

TWENTY - SECOND REPORT
STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT
(2006-2007)

(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

**Action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations
contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice
and Empowerment on Demands for Grants-2006-2007 of the Ministry of Tribal
Affairs.**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 18.12.2006

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 18.12.2006



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

December, 2006/Agrahayana, 1928 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT (2006-2007)**

Smt. Sumitra Mahajan - CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS
LOK SABHA

2. Mohd. Shahid Akhlaque
3. Shri Mahaveer Bhagora
4. Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad
5. Shri Loganathan Ganesan
6. Shri Syed Shah Nawaz Hussain
7. Shri Tek Lal Mahato
8. Dr. Babu Rao Mediyam
9. Shri Kailash Meghwal
10. Shri Rupchand Murmu
11. Shri Jual Oram
12. Shri Ram Chandra Paswan
13. Shri Rabindar Kumar Rana
14. Shri P.A. Sangma
15. Smt. Pratibha Singh
16. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
17. Smt. Krishna Tirath
18. Smt. Usha Verma
19. Vacant
20. Vacant
21. Vacant

MEMBERS
RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri Urkhao Gwra Brahma
23. Shri Silvius Condpan
24. Shri Mahmood A. Madani
25. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
26. Dr. Radhakant Nayak
27. Shri Abdul Wahab Peevee
28. Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal
29. Shri Veer Singh
30. Ms. Anusuiya Uikey
31. Shri Nand Kishore Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. (Smt.) P.K. Sandhu - Additional Secretary
2. Shri A.K. Singh - Joint Secretary
3. Shri R.K. Saxena - Deputy Secretary
4. Shri Bhupesh Kumar - Under Secretary
5. Km. M.Tunglut - Sr. Executive Assistant

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 Twenty-second Report on the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants- 2006-2007 relating to Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

2. The Seventeenth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and also laid in Rajya Sabha on 16 May, 2006. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 20 October, 2006. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on 14 December, 2006.

3. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventeenth 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:
14 December, 2006
23 Agrahayana, 1928 (Saka)

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

CHAPTER-I

REPORT

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 Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants-2006-2007 relating to Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

1.2 The Seventeenth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and also laid in Rajya Sabha on 16 May, 2006. It contained 22 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:
Paragraph Sl. Nos. 1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 20 and 22

(Total 7 - Chapter II)
- (ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:
Paragraph Sl. Nos.4, 8, 10 and 21

(Total 4 - 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:
Paragraph Sl. Nos. 3, 9, 13, 15 and 16

(Total 5 - Chapter IV)
- (iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature:
Paragraph Sl. Nos. 6, 11, 14, 17, 18 and 19

(Total 6 - 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 this 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. UTILISATION OF FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE MINISTRY

Recommendation (SL No.3, Para No.3.22)

1.5 The Committee had noted that utilization of funds under Plan Schemes of the Ministry during 2005-06 had been quite high with the percentage of expenditure reaching 99.5%. However, the Committee were concerned at the huge amount of unspent balances lying with the Ministry. Out of the releases made prior to 31 March, 2004, the unspent balances was Rs 868.71 crore as on 31 March 2005 which came down to Rs 484.91 crore as on 31 December, 2005. The cumulative unspent balances with States, for releases made up to 31 December 2005, was Rs 1522.90 crore as on 1 January, 2006. Though the Ministry had contended that the position of utilization of funds has improved due to strict adherence to the provisions of the FRBM Act, yet the fact that funds could not be released to the States of Bihar, Kerala, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal under the scheme of Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution due to unspent balances lying with these States is a cause of serious concern. The Committee, had therefore desired that as 2006-07 is the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Ministry should make sincere efforts and impress upon the State Governments to utilize all the unspent balances lying with them as well as funds allocated during 2006-07 within the financial year so that the amount allocated for the entire duration of the Tenth Five Year Plan could be fully utilized. The Committee had also urged the Ministry to impress upon the States/ UTs to comply with the provisions of the FRBM Act strictly.

1.6 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in their action taken note have stated that they have been writing to the State Governments for furnishing utilisation certificates from time to time and letters have already been issued with regard to SCA to TSP and grants under 275(1) of the Constitution giving notice to the defaulting States to furnish utilization certificates so that Ministry is in a position to release funds to the States.

Details of the correspondence Ministry has had in the current financial year has been as follows:

- 1) D.O. letter No. 14020/15/2005-SG dated 26.4.2006: Letter to Chief Secretaries of concerned States for furnishing proposals on development of forest villages under SCA to TSP;
- 2) D.O. letter No. 17019/08/2006-PC&V dated 28.4.2006: Letter to States indicating allocations made for 2006-07 on all programmes/ schemes of Ministry and requesting for furnishing UCs and sending proposals by may 2006 for consideration in the Ministry
- 3) Letter No.14020/02/2006-SG I dated 10.5.2006: Letter to States with proforma for sending proposals under Article 275(1) and also for furnishing UCs for funds released prior to 1.4.2005;
- 4) D.O. Letter No. 17019/12/2006-PC &V dated 31.5.2006: Letter to Chief Secretary of States for furnishing UCs for all schemes of Ministry and sending proposals for 2006-07;
- 5) Letter No. 14020/4/2006-SG I dated 14.6.2006: Letter to States serving special notice of 60 days for furnishing UCs for funds released under Article 275(1), prior to 1.4.2005 quoting, inter-alia, FRBM Act;
- 6) Letter No.14020/8/2006-SG II dated 14.6.2006: Letter to States serving notice of 60 days for furnishing UCs for funds released under SCA to TSP prior to 1.4.2005 quoting, inter-alia, FRBM Act;
- 7) Letter No.14020/3/2006-SG I dated 13.6.2006: Letter to all States for furnishing completion certificate/ utilization certificate and requirement of funds for 2006-07 in respect of sanctioned Ekalavya Model Residential School.

