

**TWELFTH REPORT**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
EMPOWERMENT  
(2005-06)**

**(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**

**Action taken by the Government on the  
Recommendations/Observations contained in the Seventh  
Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and  
Empowerment on Demands for Grants-2005-2006 of the  
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.**

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 21.2.2006**

**Laid in Rajya Sabha on 21.2.2006**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

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Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and  
Empowerment relating to Ministry of Social Justice and  
Empowerment on Demands for Grants-2005-2006.**

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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
(2005-2006)**

**Smt. Sumitra Mahajan-CHAIRPERSON**

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**SECRETARIAT**

- |                       |   |                   |
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| 2. Shri A.K. Singh    | - | Joint Secretary   |
| 3. Shri R.K. Saxena   | - | Deputy Secretary  |
| 4. Shri Bhupesh Kumar | - | Under Secretary   |
| 5. Shri Vanlalruata   | - | Committee Officer |

## **INTRODUCTION**

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twelfth Report on the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants-2005-2006 relating to Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

2. The Seventh Report was presented to Lok Sabha and also laid in Rajya Sabha on 21 April, 2005. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 12 September, 2005. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on 17 January, 2006.
3. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix**.
4. For facility of reference recommendations/observations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report.
5. The Committee place on record their appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

**New Delhi:  
17 January, 2006  
27 Pausa, 1927 (Saka)**

**SUMITRA MAHAJAN,  
Chairperson,  
Standing Committee on  
Social Justice and  
Empowerment**

## **REPORT**

### **CHAPTER -I**

1.1 This Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants 2005-2006 relating to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

1.2 The Seventh Report was presented to Lok Sabha and also laid in Rajya Sabha on 21 April, 2005. It contained 24 recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all the recommendations have been examined and are categorised as under:

- (i) Recommendations/Observations, which have been accepted by the Government:  
Sl. Nos. 1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 20, 22 and 24.

(Total 12 - Chapter II)

- (ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:  
Sl. Nos. 2 and 21.

(Total 2 - Chapter III)

- (iii) Recommendations/Observations, in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and have been commented upon by the Committee in Chapter I:  
Sl. Nos. 5, 7, 10, 13, 16 and 19.

(Total 6 - Chapter IV)

- (iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature:  
Sl. Nos. 3, 17, 18 and 23.

(Total 4 - Chapter V)

**1.3 The Committee desire that action taken notes on the recommendations contained in Chapter- I and final action taken notes in respect of the recommendations contained in Chapter- V of the Report may be furnished to them at the earliest and in any case not later than three months of the presentation of the Report.**

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

**A. General Performance of the Ministry**

**Recommendation (Sl.No.5, Para 2.16)**

1.5 The Committee had noted that majority of the Schemes of the Ministry are Centrally sponsored Schemes and hence implementation lies with the state Governments. The Committee were, however, of the opinion that the Ministry was accountable for the funds disbursed by them in order to ensure that they are utilized properly for the purpose for which they are allotted. The Committee, therefore, had recommended that the Ministry should set-up a central Monitoring cell to oversee the progress of implementation of its Schemes. The Committee had further recommended that a three-tier monitoring mechanism at Village level, District level and State level should be evolved involving the local administration, District Administration and State Governments.

1.6 The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, in their action taken note have stated that it releases Central assistance to States/UTs under Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The utilization of this assistance is regularly monitored by the Programme Divisions of the Ministry. However, monitoring at the village, district and state level is the responsibility of the State Government.

**1.7 The Committee had opined that the Ministry was accountable for the funds disbursed by them in order to ensure that they were utilized properly for the purpose for which they were allotted. Therefore, the Committee had recommended that the Ministry should set up a Central Monitoring Cell to oversee the progress of implementation of its schemes. The Ministry should also evolve a three-tier monitoring mechanism at Village, District and State levels involving the local administration, District administration and State Governments. The Ministry in their reply have stated that utilization of assistance is regularly monitored by the Programme Divisions. However, monitoring of Centrally Sponsored Schemes at Village/District/State Level is the responsibility of the State Government. The Committee are not at all satisfied with the reply of the Government. The Committee are of the firm view that the Ministry should set up a Central Monitoring Cell exclusively to oversee the progress of implementation of its schemes. The Central Monitoring Cell may also co-ordinate with the monitoring units of the States/UTs. The Committee, therefore reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Ministry should set-up a Central Monitoring Cell as such mechanism would go a long way in effective implementation of the Schemes from the grass root level onwards by ensuring optimum and timely utilization of funds resulting in ameliorating the conditions of the vulnerable sections of our society. The Committee further reiterate that the Ministry actively pursue with the States/UTs for setting up a three tier monitoring mechanism at Village/District/State Level at the earliest.**

## **B. Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Special Component Plan (SCP)**

### Scheduled Castes Division

#### **(Recommendation Sl. No. 7 Para No. 3.12)**

1.8 The Committee had expressed serious concern that some States were not following the guidelines laid down by the Ministry with regard to allocating funds under SCP in proportion to their scheduled castes population. The States' outlay under SCP was only 11.01% and 12.68% during the years 2002-03 and 2003-04, which was much below the average Scheduled Castes population in the country. The Ministry had stated that States get proportionate allocation of SCA based on their SCP allocation as per the SC population in those States and if they did not follow the guidelines their share got reduced proportionately. Keeping in view the welfare of the targeted people, the Committee strongly recommended that the Ministry should impress upon all the 27 States/UTs availing SCA to SCP funds to make allocation under their SCP in proportion to their SC population and get their share of SCA funds on time.

1.9 In their action taken notes the Ministry have stated that all State Welfare Secretaries dealing with Scheduled Castes Development have been requested on 6.5.2005 to initiate necessary action on the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

**1.10 The Committee had expressed their dismay at the stereotyped reply of the Ministry that all State Welfare Secretaries dealing with Scheduled Castes Development have been requested to initiate necessary action on the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The Committee are of the view that the guideline of the Ministry with regard to allocating funds**

under SCP in proportion to Scheduled Castes population of the States is of vital importance in ensuring socio-economic development of SC population and as such necessary steps should be taken by the Central Government to make the State Governments comply with the guideline instead of merely requesting the State Welfare Secretaries to initiate necessary action in this regard. The Committee strongly feel that this matter should be taken up at the level of the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment with the respective Chief Ministers. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Ministry should impress upon all the 27 States/UTs availing SCA to SCP funds to make allocation under their SCP in proportion to their SC population and get their share of SCA funds on time.

