ensure that benefits of hostels constructed and maintained at State expenditure for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students are utilised primarily by students belonging to such communities. Government should also ensure that all general hostels constructed with funds provided by the Governments at the Central and State levels or maintained by non-official agencies with grants given by the Government make suitable provision for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students and that efforts be made to attract them in larger numbers.

Reply of Government

The above recommendation has been forwarded to all the State Governments, universities, engineering colleges, polytechnics in the country and the University Grants Commission for compliance. A copy each of this Ministry Circular No. F. 19-6/71-T.5, dated 5th February, 1970 and No. F. 16-6/70-U-I, dated 27th February, 1971 is enclosed (vide Appendices I and II).

[Ministry of Education and Youth Services No. F. 7-1/71-P1g. I, dated March 31, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 14 Para 3.19)

The Committee note that the Central Department of Social Welfare are not directly concerned with framing of rules for providing amenities in hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students as the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are directly concerned with them and that whenever complaints regarding the maintenance of these hostels are brought to their notice, these are taken up with the Governments concerned.

Reply of Government

The observation of the Committee is noted.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 17, Para 3.36)

The Committee are glad to note that coaching facilities are at present being provided in hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in many States. The Committee would suggest that

the Department of Social Welfare should undertake a study through the Zonal Directors of the coaching facilities provided to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in hostels maintained/run by the State Governments and voluntary organisations with the assistance from the Government.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted. The Zonal Directors of Backward Classes Welfare have been asked to undertake the proposed study.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 18, Para 3.39)

The Committee note with concern that hostel facilities provided for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by Government have been availed of by persons who are not *bona fide* students. This is tantamount to the misuse of hostel facilities. The Committee would urge that quick remedial action should be taken whenever such a situation comes to the notice of Government.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is noted.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation (SI No. 3, Para 1.18)

The Committee note that for schemes of hostel facilities, funds under the State Sector are budgeted by the State Governments and for the schemes under the Central Sector, by the Department of Social Welfare. The Department of Social Welfare do not, however, have detailed information about the names and salient features of the schemes, the estimate of expenditure, scheduled period for their completion, and progress made, etc. The Committee would urge that the Central Social Welfare Department should set in motion suitable administrative machinery so that at least full details about the Centrally sponsored programmes for provision of hostel facilities for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe girls are readily available. Collection of all necessary data in respect of State Sector schemes should also be the responsibility of such a machinery.

Reply of Government

The Central Sector scheme provides only for construction of buildings for Girl's Hostels. Pattern of the scheme as well as its salient features have been clearly laid down by the Government of India *vide* letter No. 15/19/70-SCT-III, dated 10th October, 1970 (para-76 of the Report). As the Scheme is executed by the State Governments who themselves examine the proposals for the hostels, they are supposed to have all details about the scheme with them. As recommended by the Committee the State Governments have been addressed to send full details of the hostels built under the scheme. No special administrative machinery, however, appears necessary. Similar information will also be collected in respect of hostels under the State Sector scheme.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para 1.35)

The Committee note that assistance for construction of hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students is given in the form of grants-in-aid directly by the Central Government in case of non-official organisations of all India status and that they have a small budget head under which a few cases of grants-in-aid are being sanctioned each year. The Committee, however, regret that even in regard to grants-in-aid to voluntary organisations the Central Government have no adequate machinery to ensure the proper utilisation of funds, or of maintenance of hostels built with such funds.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is noted.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para 3.12)

The Committee also note that Government's information about the actual utilisation by Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students of seats reserved for them in general hostels is also meagre.

Reply of Government

The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested *vide* Department of Social Welfare letter No. 10/2/71-RU dated the 17th August, 1971 (extract enclosed, *vide* Appendix III) to collect and furnish information in the prescribed proforma about the actual utilisation by Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students of seats reserved for them in the general hostels.

Comments of the Committee

The Department of Social Welfare may inform the Committee of the position after replies from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been received.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15, Para 3.20)

The Committee are strongly of the view that the responsibility for conducting a review of the conditions prevailing in the hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students rests entirely with the Department of Social Welfare and they should bring all

deficiencies in maintenance of the hostels to the notice of the concerned State Governments|Union Territory Administrations and see that suitable remedial action is taken.