1.7 It may be seen from the above that the Ministry has been pursuing with the State Governments on the points on which the Committee has expressed concern.

1.8 This recommendation of the Committee is proposed to be conveyed to all the concerned States/ UTs so that they are sensitized about the concern expressed by the Committee.

1.9 The Committee had recommended that 2006-07 being the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Ministry should utilize all the unspent balances lying with

them as well as funds allocated during 2006-07 so that the funds allocated during the entire duration of the Tenth Five Year Plan could be fully utilized. The Ministry was also urged to comply with the provisions of the FRBM Act strictly. In reply, the Ministry have furnished the details of their correspondence with the State Governments during the current financial year for furnishing utilisation certificates so that funds could be released to the States. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry as no concrete result seems to have been achieved. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and urge the Ministry to maintain more effective coordination with the States by conducting review meetings frequently and assessing the progress made by the States/UTs towards full and timely utilization of the funds released to them.

B. OPENING OF SEPARATE BUDGET HEAD FOR TRIBAL SUB-PLAN

Recommendation (SL No.9, Para No.3.48)

1.10 The Committee had noted with serious concern that though the Planning Commission had issued orders directing the States to earmark funds for TSP to be placed under a separate Budget Head (code 796) from the total State plan outlay at least in proportion to the ST population of the States/ UTs, yet the Ministry have no information about the status of opening of a separate Budget Head for TSP by the States/UTs. Keeping in view the fact that the scheme of SCA to TSP has been in operation as early as the Fifth Five Year Plan, the Committee felt an urgent need to evolve a mechanism to ensure accountability as well as check diversion of TSP funds. The Committee, had therefore, urged the Ministry to pursue with those States/ UTs who have not opened separate Budget Head for TSP so far, at the highest level so that all the States/ UTs could earmark funds under a separate Head at least in proportion to the ST population of the State for their tribal sub- plans.

1.11 In their action taken note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have informed that they have been stressing on earmarking of funds for TSP to the States. Letters had been addressed by Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the Chief Secretaries of TSP States/UTs, urging them to draw up the Annual Plans in terms of the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission and ensure earmarking of funds under TSP in proportion to the Scheduled Tribe population of the State. It had also been emphasized that the funds under a separate Budget Head/Sub Head for the Tribal Sub- Plan (code 796) should be non-divertible and non-lapsable.

1.12 The Committee are not satisfied with the progress made by the States/UTs regarding opening up of a separate Budget Head for the Tribal Sub-Plan of States. The Ministry have not provided any detail regarding the names of States who have not opened separate Budget Heads for their Tribal Sub-Plans. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the Planning Commission and concerned State Governments too at the highest level and ensure that funds for TSP, in proportion to the ST population of respective States are placed under a separate Budget head by all the States/UTs from the beginning of the Eleventh Five Year Plan. It may also be ensured that funds allocated for TSP should not be diverted and allowed to lapse.

C. UPGRADATION OF MERIT OF ST STUDENTS

Recommendation (SL No. 13, Para No.3.63)

1.13 The Committee had noted that though the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' is a Central Sector Scheme where 100% Central Assistance is provided

and States/UTs were not required to bear any financial burden, funds had been released only to ten States during the last three years. The Ministry had informed that grants had been released only to those State Governments who have submitted complete proposals. The Committee were not satisfied with the number of States availing the scheme and had desired that States should be vigorously pursued to come forward with more proposals under the scheme. The Committee had also urged the Ministry to assess the performance of the scheme at the time of formulation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan and incorporate measures for generating publicity/awareness and making the scheme more attractive.

1.14 The Ministry have stated in their action taken note that all the State Governments who have not so far availed the benefits of the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' have been addressed for sending their proposals and for giving wide publicity to the scheme in their States among tribals.

1.15 The Committee take serious note of the fact that the Ministry have not acted upon their recommendation to assess the performance of the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' and to make it more attractive. Keeping in view the lack of progress in the implementation of the scheme and the educational backwardness of the STs, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and urge the Ministry to review the performance of the scheme without delay. The Committee also desire that the Ministry should take measures to make the scheme more attractive and to generate awareness about the scheme by giving wide publicity.

D. DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMITIVE TRIBAL GROUPS

Recommendations (SL. No. 15, Para No.3.74 and SL. No. 16, Para No. 3.75)

1.16 The Committee had noted that the Ministry had introduced an insurance scheme for Primitive Tribal Groups i.e. 'Janshree Bima Yojana' during 2004-05 with the objective of covering the earning head of each PTG family by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan. Out of 5 lakh PTG families assessed for coverage under the scheme, funds had been released for covering 3 lakh PTG families during 2004-05 and 2005-06. The Committee had expressed apprehension that the Ministry would not be able to cover the remaining 2 lakh PTG families during 2006-07, the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan. The Committee, had therefore, urged the Ministry to prepare specific action plan expeditiously for bringing all the PTG families under insurance cover during the financial year 2006-07 and monitor the progress achieved at the highest level.