#### **Recommendation (Sl.No.10, Para 3.15)**

1.11 The Committee had noted that the allocation of SCA to SCP amounts to nearly 44% of funds allocated to the Scheduled Castes Division. In the year 2004-05 the SCA funds released by the Ministry was Rs. 23226.12 lakh and the utilization till 31.12.2004 was only Rs. 12669 lakh, which in percentage terms was only 55%, an abysmally low figure of utilization. The Committee, therefore, had strongly recommended that the Government should impress upon the States/UTs, availing SCA funds, to furnish utilization certificates on time to ensure timely release of the second installment of SCA funds and to utilize them fully to ensure effective implementation of this Scheme.

1.12 In their action taken note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry have stated that all State Welfare Secretaries dealing with Scheduled Castes Development have been requested on 6.5.2005 to initiate necessary action on the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

**1.13 The Committee note with regret that the Ministry have not acted upon the recommendation of the Committee in right earnest. The Committee had found that the allocation of Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan amounts to nearly 44.1% of funds allocated to the Scheduled Castes Division. In the year 2004-05 the SCA funds released by the Ministry was Rs. 23226.12 lakhs and utilization was only Rs. 12669.09 lakh till 31.12.2004 which in terms of percentage was only 55%. The Ministry convened only one meeting of State Welfare secretaries dealing with Scheduled Castes Development, to impress upon them to furnish utilization certificates on time to ensure timely release of subsequent installment for effective implementation of this scheme. Keeping in view that the main thrust of the scheme of SCA to SCP is to ensure that SC families are able to cross the below the poverty line figure. The Committee again recommend the Ministry to vigorously pursue with the States/UT Governments to furnish utilization certificates on time to ensure timely release of the second installment of SCP funds and to ensure effective implementation of this important scheme.**

**C. Scheme for Pre-Matric Scholarship for the Children of those engaged in Unclean Occupations**

**Recommendation (Sl.No.13, Para 3.29)**

1.14 The Committee had noted with regret that the government has not taken up in 2001 the census of the people engaged in unclean jobs. In the absence of such vital data the details regarding the literacy rate of those people and the details of the students who availed benefits under the scheme were not available with the Government. The Committee was also surprised to note that the Ministry was not maintaining even the success/drop out rate under the scheme. The Committee felt that the government was not serious towards its commitment for the upliftment of this marginalized section. The Committee, therefore, had strongly recommended the Ministry to vigorously pursue with the competent authority to conduct a survey of this section of the society and also to take the necessary steps for obtaining the data of their literacy rate and the drop out rate so that adequate funds may be allocated for their educational upliftment through pre-matric scholarships scheme and realistic plans may be formulated for their over all advancement.

1.15 In their action taken note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry have stated that all States/UTs are being addressed to take necessary steps to conduct a survey about the literacy rate of this section of the society and obtain the data of their literacy and dropout rate under the Scheme.

**1.16 The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Government that all States/UTs are being addressed to take necessary steps to conduct a survey on the literacy rate of the people engaged in unclean jobs as well as the data of their dropout rate under this scheme. The Committee express their serious concern that the Government did not undertake any study on the people engaged in unclean occupation during the 2001 census, and even after the lapse of a further period of four years, no work has been done in this regard by the Central Government. The Committee, therefore strongly reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Ministry should vigorously pursue with the States/UTs**

**to conduct the surveys about the literacy rate of this section of society and obtain the data of their literacy and drop out rate under the scheme within a definite time frame so as to ensure their educational upliftment. The Committee further desire that Action taken in this regard be communicated to the Committee at the earliest.**

**D. Minorities Division- General**

**Recommendation (Sl.No.16, Para 4.3)**

1.17 The Committee were perturbed to note that the budgetary allocation for the Minorities who constitute 18% of the total population was Rs. 77.97 crore out of which expenditure of only Rs. 44.5 crore was incurred. For the year 2005-06 budgetary allocation was Rs. 56.15 crore. The Committee had felt that the Government was not serious towards its commitment for the welfare of minorities as the present allocation is woefully inadequate. Keeping in view the economic and educational backwardness of minorities, the Committee had urged the Ministry to take up the matter with the Planning Commission for enhancement in budgetary allocation for the minority division. The Committee felt that the minority community was not fully aware of the various schemes formulated by the Government for their welfare and upliftment. The Committee, therefore, had desired that the Government should take initiative for generating awareness among minorities by distributing pamphlets and displaying hoardings at different public places, in English, Hindi and other regional languages, giving details of the Schemes meant for them at Panchayat level.

1.18 In their action taken note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry have stated that they have already been publicizing the schemes and programmes through Electronic, Print and Outdoor Media to spread information on the schemes and programmes of the Government for the welfare of minorities. Moreover, the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) organizes Awareness camps through its State Channelising Agencies for creating awareness among the target groups about its schemes. During 2004-05 a total of 145 awareness camps were organized by NMDFC at various places in the country.

**1.19 Keeping in view the economic and educational backwardness of minorities, the Committee had urged the Ministry to take up the matter with the Planning Commission for enhancement in budgetary allocation for the minority division. The Committee express their serious concern on the oversight on the part of the Government on this important aspect in their action taken note, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have not furnished any action proposed to be taken by them to take up the issue of enhancing the budgetary allocation for the Minorities Division with the Planning Commission. The Committee take a serious note of this and therefore, strongly reiterate their earlier recommendation to take up the matter with the Planning Commission for enhancement of the Budgetary allocation for the Minority Division so that Government's commitment for the welfare of minorities could be fulfilled.**

**E. Scheme for development of Urban Wakf Properties**

**Recommendation (Sl. No. 19 Para No. 4.16)**

1.20 The Committee were constrained to note that out of 10,556 wakf properties which are under illegal possession/encroachment, during the last three years, the Ministry have no information regarding the restoration of these wakf properties from illegal occupants. The Committee viewed the situation very seriously and recommended that an effective mechanism should be evolved to check encroachment of wakf properties. The Committee also had recommended that all the wakf properties which had been illegally encroached, transferred, mortgaged, leased or sold should be retrieved by taking legal action against their occupants.