Reply of Government

This recommendaion is already been implemented by the Department of Social Welfare. The Zonal Directors, Backward Classes Welfare conduct review of hostels on sample basis. The deficiencies noticed by them are brought to the notice of the concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for remedial action.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

The Department may furnish copies of the sample surveys made by Zonal Directors to the Committee for information.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 24, Para 3.57)

The Committee recommend that an independent study should immediately be conducted through the field organisation of the Department of Social Welfare about the hostel facilities for Scheduled Tribe students of the Backward areas of Koraput District of Orissa. A report on the findings and the action taken thereon may be furnished to the Committee in due course.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted. The Zonal Director, Backward Classes Welfare, Patna has been addressed accordingly.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

A copy of the report of the Zonal Director, Backward Classes Welfare, Patna, may be furnished to the Committee, when available.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 25, Para 3.60)

The Committee take note of the gradual taking over by the Government of Tamil Nadu of Scheduled Caste students hostels run by private management for efficient management. They are the view that this is a move in the right direction.

Reply of Government

The observation of the Committee is noted. This has been brought to the notice of all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para 1.39)

The Committee regret to note that the Department of Social Welfare does not have any detailed data about the problem of hostel facilities for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students throughout the country. The Committee would urge that a survey should be undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare or by the Planning Commission so that a long-term plan for constructions of hostels could be prepared for implementation on a phased basis.

Reply of Government

The Department of Social Welfare does not have suitable machinery for an all-India comprehensive survey to assess the requirements of hostel facilities for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students throughout the country. The Planning Commission has also expressed their inability to undertake such a survey. The Zonal Directors of Backward Classes Welfare have, however, been asked to conduct sample studies on the lines recommended by the Committee, in its recommendations No. 13 (para 3.14) contained in this report.

It may, however, be mentioned that as and when need of a hostel is felt the State Governments are supposed to come forward with proposals for grants under the Central and State Sector Scheme and these proposals are examined keeping in view the financial resources available in the Backward Classes Welfare Sector. It may also be added that as the Backward Classes Sector schemes are only supplemental to the General Sector schemes, it is difficult to have a long term plan for the Backward Classes Sector independent of the General Sector programmes.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

The Committee would like to reiterate the recommendation and stress that a survey should be undertaken by the Department of

Social Welfare or by the Planning Commission so that a long-term plan for construction of hostels could be prepared for implementation on a phased basis.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para 2.30)

The Committee are distressed to note that funds allotted for construction of hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students are often diverted by State Governments to other heads of expenditure and sometimes this is done with the approval of the Government of India, which is also a contributory factor in the shortfall in the achievement of physical targets of the scheme. The Committee are strongly of the view that the Government of India should have a definite policy so that such diversion of funds cannot be resorted to by the State Governments. They are also of the view that the matter should be discussed at the Chief Ministers' Conference so that diversion of funds allotted for construction of hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students does not take place in future.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted, in so far as the Central Sector scheme is concerned. As for the scheme of Hostels under the State Sector, it may be mentioned that as per the general policy approved by the National Development Council, the Central assistance to the States for implementing the schemes in the State Plans are in the form of block grants and loans, and are not tied to individual heads of development.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10|2|71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I (para 1.3)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para 3.14)

The Committee also urge that the research and statistical unit of the Department of Social Welfare should undertake a study through their own agency about the actual utilisation of hostel facilities by students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the overall shortage being felt by them and the projects being expected at different levels to meet the shortage and submit a report to the Committee in due course.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is noted. It is, however, added that due to limitation of resources and staff, the study by Research Unit has necessarily to be a sample study of the problem.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I (para 1.6)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 16, Para 3.30)

The Committee urge that the administrative machinery in the Department of Social Welfare should be improved so that any complaint of discrimination made towards Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in any educational institutions, hostels, etc., especially those run with assistance given by the Central and State Governments, is investigated in the field and proper remedial action is taken. Such cases should be brought before the Parliament through the Annual Reports of the Department in suitable form to focus public attention to such anachronism in social life.

Reply of Government

Education is a State subject. Accordingly, if any complaint is received, it is forwarded to the State Government concerned for comments; if necessary, remedial measures are also suggested. The State Governments through their own machinery investigate into such complaints and take remedial measures.

The Department of Social Welfare does not have the necessary personnel to investigate in the field all complaints of discrimination. However, there is already a machinery at the Central level, viz., the organisation of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to safeguard the interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in respect of all matters including investigation of complaints of discrimination in educational institutions. Such areas, if the Commissioner thinks fit, may be brought to the notice of Parliament through his annual reports. The recommendation has been brought to the notice of the Office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

Please see Chapter I (para 1.9)

CHAPTER V

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

Recommendation (Sl. No. 19, Para 3.42)

Considering the rise in the cost of living, the Committee feel that an up-ward revision of hostel grants to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students is called for. The Committee hope that an early decision in the matter will be taken.