1.17 The Committee had expressed dissatisfaction at the slow progress made by the States/UTs in conducting base line survey on Primitive Tribal Groups. The Ministry had informed that only two States viz. Manipur and Rajasthan have submitted the survey reports; in the case of West Bengal and Uttaranchal, the reports submitted by them are incomplete. The Committee had taken serious view of the fact that majority of the States/UTs were not giving priority to conduct the survey and had desired that those States/UTs should be pursued at the highest level so that base line survey on the Primitive Tribal Groups are completed during 2006-07.

1.18 In their action taken note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have stated that the recommendations of the Committee have been communicated to all States concerned requesting them to ensure the submission of Base Line Surveys to this Ministry within the current Financial Year vide D. O. letter No. 22040/17/2006-NGO dated 1st June 2006 (Annexure – VII).

1.19 The Committee had noted that under the insurance scheme “Janshree Bima Yojana” introduced for Primitive Tribal Groups during 2004-05, with the objective of covering earning head of each PTG family, funds were released to cover only three lakh PTG families out of the total of five lakh PTG families assessed for coverage during 2004-05 and 2005-06. The Committee, had therefore,

urged the Ministry to prepare specific action plan expeditiously for bringing all the PTG families under insurance cover during the financial year 2006-07 and had also desired that the States/UTs who have not conducted the base line surveys on PTGs should be pursued at the highest level. The Ministry, in their stereotyped reply, have stated that the recommendations of the Committee have been communicated to all States/UTs concerned requesting them to ensure the submission of base line surveys to the Ministry within the current financial year. The Committee express their serious concern at such incomplete and casual reply since nothing has been mentioned specifically regarding coverage of remaining two lakh PTG families out of the total five lakh PTG families assessed for coverage under the “Janshree BimaYojana Scheme”. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendations and strongly desire the Ministry to make all out efforts to bring the remaining PTG families under insurance cover within the remaining period of the Tenth Five Year Plan and also ensure completion of base line surveys of Primitive Tribal Groups within the current financial year.

CHAPTER – II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (SL. No. 1, Para No.1.5)

2.1 The Committee observe that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have agreed to comply with most of the recommendations of the Committee and are in the process of taking action on some of the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report on

Demands for Grants, 2005-06. The Committee, however, note that the implementation aspect, required for assessing the progress and achievements of the Ministry has not been provided by the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should act upon their recommendations in right earnest and the status of implementation of all the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) should be communicated to the Committee so that the actual performance of the Ministry in physical and quantifiable terms could be assessed.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.2 Final reply/status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2005-06 has been furnished on 05.07.2006.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL No. 2, Para No.3.21)

2.3 The Committee note with concern that the Budgetary allocations under Plan Schemes of the Ministry during the last three years had been slashed down consecutively at the Revised Estimate stage. During the year 2005-06, the Ministry of Finance imposed a cut of Rs 100 crore bringing it down from Rs 1498.82 crore to Rs 1398.82 crore at the RE stage. The Committee are aware that the Revised Estimates are conveyed by the Ministry of Finance on the basis of expenditure level upto 30 September, and Ministry of Tribal Affairs have been able to utilize only 38.41% of the budgetary allocations during 2005-06 till 30 September, 2005 though they should have utilised 50% of the allocation by this time. Also, with the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, coming into force from July, 2004, no fresh releases have been made to those States/UTs who had unspent balances prior to the period 31 March, 2004. Therefore, keeping in view the expenditure position of the Ministry upto September, 2005, cut in the BE has been effected by the Ministry of Finance. The Committee are not pleased with this situation as funds crucial for the development of

the tribals are withheld in the process. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to plan and incur their expenditure in a proportionate manner so that it is evenly spread throughout the year. The States/UTs may be continuously pursued to (i) send their proposals right at the beginning of the financial year; (ii) release funds to their Tribal Welfare Departments in time; (iii) furnish quarterly progress reports as well as utilization certificates of funds released earlier within 12 month as per the provisions of the FRBM Act and (iv) minimize administrative and procedural delays in releasing funds. The Progress achieved in this regard may be communicated to the Committee.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.4 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs fully shares the concern of the Hon'ble Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment that the funds which are crucial for the development of tribals should not be withheld. In order to put the records in right perspective, the chronological details of the case are given in the succeeding paragraphs.

2.5 This Ministry has not been able to lay hand on any instructions which states that the expenditure upto first two quarters should be 50%.

2.6 According to Order No. 21(1)-PD/2004 dated 1.1.2005 (**Annexure – I**) issued by the Ministry of Finance, the expenditure in the last quarter of the financial year should not be more than 33%. As a corollary to it, the expenditure upto 3rd quarter should be 67%. Normally the expenditure in the first two quarters is always at a slow pace and it picks up only in the 3rd and 4th quarters. Presuming that the expenditure in the 3rd quarter should also be 33%, the expenditure upto the end of the first two quarters should be 34% only. In the case of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the expenditure upto September 2005 was 38.41%.

2.7 On 17th November 2005, the pre-budget meeting was held by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs was told that a cut of Rs. 100 crore would be applied.

2.8 In response to the above, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs placed the following facts before the Ministry of Finance in the meeting:

- (a) Upto October 2005, the expenditure figure had reached 40.44%
- (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs was prepared to incur an expenditure of 27% of the Budget provision during the 3rd quarter and 33% in the last quarter, and would thus spend the entire BE money
- (c) The proposed cut of Rs. 100 crore would affect the implementation of NCMP
- (d) There is no scope of reduction in the outlay of the Ministry
- (e) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs requires an additional amount of Rs. 24.15 crore over and above the BE of Rs. 1498.82 crore in order to meet the cost of two schemes which were earlier transferred to the State Governments by the Planning Commission and restored.