1.21 In their action taken note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have stated that the matter has been taken up with the Chief Secretaries of the States/Administrations to take the appropriate action in the matter on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2005.

**1.22 The Committee note with concern that no concrete action has been taken by the Government to restore all the Wakf properties which have been illegally encroached, transferred, mortgaged, leased or sold during the last three years. The Committee have not been informed about the legal action taken against the illegal occupants. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the State authorities at the highest level and make all out efforts to persuade all State/UTs to initiate legal action against the illegal occupants of Wakf properties and ensure that they are restored to their lawful owners. The progress achieved in this regard may be communicated to the Committee at the earliest.**

## **CHAPTER-II**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT**

#### **Recommendation (Sl.No.1, Para 2.12)**

2.1 The Committee were constrained to note that this year too the budgetary allocation of the Ministry for the year 2004-05 has been pruned at RE stage from Rs. 1942 crore to Rs. 1350 crore, a cut of Rs. 142/- crore, and the actual expenditure incurred during the year was to the tune of Rs. 1223.81 crore. The main reason for less utilization attributed by the Ministry was non-receipt of utilization certificates as well as fresh proposals from the States in time. It was also stated that the Ministry usually gets utilization certificates and fresh proposals in the last quarter of the year. However, the Committee had found that as a result of efforts made by them during the year utilization certificates of previous years had been obtained from State Governments/UTs and the Ministry was expected to utilize the funds allocated to them during the year. The Committee was of the opinion that it is financial prudence to incur the allocated expenditure in such a manner that it is evenly distributed and fully utilized during a financial year. The Committee, had therefore, strongly recommended that the Ministry should organize periodical meetings with the representatives of all the States Governments/UT Administrations and impress upon them to submit the proposals at the beginning of the year and also furnish utilization certificates in time so that the allocated funds could be fully utilized and reduction in their allocation at RE stage is avoided. The Committee was of the firm opinion that timely submission of proposals and release of funds for the various welfare schemes of the Ministry would help in a big way the down-trodden and vulnerable sections of the society and also in effective implementation of the schemes of the Ministry.

Reply of the Government

During 2004-05 a meeting of States/UTs Social Welfare Secretaries was held on 10.8.2004 and 11.8.2004 to discuss revive of implementation of welfare schemes of the Ministry. During these meetings they have been requested to send the complete proposal alongwith utilization certificates of previous releases. In the 2004-05 the Plan expenditure of the Ministry was Rs. 1345.91 crore (99.70%) against the RE OF Rs. 1350 crore.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September 2005]

**Recommendation (Sl.No. 4, Para 2.15)**

2.2 The Committee were pleased to note that consequent to the efforts of the Ministry, the Five Schemes which the Planning commission was ready to transfer to the States, the Ministry have been able to retain all but one. The reasons cited by the Planning Commission for transferring these Schemes to the State Governments were that these Schemes are implemented by the State governments and the budgetary allocations are not very large for these Schemes. The Committee were also aware that some of the States/UTs find it difficult to provide even their matching share for the Schemes, and are not able to furnish their utilization certificates on time. In order to ensure that these Schemes remain under the purview of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the Committee strongly recommended that the Ministry should not only ensure that these Schemes remain under the purview of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry should not only ensure that adequate budgetary allocations are made for these Schemes. The Committee were also aware that some of the States/UTs find it difficult to provide even their matching share for the Schemes, and are not able to furnish their utilization certificates on time. In order to ensure that these Schemes remain under the purview of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the Committee had strongly recommended that the Ministry should not only ensure that adequate budgetary allocations are made for these Schemes, but also State Governments/UT Administrations be impressed upon to

furnish their utilization Certificates as well as fresh proposals on time for the effective implementation of these Schemes, which are pivotal for the upliftment of marginalized sections of our society.

Reply of the Government

Out of five schemes to be transferred to the States the Planning Commission had agreed to transfer the scheme of Employment of handicapped only to States and retain the following four schemes in the Ministry. The Planning Commission has approved and allocated funds by re-appropriation under these schemes for the current year and the matter of re-appropriation of funds under these schemes has been taken up with Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure for their concurrence. The details of funds allocated under these four schemes are given below:-

Rs. in crore		
S.No.	<u>Name of the Scheme</u>	Funds allocated
1.	Pre-Matric Scholarship for children of those engaged in unclean occupation	16.00
2.	Hostels for SC and OBC boys and girls	61.00
3.	Coaching & Allied scheme for weaker sections including SCs, OBCs and Minorities	8.00
4.	Scheme for prevention & control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment	22.69

During 2004-05 a meeting of States/UTs Social Welfare Secretaries was held on 10.8.2004 and 11.8.2004 to review implementation of welfare schemes of the Ministry. During these meetings they have been requested to send the complete proposal alongwith utilization certificates of previous releases.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