Reply of Government

Hostel facilities to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being provided under the Central Sector and State Sector programmes. So far as the Central Sector programme is concerned, funds are made available to the States for construction of buildings only @Rs. 1,500 per resident student, if residential accommodation as well as ancillary facilities like dining halls, kitchens, sanitary blocks, etc. have to be provided and @Rs. 1,000 per resident student if only residential accommodation is to be provided. The limitation of resources does not permit any increase in the quantum of grant to the State Governments.

Under the State Sector programme, as per the policy decision the Central Government provides assistance to the States in the form of block grants and loans and this assistance is not tied to individual heads of development. Therefore, for any upward revision of hostel grants including rates of stipend, proposal has to be considered by the State Government concerned. The recommendation of the Committee has been forwarded to the State Governments for necessary action.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

The question of upward revision of the rates of hostel grants should be pursued vigorously with the State Government until position results are achieved. The final action taken by the authorities

concerned in the matter may be indicated for information of the Committee.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 20, Para 3.44)

The Committee deplore the inordinate delay in the finalisation of the scheme of construction of Scheduled Caste girls' hostel in Delhi. They hope that the Delhi Administration and the Department of Social Welfare would process the scheme with utmost expedition.

Reply of Government

The delay in the finalisation of scheme of construction of Scheduled Caste girls' hostel in Delhi is not due to any indecision on the part of Government. The Delhi Administration has been aware of the existence of the Central Government Scheme since long and in fact it availed of the Central assistance during the year 1969-70 as per the rules. During the year 1970-71, the proposal of the Delhi Administration was defective in-as-much-as for the maintenance of the hostel no provision was made in the State Sector. As soon as revised proposal is received, it would be dealt with expeditiously. The Committee's recommendation has been forwarded to the Delhi Administration for necessary action.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No: 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

The Committee are not satisfied with the reasons for delay in finalisation of the scheme for construction of the Scheduled Caste girls' hostel in Delhi. The Committee, therefore, reiterate that the Delhi Administration and the Department of Social Welfare would process the scheme without any further delay and inform the Committee of the final outcome.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 21, Para 3.47)

The Committee note that under the scheme of cosmopolitan hostels run by voluntary organisations in Gujarat, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students are paid stipends at the enhanced rate of Rs. 35 per month so that they are able to live with non-Scheduled Caste and non-Scheduled Tribe students. The Committee trust that the Department of Social Welfare would persuade other State Governments to pay stipends at enhanced rates to Scheduled Caste/Tribe students joining cosmopolitan hostels.

Reply of Government

The recommendation of the Committee has been forwarded to the State Governments.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

The Department of Social Welfare should not content itself by merely forwarding the recommendations of the Committee to the State Governments. It should persuade them to implement the recommendations and inform the Committee of the action taken by each of the States.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 22, Para 3.51)

The Committee hope that the Department of Social Welfare will take up with the Madhya Pradesh Government the question of improving the standard of hostels for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in that State. The Zonal Director (Backward Classes Welfare) should also inspect the hostels from time to time and report the conditions prevailing there to the Department of Social Welfare.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted. The Madhya Pradesh Government and the Zonal Director, Backward Classes Welfare, Bhopal have been addressed accordingly.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU, dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

The matter may be pursued with the State Government by the Department of Social Welfare. The position may be reviewed at the end of a year and a report indicating how far the standard of hostels has improved may be furnished for information of the Committee.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 23, Para 3.54)

The Committee would urge that reservations of seats for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students should be made in the general hostels run and maintained by private agencies in Maharashtra with assistance from the State Government.

Reply of Government

This recommendation concerns the Government of Maharashtra and they have been addressed to consider it.

[Department of Social Welfare O.M. No. 10/2/71-RU dated June 3, 1971].

Comments of the Committee

The Government of Maharashtra may be requested to implement the recommendation of the Committee and a report on the action taken by that Government may be furnished for the information of the Committee.

BUTA SINGH,
Chairman,
Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes
and Scheduled Tribes.

NEW DELHI;
 December 7, 1971.

Agrahayana 16, 1893 (Saka).

APPENDIX I

No. F. 19-6/71.T.5.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES

5th February, 1971

New Delhi, dated the _____
16th Magha, 1892 (Saka)

To

- (1) All State Governments.
- (2) All Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics.

SUBJECT:—*Action taken on the recommendations of the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes on Hostel facilities for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.*

Sir,

I am directed to say that the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has made a recommendation in its Seventeenth Report on the hostel facilities available to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students. The recommendation is reproduced below:

“Government should also ensure that all general hostel constructed with funds provided by the Governments at the Central and State levels or maintained by non-official agencies with grants given by the Government make suitable provision for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students and that efforts are made to attract them in large numbers.”