2.9 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs wrote a letter also on 11 November, 2005 (**Annexure – II**) to the Expenditure Secretary, on the above lines.

2.10 The Budget Division of Ministry of Finance by means of their letter No. 2(78)-B(CDN)/2005 dated 4.1.2006 (**Annexure – III**), however, conveyed that the RE figure for the year 2005-06 had been reduced by Rs. 100 crore i.e. from Rs. 1498.82 to Rs. 1398.82 crore.

2.11 In the circumstances, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs had no option but to implement the decision of the Ministry of Finance.

2.12 Notwithstanding this, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs wrote another letter to the Ministry of Finance on 20.1.2006 (**Annexure – IV**) explaining that the expenditure upto the end of the three quarters had already reached 80.26% of the BE and the Ministry was fully geared to spend the remaining 20% also and, therefore, the cut of Rs. 100 crore should not be applied. The Ministry of Finance were requested to restore

the cut of Rs. 100 crore imposed at the RE stage so that the welfare programmes targeted at the most deprived sections of the Society were not adversely affected.

2.13 It would, thus, be seen that the cut of Rs. 100 crore which was applied by the Ministry of Finance was not because of non-utilisation of 50% of allocation by 30 September, 2005 but otherwise.

2.14 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has paid adequate attention to this aspect and as a result of it, the expenditure upto 21.9.2006 during the financial year 2006-07 has already reached at 52.25% of the Budget Estimates.

2.15 Thus, this Ministry has ensured that the expenditure is incurred in the proportionate manner so that it is evenly spread throughout the year.

Persuasion of State Governments for sending their proposals in time and for other matters

2.16 By means of letter No. 17019/08/2006-PC&V dated 28 April, 2006 (**Annexure – V**) the Ministry of Tribal Affairs wrote to all the State Governments to utilise the funds already released by the Ministry for various Schemes, on priority basis and to submit the proposals for the year 2006-07 by the end of May 2006 as per the Scheme-wise allocations to enable the Ministry to consider sanctioning of the Schemes at the earliest, instead of bunching the expenditure towards the end of the financial year.

2.17 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, by means of its letter dated 31.5.2006 (**Annexure – VI**) has advised the States to furnish the utilisation certificates for the funds released prior to 1.4.2005, as that is a pre-requisite for further release of funds during 2006-07, as per provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act. For meeting various obligations of the Government under the statute, the States were also requested to issue suitable instructions to the Finance and Planning Departments to release the funds to the implementing agencies immediately on release

by the Ministry, so that the funds are timely utilised by implementing agencies and the channel is not choked.

2.18 Further, the meetings are held at the level of Secretary (TA) with Secretaries of State Tribal Welfare Departments for reviewing the progress of various projects/proposals of various States. During these meetings, the position of utilisation of funds is also reviewed. The last such meeting was held on 16.9.2006 during which the following points were adequately emphasised:

- (i) Wherever the States have not sent their proposals for the current year, these may be sent without further delay;
- (ii) The fiscal discipline stipulated in the FRBM Act & Rules has to be followed;
- (iii) Actual expenditure as per CAG Report to be considered as the level of utilisation;
- (iv) The net increase in the PD A/c of the State Government concerning the scheme normally maintained by the HOD to be deducted, as unspent money;
- (v) The period for obtaining UCs has been reduced to 12 months from 18 months;
- (vi) States to issue suitable instructions to Finance Departments to release the funds within 30 days.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL.No. 5, Para No.3.24)

2.19 The Committee further note that though the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes was set up in the year 2004, yet the post of Vice-Chairperson, personal staff of Vice-Chairperson and other posts in the Commission are still lying vacant. The Committee, urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the competent Authority at the earliest so that all the Posts sanctioned are filled up without further delay.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.20 Shri Tapir Gao had assumed the Office of the Vice-Chairperson of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes on 3 March, 2004. The post of Vice-Chairperson was vacant from 1st April, 2004 due to the resignation of Shri Tapir Gao from the post of Vice-Chairperson with effect from 31 March, 2004. Shri Gajendra Singh Rajukhedi has now been appointed as the Vice-Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes by the President of India on 22 May, 2006 and he has assumed the charge of the Office of the Vice-Chairperson in the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes on 29 May, 2006 (forenoon). Private Secretary, Assistant Private Secretary and Personal Assistant to the Vice-Chairman have been appointed. Action has also been initiated to fill up the other vacant posts in various categories in the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL.No.7, Para No.3.26)

2.21 The Committee note that the Ministry are still in the process of finalizing its approach and strategy for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Committee endorse the steps taken by the Ministry in finalizing the approach paper for the Eleventh Five Year Plan based on their assessment of the various issues pertaining to overall development of STs as also the commitments made by the Government in the National Common Minimum Programme. However, keeping in view the fact that other Central Ministries/ Departments, as well as the States and UTs are implementing the sectoral programmes and schemes pertaining to the development of the Scheduled Tribes, the Committee desired that a holistic view should be taken while formulating the approach and strategy for overall development of the Scheduled Tribes during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should utilize the service of

experts in the field of tribal development as well as from concerned Central Ministries/ Departments, so that focused attention to the needs of the tribals may fully be addressed

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.22 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has its special concern and commitment for the well-being of the Scheduled Tribes who suffer as a group due to their social and economic backwardness and relative isolation. The major policies of the Ministry are accordingly aimed to ensure the overall development of STs. The Plan proposals of the Ministry are also formulated in such a way so as to empower the STs in a manner that they lead a life of self-confidence and dignity. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, being the nodal Ministry for implementing the developmental policies and programmes for the upliftment of the STs, implements certain ST-specific innovative programmes. The approach of the Ministry during the Eleventh Plan would also, therefore, be to address the concerns crucial for overall development of the Scheduled Tribes.