### **Recommendation (Sl.No. 6, Para 2.17)**

2.3 The Committee had found that the Planning Commission provides budgetary allocation to the Ministry who allocate funds either in the form of Grants-in-aid or loans to various States/Union Territories for implementation of various welfare schemes formulated for the upliftment of targeted sections of our Society i.e. the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, OBCs, minorities, disabled persons, children in need of care, victims of drug abuse etc. However, it was been observed that the welfare schemes are not properly implemented and funds allocated to the States for implementation of these schemes are not fully utilized by them. The main reason attributed for not implementing these schemes and low utilization of funds were non receipt of adequate number of proposals from the States in time, delay in completion of projects, non-receipt of utilization certificates from the Channelising agencies/NGOs etc. Also some States do not provide their matching share which results in delay in releasing subsequent Installments. It was also stated that the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes is the responsibility of States Governments. However, it is found that the State Governments are unable to fulfill their commitment to the desired extent due to financial constraints. The Committee felt that neither the concerned Ministry nor the State Governments are serious enough as it lacks effective mechanism to monitor and evaluate the proper implementation of the schemes in States/UTs which results in not achieving the desired results of upliftment of the disadvantageous sections of the society. The Committee had expressed their deep anguish at this state of affairs. Keeping in view the mandate of the Ministry for the upliftment of SC/STs, minorities, etc., the Committee had desired that the Ministry should impress upon the Planning commission to take a pro-active role in this regard. The Planning Commission may convene meeting of Chief Ministers of all the States to take stock of implementation of the schemes before finalizing the annual plans and allocating funds and impress upon them to implement the Centrally Sponsored Welfare Schemes in their States effectively. The Committee also desired that the Planning Commission should persuade the State Government to ensure optimum utilization of funds, timely submission of new proposals and effective implementation and monitoring of all welfare schemes in their respective States

so that the benefits of the schemes could reach the disadvantaged and marginalized sections of the Central Government, the amount so sanctioned should be placed with the respective Board or Corporation as against their Schemes for utilization. The Ministry and the Planning Commission should also ensure that funds that are allocated for different schemes of the States are utilized for their respective schemes and not diverted.

Reply of the Government

The Recommendation of the Standing Committee were sent to the Planning Commission on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2005 to take needful action. In reply to our O.M. the Planning Commission on 2.8.2005 informed that they convene meeting of Chief Ministers of all the States to finalize the Annual Plans and Five year Plans of the state Governments for various sectors. In a continuing process, Working Groups have also been constituted under the Chairmanship of concerned Adviser to discuss the sector-wise Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being assessed and also impress upon the State Government to optimally utilize the plan allocation especially under Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Besides, as a follow up measures, the Planning commission has mechanism for regular monitoring and review of implementation of programmes of the State Governments through Quarterly Performance Review meeting in the Planning Commission.

Central assistance is released to States/UTs under Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Special Component Plan (SCP) as an additive for socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes. Under this scheme State level Scheduled Castes Development Corporations and other agencies submit their proposals to their respective State Government/UT Administration to meet subsidy out of funds to be made available to financial institutions. Financial institutions further extend credit facilities to the beneficiaries.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

### **Recommendation (Sl.No. 8, Para 3.13)**

2.5 The Committee had noted with concern that in spite of implementation of welfare schemes for the Scheduled Castes for more than five decades the reduction in the incidence of poverty among Scheduled Castes particularly in urban areas, is much less as compared to general populating. Therefore, the Committee were of the view that the government should rise to meet its commitment of upliftment of the disadvantaged SC population and allocate more funds for the schemes formulated for their welfare and persuade the State Governments also to allocate more funds out of their total plan outlay to the State Component Plan and ensure eradication of poverty among them.

#### **Reply of the Government**

The recommendations of the Committee were taken up with State/Governments/UT Administrations and the Planning commission on 6.5.2005 for taking necessary action on allocating more funds on schemes for welfare of disadvantaged Scheduled Castes population. Planning Commission vide their letter No. M-13055/1/2002/BC dated 9.6.2005 have informed that they have mechanism for regular monitoring and review of implementation of Special Component Plan (SCP). The proposals of the State for the Five Year Plan and Annual Plan are examined in detail including the performance of the concerned State. Deficiencies, if any, are brought to the notice of the State in the Working Group discussion and suggestions are made for appropriate action by the State. The Working Group advise the State Government to impress upon the line Departments to allocate funds under SCP in proportion to the SC population.

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment also monitors the implementation of Special Component Plan (SCP). The proposals of the State for the Five Year Plan and Annual Plan are examined in detail including the performance of the concerned State. Deficiencies, if any, are brought to the notice of the State in the working Group discussion and suggestions are made for appropriate action by the State. The Working Group advise the State government to impress upon the line Departments to allocate funds under SCP in proportion to the SC population.

The Ministry of Social Justice & empowerment also monitors the implementation of Special component Plan (SCP) by States at regular intervals and impress upon the State Governments for adequate allocation under SCP.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

**Recommendation (Sl.No. 9, Para 3.14)**

2.6 The Committee had noted that even after two decades of operation of this scheme, only 16 Ministries/Departments, out of the 30 have formulated special Component Plan for SCs whereas 14 Ministries/Departments have not yet formulated SCP for SCs. The Committee had strongly recommend that the remaining Ministries/Departments, grouped under category- III which are service oriented and whose activities are of divisible nature, should be persuaded by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for formulating not only the Special Component Plan, but also ensuring its effective implementation and monitoring. The Committee had desired that the Planning Commission be apprised of this situation to ensure compliance of the same by the remaining Ministries/Departments.

**Reply of the Government**

The Planning Commission has been requested on 6.5.2005 to initiate necessary action on the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

**Recommendation (Sl.No. 11, Para 3.27)**

2.7 The Committee had observed that the people engaged in unclean occupations are grossly marginalized sections of our society and the most disadvantaged among the under privileged. Education being the most powerful equipment in upliftment of the marginalized people, the significance of 'Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme' increases manifold as it plays a pivotal role in shaping the destiny of the children whose parents are engaged in unclean

occupation traditionally. The Committee had noted with concern that during the last three years, the Budget Estimates under this scheme have been consecutively reduced at Revised Estimate stage. In 2002-03 and 2004-05 an expenditure of Rs. 5.13 crore out of Rs. 12.50 crore and Rs. 7.64 crore out of Rs. 10.00 crore (BE Rs. 16.00 crore) respectively was incurred. The Committee had also noted with dismay that during 2004-05 there was insufficient demand for funds from the States/UTs compelling the Ministry to recommend reducing demand for funds from the States/UTs compelling the Ministry to recommend reducing the outlay at RE stage to avoid surrender of funds at the fag end of the year. The Committee, therefore, had recommended that keeping in view the significant role this scheme plays in upliftment of the most disadvantaged sections of our society, the Ministry should strongly plead their case before the Planning Commission for higher allocation of funds for effective implementation of the scheme. The Committee had also desired that the Ministry should impress upon the State Governments/UTs, who have equal commitment for their upliftment, to effectively implement the scheme, ensure full utilization of the funds and submit proposals at the beginning of the year so that the desired results could be achieved.