As the Government of India has been sanctioning loans to all technical institutions to enable them to construct hostel accommodation for at least 50 per cent of the students body in each institute, it is presumed that all Scheduled Caste/Tribe students who are admitted to technical institutions and are in need of hostel accommodation are being given hostel facilities at present. It is requested that this Ministry may please be informed of the position obtaining in your State/Institutions in this matter at present.

In case students belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes admitted to technical institutions in your State/Institutions are experiencing any difficulties in the matter of hostel accommodation, it is requested that the existing hostel facilities may please be made available to these students as recommended by the Parliamentary Committee and efforts may also be made to attract them in larger numbers to these hostels.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) I. B. SANGAL,
Assistant Educational Adviser (T)

APPENDIX II

No. F. 16-6/70-U.I.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES

New Delhi, dated the 27th February, 1971

To

- (1) All State Governments/Union Territories.
- (2) All Universities in India.
- (3) The Secretary, University Grants Commission,
Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi.

SUBJECT:—*Action on the recommendations of the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on Hostel facilities for Scheduled Castes/Tribes students.*

Sir,

I am directed to state that the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in its report presented to Lok Sabha on 16th December, 1970 on the Hostel facilities available to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students has made the following recommendation:

“Government should also ensure that all general hostels constructed with funds provided by the Governments at the Central and State levels or maintained by non-official agencies with grants given by the Government, make suitable provision for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students and that efforts are made to attract them in larger numbers.”

In view of the above, necessary steps may be taken at the time of releasing grants/loans for construction of hostels, to ensure that the above mentioned recommendation made by the Parliamentary Committee is fully implemented.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) MISS. H. K. SINGH,
Assistant Educational Adviser.

APPENDIX III

Extract from letter No. 10/2/71-RU dated the 27th August, 1971 from the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, Department of Social Welfare to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations

SUBJECT:— *Seventeenth Report of the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes regarding hostel facilities for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.*

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Department letter of even number dated the 15th March, 1971 on the above subject and to say the action may kindly be taken on the following recommendations as indicated against each:

* * *

Recommendations Nos. 3, 10, 11

These recommendations relate to the collection of statistics regarding the hostels set up under the State and Central Sectors and percentage of seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in general hostels and their utilisation by them. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are requested to collect and furnish necessary information in the prescribed proforma (enclosed). This information may be sent to this Department annually as on 31st March, commencing from 1st year of the Fourth Five Year Plan i.e., 1969-70.

* * *

It is requested that the action taken on the above recommendations may kindly be intimated so that a reply can be sent to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

PROFORMA III

Statement showing the number of hostels and number of students admitted etc. in hostels run under the Plan and non-Plan budgets.

Name of State/Union Territory..... Year

Sl. No.	Category of hostel	No. of hostels	Total Seats	Percentage of reservations prescribed						Total	Please indicate reasons, if any if the seats reserved for SCs in general hostels and seats reserved for general category of students in SCs & STs hostels are not filled.		
				SC.	ST	D.n.Ts.	Others	SC.	ST			Others	
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	

I. Government Hostels

- a. Scheduled Caste (boys)
- b. Scheduled Caste (girls)
- c. Scheduled Tribe (boys)
- d. Scheduled Tribe (girls)

II Hostels run by non-official organisations

- a. Scheduled Caste (boys)
- b. Scheduled Caste (girls)
- c. Scheduled Tribe (boys)
- d. Scheduled Tribe (girls)

*III. General Hostels**

- a. Hostels run by Government/educational authorities.
- b. Hostels run by non-official organisations.

*NOTE : Information regarding the General hostels which are not financed from the Backward Classes Sector may also please be furnished.

APPENDIX IV

(Vide Introduction)

Analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations

I.	Total number of recommendations	25
II.	Recommendations that have been accepted by Government (Vide recommendations at S. Nos. 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 17 and 18)	
	Number	10
	Percentage to total	40
III.	Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies (vide re- commendations at S. Nos. 3, 4, 11, 15, 24 and 25)	6
	Number	
	Percentage to total	24
IV.	Recommendations in respect of which replies of Govern- ment have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration (vide recommendations at S. Nos. 6, 8, 13 and 16)	
	Number	4
	Percentage to total	16
V.	Recommendations in respect of which final replies have not been received from Government (Vide recommendations at S. Nos. 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23)	
	Number	5
	Percentage to total	20