2.23 In the context of formulation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission has constituted a Steering Committee on 'Empowerment of Scheduled Tribes' under the Chairmanship of Dr. Balchandra Mungekar, Member, Planning Commission. Secretary, Tribal Affairs has been nominated as the Member of the Committee. Also a Working Group on 'Empowerment of Scheduled Tribes', under the Chairmanship of Shri Bhupender Singh, has been formed where Joint Secretary, Tribal Affairs is the Convener. Experts working in the field of Tribal Development have been included in the Committee/Groups. The Working Group is yet to submit its report.

2.24 In attempting to fulfill its mandate to ensure the overall well-being of tribals, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs works across many sectors which are handled by the respective sectoral Ministries. The Ministry has already been persuading the Central Ministries/ Departments as well as the Planning Commission for the implementation of the Tribal Sub- Plan. In addition, on certain crucial issues regarding tribal development, the Ministry is also convening meetings with the various sectoral Ministries so that focussed and coordinated action may be ensured in respect of various welfare measures.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL. No. 12, Para No.3.62)

2.25 The Committee note that during 2005-06, an amount of Rs.20 crore has been appropriated out of the allocation under Post Matric Scholarships for the schemes of Boys and Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools as no funds were allocated for these schemes at BE stage. The Committee further note that the expenditure under the scheme of 'Post Matric Scholarships, Books Banks and Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' is Rs.211.18 crore out of the RE of Rs. 188.09 crore leading to excess spending of Rs.23.09 crore. The Committee are not pleased with the appropriation of funds from one scheme to another as it affects the performance of the scheme from where funds have been appropriated. The Committee feel that demand for budgetary allocation for the schemes of Boys and Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools could have been made at the time of laying of Supplementary Demands for Grants of the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, desire that appropriation of funds from one scheme to another should not be resorted to; rather the Ministry of Finance should be approached for increased allocation.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.26 The Schemes of Boys and Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools were *suo-moto* transferred to the States by the Planning Commission . However, at Ministry's instance, the Schemes were restored back as Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Due to this, no allocations were made by the Planning Commission for these two Schemes during 2005-06. However, to meet the requirement of funds under these two Schemes, an amount of Rs.20.00 crore was re-appropriated from out of the allocation under PMS.

2.27 The Planning Commission was also requested to allocate funds for these two Schemes. However, the Planning Commission advised that the matter may be taken up with the Ministry of Finance for additional funds at the second supplementary stage. Accordingly, the Ministry of Finance were approached for funds under these two

schemes, which, however, could not be considered for want of matching savings from other Schemes.

2.28 It may be stated that as against RE of Rs.188.09 crore, an expenditure of Rs.211.18 crore was incurred under the Scheme of PMS, which includes Rs.23.09 crore re-appropriated from lump sum provision from North East Region.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL. No. 20, Para No.3.98)

2.29 The Committee note that the Ministry have launched the scheme of 'Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana' exclusively for the economic development of ST women for providing concessional financial assistance to the beneficiaries for projects/schemes costing upto Rs 50,000 per unit. However, the number of women beneficiaries covered under the scheme has not been satisfactory. Only nine States viz. Rajasthan, Tripura, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Sikkim and Uttaranchal have availed of the scheme so far. The amount of funds released during 2005-06 is Rs 549.60 lakh as compared to Rs 1197.40 lakh during 2004-05 and number of beneficiaries covered have gone down from 9279 during 2004-05 to 3725 during 2005-06. The Committee view the situation seriously and urge the Ministry to make all out efforts to increase the coverage of ST women by providing adequate funds and generating awareness about the scheme among the ST women. The remaining States who have not availed of the schemes so far should also be persuaded to come forward with proposals during 2006-07.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.30 As may be seen from the details given in the Statement enclosed (**Annexure – VIII**), there has been gradual increase in terms of sanctioned amount of loan as well as number of beneficiaries under the Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY). The number of beneficiaries has increased from 3325 in 2002-03 to 9946 in 2005-06.

The details of the procedure for availing financial assistance from NSTFDC for the scheme is also indicated in the footnote to the Statement. As may be seen from the Statement, a gap exists between sanctions and disbursements under the scheme due to procedural requirements, and the actual beneficiaries who have availed the scheme can be firmed up only subsequently.

2.31 The recommendations of the Committee have been brought to the notice of the NSTFDC; the NSTFDC has conveyed that all endeavours are being made by them to cover more and more ST women beneficiaries and also for timely implementation of sanctioned schemes. Further, in addition to the coverage of ST women under AMSY, NSTFDC has been advising the SCAs to extend assistance to ST women in other schemes of NSTFDC.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL. No. 22, Para No.3.114)