#### **Reply of the Government**

The Ministry has already written a letter to all the States/UTs on 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2005 requesting them to ensure effective implementation of the scheme and furnish a comprehensive proposal seeking financial assistance under the scheme for the year 2005-06 covering all eligible beneficiaries.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

#### **Recommendation (Sl.No. 12, Para 3.28)**

2.8 The Committee had further noted with concern that the Planning Commission has proposed to transfer the scheme to States/UTs w.e.f. the financial year 2005-06. The Committee fully endorsed the views of the Ministry that it is apprehended that the financial constraints with the State Governments would adversely affect the implementation of the scheme and the State Finance

Department may not be able to obtain additional resources, when required, since many States have not been providing matching share resulting in reduction in central matching share also. Therefore, the Committee had strongly desired that the scheme should not be transferred to the States.

**Reply of the Government**

The Planning Commission has since decided not to transfer the scheme to the State. As such the Ministry has retained the scheme.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

**Recommendation (Sl.No. 14, Para 3.37)**

2.9 The Committee had expressed their concern over the fact that the Scheduled Caste students who are already financially not sound have to pay higher fee when they take admission in managerial/professional/engineering/medical courses. Some colleges even charge fee as high as Rs. 25000/- to 50,000/-. The Committee found that with the present budget, the Ministry is not in a position to pay the fee of the payment seats or even management seats. They are managing only ten percent with their limited budget. However, the Committee noted that the Government would be able to reimburse the fee component fully subject to an evaluation study. The Committee felt that in case the fee component part for admission of Scheduled Caste students in the professional courses under managerial quota is taken care of satisfactorily, it can play a crucial role in their socio-economic advancement. The Committee, therefore, had strongly recommended that the budgetary allocations of the Ministry under the head Post Matric Scholarship Scheme should be substantially enhanced so that fees paid by Scheduled Caste students for entry into professional courses, particularly under managerial seats, could be fully reimbursed to them. The Committee also had desired that an evaluation study should be conducted in this regard urgently. The Committee also felt that some guidelines should be formulated by the Government about the quantum of fee to be charged by the private colleges particularly for professional courses.

### Reply of the Government

The matter regarding increasing the allocation for the Post Matric Scholarship Scheme and an assessment of the increase in expenditure on the scheme due to hike in the fee in profession course is being considered by the Committee of officers of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (SJ&E). Meanwhile, keeping in view the overall increase in the expenditure level of the scheme the Ministry has proposed mobilizing an additional amount of Rs. 390 crore by way of supplementary grant and the Planning Commission has been approached to approve the same. Several evaluation studies had been done, on the basis of which revision of the scheme has been done with effect from 2003-04. Advice of the Committee for another evaluation study has been noted for compliance.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

### **Recommendation (Sl.No. 15, Para 3.43)**

2.10 The Committee had noted with serious concern that the Government had not paid any heed to its recommendation contained in its First Report on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (2004-005) wherein, the Committee had expressed their extreme disappointment and voiced their strong concern over the fact that the Ministry had not been able to finalize the proposed modifications in this scheme for the last 2 years, while at the same time drastically reducing the allocation of funds for this scheme. The Committee had noted that during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05, actual expenditure incurred under the scheme is very low and budgetary allocation i.e. Rs. 0.01 crore for the year 2005-06 is a token one. This had resulted in the number of potential beneficiaries of this scheme going down drastically. The reasons attributed by the Ministry for low allocation of funds was that they received very few proposals from the States. The Committee also found that the existing scheme of upgradation of Merit of SC students is being replaced by the

new scheme “Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Merit based scholarship and Assistance to students benefiting to Scheduled Castes for studying in reputed public schools/Premier Institutions. Keeping in mind the pivotal role played by such a scheme in shaping the destiny of the Scheduled Caste children, the Committee had hoped that the new scheme would be implemented soon and adequate budgetary allocations would be made under the scheme to ensure that remedial and special coaching for SC students are arranged to prepare them for competitive examinations for entry into professional courses. The Committee also had desired that until the new scheme is made fully operational, the existing one should continue to operate for which adequate funds may be assured for the eligible students. The Government should also pursue with the State Governments to submit adequate proposals, and the scheme should be evaluated at the earliest.

#### Reply of the Government

While the new scheme is being reformulated in the context of declaration of Finance Minister in his Budget Speech 2005-06, the original scheme of Upgradation of Merit is continuing to be implemented. All the State Governments have been requested to take up the scheme and to timely and their proposals.

Regarding revision of the scheme, an EFC Memorandum has been formulated and shall be soon circulated to the Planning Commission etc. for their appraisal and allocation of funds required.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

#### **Recommendation (Sl.No. 20, Para 5.3)**

2.11 The Committee were concerned to note that in order to get disability Certificates, disabled persons have to approach Government hospitals but in many cases, doctors are charging exorbitant amounts for issuing the Certificates. In order to obviate the difficulties faced by disabled persons, the Committee felt that the procedure for issuing ‘disability certificates’ should be simplified and no

cost should be involved for obtaining the Certificate. The Committee, therefore, had recommended that the Ministry should evolve guidelines to ensure that disability certificates are issued to the disabled students at the time of completion of their schooling along with their School Leaving Certificates are issued to the disabled students at the time of completion of their schooling along with their School Leaving Certificate or as and when required.

### Reply of the Government

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has developed the following guidelines for issue of disability certificate to the persons with disabilities;

- A. For simplification of the procedures for issue of disability certificate:
- (i) Particular day(s) in a week/month for issue of certificates may be fixed.
  - (ii) Camps may be held for issuing disability certificate at the taluka/block level
  - (iii) Camps with other programmes such as rural development and poverty alleviation may be linked up.
  - (iv) Specific time frame may be prescribed for issue of disability certificate may be given.
  - (v) Difficulties are being faced in issue of disability certificate for persons with mental retardation due to non-availability of psychiatrist/clinical psychologist/paediatrician in the Medical Board. Private practitioners of repute may be co-opted in the Medical Board.
  - (vi) No fee should be charged from the persons with disabilities;
- B. Issue of disability certificate to students with disabilities;
- (i) The responsibility for arranging the issue of the certificate has to be of the principals/headmasters of the schools.
  - (ii) On the written request of school authorities, the District medical Board should visit the school for evaluation of the disability of the

student and issue certificate as per the notified guidelines and format of certificate

- (iii) In cases the Medical Board is of the view that the evaluation of disability of a particular student can be done only after carrying out certain tests with the equipments available in the district Hospital and therefore the Student should brought to the Hospital, the school authority shall make arrangement for the visit. The expenditure will be borne by the Education Department of the State Government/UT Administration.
- (iv) The certificate may be issued before completion of the schooling of the disabled student along with their School Leaving Certificate or as and when required.

These guidelines were sent to the chief Secretaries of the States/UTs vide Secretary (SJ&E)'s d.o. letter dated 27.5.2005 (Copy enclosed) with the request to adopt the same suitably by the State Government/UT they were further requested to issue necessary instructions to the Departments of health and Education for issue of necessary guidelines for implementation of the recommendation.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

### **Recommendation (Sl.No. 22, Para 5.9)**

2.12 The Committee had noted that in case of disabled persons whose monthly income is below Rs. 5,000, no amount is charged for the costs of aids and appliances whereas 50 per cent of the amount is met by ALIMCO or any other implementing agency under ADIP Scheme of the government of India. The Committee had further noted that a proposal for increasing the income eligibility ceilings under ADIP Scheme is awaiting approval of CCEA. Considering that the cost of living has increased considerably, the Committee had desired that the proposal for increasing the income eligibility ceilings be cleared at the earliest so that the amount charged from the disabled persons for various aids and appliances remain within their reach.

### Reply of the Government

The scheme has been revised with effect from 1.4.2005. The income limit for eligibility for aids/appliances has been enhanced for 100% concession to Rs. 6500/- per month as against earlier Rs. 5000/- per month. Similarly the income limit for 50% concession has been raised to Rs. 10000/- per month from earlier Rs. 8000/- per month. It has also been decided that the motorized tricycles for persons with locomotors disability and software for visually handicapped persons using computers, which may cost more than Rs. 6000/- be permitted. The extent of the subsidy, however, would be Rs. 6000/- only.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS)  
PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

### **Recommendation (Sl.No. 24, Para 6.6)**

2.13 The Committee were pleased to be apprised of the fact that the Government of India in collaboration with the United Nations Office on drugs and Crime conducted the 'National Survey on the extent, Pattern and Trends of Drug Abuse in India. The Committee were alarmed at the outcome of this study as it hinted that this malaise is afflicting the younger generation of our society due to peer pressure, economic stress and the lack of knowledge of the ill-effects of intoxicants. In view of the perceived susceptibility of the younger generation to alcoholism and substance abuse, the Committee had desired that the Ministry would take urgent steps to revise the existing Scheme of Prevention for Alcoholism and Substance/Drugs abuse, as proposed at the earliest to ensure that through counseling and proper awareness generation our youth are able to have a clear picture of the dangers of such intoxicants and thus stay away from it. In this regard, the cooperation of the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare and Human Resources Development may also be sought.

### Reply of the Government

Inter Ministerial meetings pertaining to substance abuse by students were held on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2004 and 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2005 to take stock of the issue of imparting education on drugs to the youth in the larger context and workout modalities for disseminating relevant information both in the class room and outside to young people as well as their parents, keeping in view that the youth are more vulnerable to slipping into the habit of drug abuse. The meetings were attended by the representatives of Ministry of health, Department of Elementary Education, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Information and Broadcasting. The IEC material bringing out the ill effects of drug abuse on the youth is under final stage of drafting.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS)  
PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

## **CHAPTER-III**

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

#### **Recommendation (Sl.No.2, Para 2.13)**

3.1 The Committee had noted that the budgetary allocation of the Ministry for the year 2005-06 is Rs. 1533.70 crore, an enhancement of only Rs.41.70 crore as compared to the allocation of Rs. 1492 crore for the year 2004-05. Considering the increasing number of persons in disadvantaged and the marginalized sections of the society such as Scheduled Castes, OBCs, minorities and persons with disabilities and also induction of new schemes by the Ministry, the increased hike in outlay was negligible. Therefore, to fulfill the mandate of the Ministry of working towards the upliftment of the marginalized sections of our society, as well their integration with mainstream society; the Committee had strongly recommended that the Ministry should impress upon the Planning Commission to ensure a substantial hike in Budget Outlay for the year 2005-06.

#### **Reply of the Government**

Pursuant to the guidelines of the Planning Commission the Ministry had initially proposed the annual plan outlay of Rs. 1671.05 crore for 2005-06, an increase of Rs. 179.05 crore (12%) over the budget provision of Rs. 1492.00 crore for the year 2004-05. However, the annual plan 2005-06 outlay of the Ministry was fixed by the Planning commission at the level of Rs. 1533.70 crore only. The Ministry will again impress upon them at RE stage for additional allocation of funds to the Ministry.

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

### **Recommendation (Sl.No.21, Para 5.5)**

3.2 The Committee had noted that the Ministry had provided an allocation of Rs. 1 crore for setting up the “National institute for the Multiple Handicapped” during the year 2004-05. However, no funds have been released upto 31 December, 2004 due to non-setting up of the Institute. The Committee further had noted that the proposal to set up the National Institute for Multiple Disabilities at Chennai had now been cleared by the CCEA. Keeping in view the fact that setting up of the Institute had already been delayed, the Committee had urged the Ministry to make all out efforts so that the National Institute is set up and become operational at the earliest for providing rehabilitation services to the people with multiple disabilities under one roof. The Committee had desired that Regional Institutes for Multiple Disabilities be set up on other parts of the country also.