2.32 The Committee are surprised to note that though an allocation was first kept in the Budget 2004-05 for the scheme of 'Promotion of Tribal Culture', the scope and contents of the proposed scheme have not yet been formulated. The Committee further note that the activities and functions proposed under 'Promotion of Tribal Culture' are quite similar to the scheme of 'Research Information, Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others' currently implemented by the Ministry and the scheme of 'Financial Assistance for Promotion and Dissemination of Tribal/folk Art and Culture' implemented by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry will take a final view about projecting the scheme for Promotion of Tribal Culture in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Committee, strongly feel that the Ministry should have thoroughly assessed its viability before launching the scheme for 'Promotion of Tribal Culture'. The Committee, therefore, recommend that before launching a new scheme, the Ministry should make thorough assessment of the present needs of the tribal people, problems encountered by them, and how far the existing schemes of the Ministry are able to address these problems and what more needs to be done so that the objective of

providing a more focused attention on the integrated socio-economic and cultural development of the Scheduled Tribes is achieved in a coordinated and planned manner.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.33 The suggestions of the Committee have been noted and would be kept in view while formulating any new scheme for the 11th Five Year Plan. Similar scheme implemented by Ministry of Culture would be looked into with the objective that integrated socio-economic and cultural development of ST is achieved in a coordinated and planned manner.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

CHAPTER – III

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

Recommendation (SL. No. 4, Para No.3.23)

3.1 The Committee note that during the year 2005-06, an amount of Rs 42.76 lakh could not be utilized under the Non Plan Scheme of ‘National Overseas Scholarships of ST Students’ due to non-receipt of bills from the Indian Missions abroad for the payment of scholarships in respect of ST students pursuing studies abroad. The Committee desire that the Ministry should pursue the Ministry of External Affairs to send the bills for overseas scholarships of ST students in time so that they could be disposed of within the financial year thereby avoiding cut at the RE stage and adhering to strict fiscal discipline.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.2 Ministry of External Affairs has been requested to submit the Bills of National Overseas Scholarship awardees in time so that Ministry may make payment within the financial year.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs’ O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL. No. 8, Para No.3.47)

3.3 The Committee note that ‘Development of Forest Villages’ is one of the thrust areas of tribal development during the Tenth Five Year Plan and till date a total of 1832 forest villages in eight States have been covered. The Committee are, however, surprised to note that though an amount of Rs 220 crore has been allocated for the development of forest villages during 2006-07, yet the Ministry have no information about the exact number of forest villages proposed to be covered during 2006-07 and are dependant on the States, who have not even submitted proposals for the

development of forest villages so far. Keeping in view the fact that 2006-07 is the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan and that the one time relaxation given by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for undertaking non-forestry activities in the forest villages under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is valid only upto 31 December, 2006 the Committee desire that action plan for the year 2006-07, outlining the number of forest villages to be covered, location of these forest villages and anticipated expenditure per forest village should be prepared at the earliest. The Committee, also urge the Ministry to identify those forest villages not yet covered and vigorously pursue with the State Governments to send their proposals within the first quarter itself so that funds could be released early and the remaining forest villages are covered by 31 December, 2006.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.4 In case of development of forest villages, the project proposals are to be prepared by Forest Development Agencies (FDAs), which are registered societies working in districts. Since, for the first time such a programme has been taken up for development of infrastructure in these forest villages, projects are prepared after assessing the existing infrastructure and identifying gaps. The whole process is based on people's participation. Further, Ministry has also sent officials to visit States to have feedback on implementation in the field as well as to expedite the preparation of new proposals. The Ministry is continuously reviewing the implementation of the programme and also requested the Ministry of Environment & Forests to take up the same in their last meeting of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCFs) and Chief Wildlife Wardens of States held on 5 – 6 September, 2006.

3.5 During the current year, projects approved during last year are continued to be implemented. In the 4th meeting of Tri-partite Project Appraisal Committee, new proposals covering 347 more forest villages spread in 5 States at a cost of Rs. 54.61 crore have been approved. It was also decided to recommend release of Rs. 71.61 crore for on-going projects covering 1832 forest villages under implementation of 8 States. In the last review meeting of State Secretaries/Commissioners in-charge of Tribal Welfare/ Development Department held on 16 September 2006, States were asked to expedite the proposals for the remaining villages.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL. 10 Para No.3.49)

3.6 The Committee also desire that the Ministry should pursue Central Ministries/Departments to earmark funds for TSP in proportion to the ST population in the country i.e. at least 8% of their Annual Plans and also furnish the details of actual flow of funds to TSP. As regards setting up of an institutionalised mechanism such as setting up of a Committee in the Planning Commission to approve the TSP of Central Ministries, the Committee urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the Planning Commission early, at the highest level.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.7 The Central Ministries have been repeatedly requested by Ministry of Tribal Affairs to earmark funds under Annual Plans for TSP in proportion to the ST population (i.e. minimum, 8% which is a floor and not ceiling). Accordingly, after writing to the Secretaries of the line Ministries/Departments, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs also took up the matter with the Member Secretary, Planning Commission. The Planning Commission was requested for devising a similar mechanism for the Central Ministries, as is done for the States, so that the Ministries provide and report their expenditure on TSP.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL. No. 21, Para No.3. 108)

3.8 The Committee note with concern that three years since the Prime Minister announced on 15 August, 2003 that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs would construct an Adivasi Bhavan in New Delhi, the Ministry have not been able to achieve any progress

towards construction of the Adivasi Bhavan due to inability of the Ministry of Urban Development to allot any suitable land. The Committee further note that the Ministry of Urban Development, citing acute shortage of land meant for Government office accommodation in Delhi have desired the Ministry to communicate to the Directorate of Estates the exact requirement of office space for allotment in Integrated Central Government office complexes. The Committee agree that an independent plot of land is required for construction of the Adivasi Bhavan as it would be a Centre for showcasing the tribal folk arts, culture and tribal artifacts and will be housing documentation of tribal history, art and culture. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to pursue the matter expeditiously with the Ministry of Urban Development and impress upon them, the need to allocate a suitable land for construction of the Adivasi Bhavan on priority.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.9 The recommendation of the Committee have been brought to the notice of Ministry of Urban Development to expedite allotment of an independent plot of land to this Ministry at some prominent place for construction of an Adivasi Bhavan vide D.O. letter No.17019/13/2003-PC&V dated 31 May, 2006 from Minister of Tribal Affairs to Minister of Urban Development.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

CHAPTER – IV

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

Recommendation (SL. No.3, Para No.3.22)

4.1 The Committee note that utilization of funds under Plan Schemes of the Ministry during 2005-06 has been quite high with the percentage of expenditure reaching 99.5%. However, the Committee are concerned at the huge amount of unspent balances lying with the Ministry. Out of the releases made prior to 31 March, 2004, the unspent balances was Rs 868.71 crore as on 31 March 2005 which came down to Rs 484.91 crore as on 31 December, 2005. The cumulative unspent balances with States, for releases made up to 31 December 2005, was Rs 1522.90 crore as on 1 January, 2006. Though the Ministry contended that the position of utilization of funds has improved due to strict adherence to the provisions of the FRBM Act, yet the fact that funds could not be released to the States of Bihar, Kerala, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal under the scheme of Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution due to unspent balances lying with these States is a cause of serious concern. The Committee, therefore desire that as 2006-07 is the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Ministry should make sincere efforts and impress upon the State Governments to utilize all the unspent balances lying with them as well as funds allocated during 2006-07 within this financial year so that the amount allocated for the entire duration of the Tenth Five Year Plan could be fully utilized. The Committee also urge the Ministry to impress upon the States/ UTs to comply with the provisions of the FRBM Act strictly.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.2 The Ministry has been writing to the State Governments for furnishing utilisation certificates from time to time and letters have already been issued with regard to SCA to TSP and grants under 275(1) of the Constitution giving notice to the

defaulting States to furnish utilization certificates so that Ministry is in a position to release funds to the States. Details of the correspondence Ministry has had in the current financial year has been as follows:

- (i) D.O. letter No. 14020/15/2005-SG dated 26.4.2006: Letter to Chief Secretaries of concerned States for furnishing proposals on development of forest villages under SCA to TSP;
- (ii) D.O. letter No. 17019/08/2006-PC&V dated 28.4.2006: Letter to States indicating allocations made for 2006-07 on all programmes/ schemes of Ministry and requesting for furnishing UCs and sending proposals by May 2006 for consideration in the Ministry
- (iii) Letter No.14020/02/2006-SG I dated 10.5.2006: Letter to States with proforma for sending proposals under Article 275(1) and also for furnishing UCs for funds released prior to 1.4.2005;
- (iv) D.O. Letter No. 17019/12/2006-PC &V dated 31.5.2006: Letter to Chief Secretary of States for furnishing UCs for all schemes of Ministry and sending proposals for 2006-07;
- (v) Letter No. 14020/4/2006-SG I dated 14.6.2006: Letter to States serving special notice of 60 days for furnishing UCs for funds released under Article 275(1) prior to 1.4.2005 quoting, inter-alia, FRBM Act;
- (vi) Letter No.14020/8/2006-SG II dated 14.6.2006: Letter to States serving notice of 60 days for furnishing UCs for funds released under SCA to TSP, prior to 1.4.2005 quoting, inter-alia, FRBM Act;
- (vii) Letter No.14020/3/2006-SG I dated 13.6.2006: Letter to all States for furnishing completion certificate/ utilization certificate and requirement of funds for 2006-07 in respect of sanctioned Ekalavya Model Residential School.

4.3 It may be seen from the above that this Ministry has been pursuing with the State Governments on the points on which the Committee has expressed concern.

4.4 This recommendation of the Committee is proposed to be conveyed to all the concerned States/ UTs so that they are sensitized about the concern expressed by the Committee.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.9 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (SL No.9, Para No.3.48)

4.5 The Committee note with serious concern that though the Planning Commission had issued orders directing the States to earmark funds for TSP to be placed under a separate Budget Head (code 796) from the total State plan outlay at least in proportion to the ST population of the States/ UTs, yet the Ministry have no information about the status of opening of a separate Budget Head for TSP by the States/ UTs. Keeping in view the fact that the scheme of SCA to TSP has been in operation as early as the Fifth Five Year Plan, the Committee feel an urgent need to evolve a mechanism to ensure accountability as well as check diversion of TSP funds. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to pursue with those States/ UTs who have not opened separate Budget Head for TSP so far, at the highest level so that all the States/ UTs could earmark funds under a separate Head at least in proportion to the ST population of the State for their tribal sub plans.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.6 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been stressing on earmarking of funds for TSP to the States. Letters were addressed by Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the Chief Secretaries of TSP States/UTs, urging them to draw up the Annual Plans in terms of the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission and ensure earmarking of funds under TSP in proportion to the Scheduled Tribe population of the State. It was also emphasized that the funds under a separate Budget Head/ Sub Head for the Tribal Sub-Plan (code 796) should be non-divertible and non-lapsable.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.12 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (SL No. 13, Para No.3.63)