#### Reply of the Government

3.4 The National Institute for Multiple Handicapped, Chennai has been set up on 29.3.2005. The Institute is providing the following services: - Family Cottage persons, Parent Training Programmes, Orientation to Grassroot workers. The requirement of Regional Centers will be assessed after the Institute becomes functional in full swing.

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

## CHAPTER-IV

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

#### **Recommendation (Sl.No.5, Para 2.16)**

4.1 The Committee had noted that majority of the Schemes by the Ministry are Centrally sponsored Schemes and hence implementation lies with the state Governments. The Committee were, however, of the opinion that the Ministry is accountable for the funds disbursed by them in order to ensure that they are utilized properly for the purpose for which they are allotted. The Committee, therefore, had recommended that the Ministry should set-up a central Monitoring cell to oversee the progress of implementation of its Schemes. The Committee had further recommended that a three-tier monitoring mechanism at Village level, District level and State level should be evolved involving the local administration, District Administration and State Governments.

#### Reply of the Government

4.2 The Ministry releases Central assistance to States/UTs under Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The utilization of this assistance is regularly monitored by the Programme Divisions. However, monitoring at the village, district and state level is the responsibility of the State Government.

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2005]

#### Comments of the Committee

**(Please see Para 1.7 of Chapter I of the Report)**

### **Recommendation (Sl.No. 7, Para 3.12)**

4.3 The Committee expressed their serious concern that some States were not following the Guidelines laid down by the Ministry with regard to allocating funds under SCP in proportion to their Scheduled Castes population. The State outlay under SCP is only 11.01% and 12.68% during the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 which is much below the average Scheduled Castes population in the country. The Ministry had stated that States get proportionate allocation of SCA based on their SCP allocation as per the SC population in these States and if they do not follow the guidelines their share gets reduced proportionately. Keeping in view the welfare of the targeted people, the Committee had strongly recommended that the Ministry should impress upon all the 27 States/UTs SCA to SCP funds to make allocation under their SCP in proportion to their SC population and get their share of SCA funds on time.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.5 All State welfare Secretaries dealing with Scheduled Castes Development have been requested on 6.5.2005 to initiate necessary action on the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

[Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, O.M. No.-1-1/ 2005(PS) PREM  
(Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

### **Recommendation (Sl.No.10, Para 3.15)**

4.6 The Committee had noted that the allocation of SCA to SCP amounts to nearly 44% of funds allocated to the Scheduled Castes division. In the year 2004-05 the SCA funds released by the Ministry was Rs. 23226.12 lakh and the utilization till 31.12.2004 was only Rs. 12669 lakh, which in percentage terms is only 55%, an abysmally low figure of utilization. The Committee, therefore had strongly recommended that the Government should impress upon the States/UTs, availing SCA funds, to furnish utilization certificates on time to ensure timely release of the second installment of SCA funds and to utilize them fully to ensure effective implementation of this Scheme.

Reply of the Government

**4.7 All State welfare Secretaries dealing with Scheduled Castes Development have been requested on 6.5.2005 to initiate necessary action on the recommendations of the Standing Committee.**

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2005]

Comments of the Committee

**(Please see Para 1.10 of Chapter I of the Report)**

### **Recommendation (Sl.No.13, Para 3.29)**

4.8 The Committee had noted with regret that the government has not taken up in 2001 the census of the people engaged in unclean jobs. In the absence of such vital data the details regarding the literacy rate of these people and the details of the students who availed benefits under the scheme are not available with the Government. The Committee was also surprised to note that the Ministry was not maintaining even the success/drop out rate under the scheme. The Committee had felt that the Government is not serious towards its commitment for the upliftment of this marginalized section. The Committee, therefore, had strongly recommended the Ministry to vigorously pursue with the competent authority to conduct a survey of this section of the society and also to take the necessary steps for obtaining the data of their literacy rate and the drop out rate so that adequate funds may be allocated for their educational upliftment through pre-matric scholarships scheme and realistic plans may be formulated for their over all advancement.

Reply of the Government

4.9 The States/UTs are being addressed to take necessary steps to conduct a survey about the literacy rate of this section of the society and obtain the data of their literacy and dropout rate under the Scheme.

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2005]

**(Please see Para 1.13 of Chapter I of the Report)**

**Recommendation (Sl.No.16, Para 4.3)**

4.10 The Committee were perturbed to note that the budgetary allocation for the Minorities who constitute 18% of the total population was Rs. 77.97 crore out of which expenditure of only Rs. 44.5 crore was incurred. For the year 2005-06 budgetary allocation is Rs. 56.15 crore. The Committee felt that the Government was not serious towards its commitment for the welfare of minorities as the present allocation is woefully inadequate. Keeping in view the economic and educational backwardness of minorities, the Committee had urged the Ministry to take up the matter with the Planning Commission for enhancement in budgetary allocation for the minority division. The Committee felt that the minority community was not fully aware of the various schemes formulated by the Government for their welfare and upliftment. The Committee, therefore, had desired that the Government should take initiative for generating awareness among minorities by distributing pamphlets and displaying hoardings at different public places, in English, Hindi and other regional languages, giving details of the Schemes meant for them at Panchayat level.

Reply of the Government

4.11 Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has already been publicizing the schemes and programmes through Electronic, Print and Outdoor Media to spread information on the schemes and programmes of the Government for the welfare of minorities. Moreover, the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) organizes Awareness camps through its State Channelising Agencies for creating awareness among the target groups about its schemes. During 200405 a total of 145 awareness camps were organized by NMDFC at various places in the country.

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2005]

Comments of the Committee

**(Please see Para 1.16 of Chapter I of the Report)**

**Recommendation (Sl.No.19, Para 4.16)**

4.12 The Committee were constrained to note that out of 10,556 wakf properties which are under illegal possession/encroachment, during the last three years, the Ministry have no information regarding the restoration of these wakf properties from illegal occupants. The Committee viewed the situation very seriously and recommend that an effective mechanism should be evolved to check encroachment of wakf properties. The Committee had also recommended that all the wakf properties which have been illegally encroached, transferred, mortgaged, leased or sold should be retrieved by taking legal action against their occupants.

Reply of the Government

4.13 The matter has been taken up with the Chief secretaries of the States/Administrations to take the appropriate action in the matter on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2005.

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2005]

Comments of the Committee

**(Please see Para 1.19 of Chapter I of the Report)**

## CHAPTER-V

### RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE INTERIM IN NATURE

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para 2.14)

5.1 The Committee were pleased to be apprised of the initiative taken by the Government with regards to the upliftment of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Private Sector. The Committee had noted that a group of Ministers is already looking into this aspect. The Committee would, however, like to be apprised of the latest position in this regard.

Reply of the Government

**5.2 The Group of Ministers set up by the Government to initiate a dialogue with the industry to see how best the Private Sector can fulfill the aspirations of the youth belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes held its fourth meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2005. In the meeting, it was decided to seek legal opinion as to whether a Central law can be enacted to provide for reservation in the private sector under the existing provisions of the constitution.**

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 17, Para 4.14)

5.3 The Committee had noted with concern that the Central Wakf Council had extended loan for 114 projects to the State Wakf Boards but only 67 projects have been completed so far. The Committee had further noted that this is one of the non-plan schemes of the Ministry where projects are directly funded by the

Central Government for construction or reconstruction of commercially viable wakf properties. The Committee understood the significance of these schemes and that without proper development of wakf properties, the Wakf Boards would not become a viable entity and continue to be a liability on the State Governments on one way or the other. The Committee, therefore, had strongly recommended that concerted efforts should be made to execute these schemes as per schedule and in case of default, all out efforts should be made to recover the funds from such Wakf Boards early.

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Reply of the Government

5.4 The matter has been taken up with the Secretary, Central Wakf Council, New Delhi to take appropriate action in the matter on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2005.

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 18, Para 4.15)

5.5 The Committee had noted that the survey of wakf properties is an important pre-requisite to enable the Wakf Boards to exercise power, control and supervision over the individual wakf properties. From the information furnished by the Ministry, the Committee observed that survey has been completed in respect of Himachal Pradesh and survey report is awaited in cases of Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Lakshadweep. Some of the States have not yet started the survey and in some cases the survey work of wakf properties is very slow. The Committee had felt that unless the Government have an authentic data of wakf properties, they will not be able to chalk out a proper plan for their development. The Committee, therefore, had recommended that the State Governments be persuaded to complete the survey work of urban wakf properties expeditiously and the progress achieved in this regard may be communicated to the Committee.

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Reply of the Government

5.6 The matter has been taken up with the Chief Secretaries of the States/Administrations to take appropriate action in the matter on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2005.

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 23, Para 6.5)

5.7 The Committee had noted with deep concern that though the Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse has been going on for years, yet the Ministry have no authentic data to show whether the number of drug addiction cases in the country are increasing or decreasing. The Ministry had, however, furnished a statement showing the number of drug abuse cases registered during the year 2002-03 to September 2004. The Committee had failed to understand the rationale behind the two contradictory statements made of the Ministry and desired that a nation wide survey be conducted to collect the authentic data of alcoholics and drug addicts in the country so that the impact of the Scheme could be evaluated and comprehensive action plan formulated for its eradication and also for treatment and subsequent rehabilitation of drug addicts.

.

Reply of the Government

5.8 It is clarified that two statements were prepared on the basis of information gathered from NGOs funded by the Ministry only. These NGOs registered number of drug addicts in the last three years as follows:- 261877 cases in 2002-03, 194165 in 2003-04 and 70104 in 2004-05 {Upto September 2004}.

A Nation wide survey was carried out between 2000 and November 2001 on the sample basis and results arrived at have been reported in the report of the National Survey – The extent, pattern and trends of drug abuse in India.

All the State Governments/ UT Administrations have been requested on February 8, 2005 to conduct survey on the extent, pattern and trends of drug abuse in their area and findings be sent to the Ministry within 6 months. Reports are still awaited from them.

[Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment O.M. No.1-1/2005(PS) PREM (Vol. III) dated 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2005]

**NEW DELHI**  
**17 January 2006**  
**27 Pausa, 1927 (Saka)**

**SUMITRA MAHAJAN,**  
**Chairperson,**  
**Standing Committee on**  
**Social Justice and**  
**Empowerment**

## **ANNEXURE.**

### **MINUTES OF THE NINTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2006**

The Committee met from 15.00 hrs. to 15.45 hrs. in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

#### **PRESENT**

1.     **Smt. Sumitra Mahajan**                     -             **Chairperson**

#### **MEMBERS**

##### **LOK SABHA**

2.     Mohd. Shahid Akhlaque
3.     Shri M. Appadurai
4.     Shri Ashok Argal
5.     Shri Mahaveer Bhagora
6.     Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad
7.     Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
8.     Shri Kailash Meghwal
9.     Shri Rupchand Murmu
10.    Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj
11.    Smt. Pratibha Singh
12.    Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
13.    Smt. Usha Verma

##### **RAJYA SABHA**

14.    Shri Silvius Condpan
15.    Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
16.    Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal
17.    Shri Ram Narayan Sahu
18.    Shri Tarlochan Singh

## SECRETARIAT

- |    |                    |   |                  |
|----|--------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri A.K Singh     | - | Joint Secretary  |
| 2. | Shri R.K. Saxena   | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Shri Bhupesh Kumar | - | Under Secretary  |

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson apprised the Members that they were meeting to consider and adopt three Draft Reports of the Committee.

3. The Committee then took up the draft Twelfth Report on the Action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Seventh Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants 2005-06 of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and adopted the same without any amendment.

4.	****	*****	*****
5.	****	*****	*****

6. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalise the Reports and present the same to Parliament on their behalf.

***The Committee then adjourned.***

## APPENDIX

### ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE SEVENTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

Percentage		Total	
I.	Total number of Recommendations	24	
II.	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government : (Sl. Nos. 1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11,12,14, 15, 20, 22 and 24)	12	50%
III.	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government: (Sl. Nos. 2 and 21)	2	8.33%
IV.	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and have been commented upon by the Committee: (Sl. Nos. 5, 7, 10, 13, 16 and 19)	6	25%
V.	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature: (Sl. No. 3, 17, 18 and 23)	4	16.67%