4.7 The Committee note that though the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' is a Central Sector Scheme where 100% Central Assistance is provided and States/UTs are not required to bear any financial burden, funds have been released only to ten States during the last three years. The Ministry have informed that grants was released only to those State Governments who have submitted complete proposals. The Committee are not satisfied with the number of States availing the scheme and desire that States should be vigorously pursued to come forward with more proposals under the scheme. The Committee also urge the Ministry to assess the performance of the scheme at the time of formulation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan and incorporate measures for generating publicity/awareness and making the scheme more attractive.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.8 All the State Governments who have not so far availed the benefits of the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' have been addressed for sending their proposals and for giving wide publicity to the scheme in their States among tribals.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.15 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (SL. No. 15, Para No.3.74)

4.9 The Committee note that the Ministry have introduced an insurance scheme for Primitive Tribal Groups i.e. 'Janshree Bima Yojana' during 2004-05 with the objective of covering the earning head of each PTG family by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan. Out of 5 lakh PTG families assessed for coverage under the scheme, funds have been released for covering 3 lakh PTG families during 2004-05 and 2005-06. The Committee express apprehension that the Ministry would not be able to cover the remaining 2 lakh PTG families during 2006-07, the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to prepare specific action plan expeditiously for bringing all the PTG families under insurance cover during the financial year 2006-07 and monitor the progress achieved at the highest level.

Recommendation (SL. No. 16, Para No.3.75)

4.10 The Committee express dissatisfaction at the slow progress made by the States/UTs in conducting base line survey on Primitive Tribal Groups. The Ministry have informed that only two States viz. Manipur and Rajasthan have submitted the survey reports; in the case of West Bengal and Uttaranchal, the reports submitted by them are incomplete. The Committee take serious view of the fact that majority of the States/UTs are not giving priority to conduct the survey and desire that those States/UTs should be pursued at the highest level so that base line survey on the Primitive Tribal Groups are completed during 2006-07.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.11 The recommendations of the Committee have been communicated to all States concerned requesting them to ensure the submission of Base Line Surveys to this Ministry within the current Financial Year vide D. O. letter No. 22040/17/2006-NGO dated 1st June 2006 (Annexure – VII).

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

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.6, Para No.3.25)

5.1 The Committee note that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Post Matric Scholarships, Hostels for ST Boys and Girls, Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas, Research Information and Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others etc. where the States have to provide matching grants or bear the committed liability as in the case of Post Matric Scholarships. The Committee further note that some of the States are finding it difficult to provide 50% matching grant under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The Committee feels that implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes is greatly hampered when the State Governments do not come forward with proposals under the scheme or find it difficult to provide their matching share. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the funding pattern of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be reviewed at the earliest and action plan formulated to provide 100% grants for Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

5.2 The Ministry will make efforts to move the Planning Commission to consider the recommendations of the Committee. Schemes run during X Five Year Plan will be reviewed for revision/ modification at the time of finalisation of the XI Plan, when the recommendation of the Committee, wherever feasible, will be considered.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL No. 11, Para No.3.50)

5.3 The Committee note that the Ministry are considering the feasibility of restructuring and strengthening the ITDP/ITDA frameworks in the States. The Committee are of the firm view that for effective implementation of tribal welfare programmes, frame work of ITDPs/ITDAs in the State should be suitably restructured

and strengthened in terms of finance, manpower and delegation of powers to the project officers and fully endorse the steps taken in this regard. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should examine the matter in detail and work out a time bound programme for the restructuring and strengthening of the ITDP/ITDA frameworks in the States at the earliest.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

5.4 States are provided grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution to bridge the critical infrastructure gap and to raise the level of administration in tribal areas. Moreover, in the revised guidelines for release and utilization of funds under Article 275(1) of the Constitution, provisions have been made for utilisation of 2% of the allocation for project management, training, MIS, administrative expenses and monitoring and evaluation. Recently, a one-day meet of State Secretaries and Collectors had been organised by the Ministry on 3rd May, 2006 to discuss various issues which *inter alia* include ‘Strengthening/reorienting the implementing machinery in the States, revamping of ITDA/ITDPs’

5.5 Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has requested, on 14 September 2006, all Chief Secretaries where ITDPs/ITDAs exist to introduce a new practice of posting of best and brightest officer in the Tribal areas for effective implementation of programmes and schemes relating to the development of tribal people and protection of their rights.

5.6 Further, the issue is also being considered by the Ministry while finalizing the 11th Five Year Plan.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs’ O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL. No. 14, Para No.3.64)

5.7 The Committee note with regret that though the norms for the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' provides for inclusion of at least 30% girl students and 3% disabled students from tribal community, yet the State Governments have not provided separate data of the number of girl students and disabled students enrolled under the scheme. The Committee are not happy with the situation and urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the concerned State Governments and ensure that the data of girl students and disabled students availing the scheme are made available so that impact of the scheme on these two most vulnerable section of the tribal community could be assessed.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

5.8 All the State Governments who have availed the benefit of the scheme of 'Upgradation of Merit of ST Students' have been addressed to provide the data of girls students and physically disabled students who have been provided coaching under the scheme.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL. No. 17, Para No.3.86)

5.9 The Committee note with dismay that only five States viz., Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim have furnished the data of Trainees who have gained employment after completion of the vocational courses for tribal youths. The Committee further note that the Ministry have commissioned a study to assess the success of the VTC scheme. In the opinion of the Committee, the impact of the scheme of 'Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas' can be assessed only if the complete data of successfully employed tribal youths trained in the vocational courses are made available. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to make sincere efforts to persuade the remaining States/UTs to obtain the data of trainees who have gained employment after completion of the vocational courses at the earliest.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

5.10 The matter regarding furnishing the data of trainees who have gained employment after completion of their vocational courses has been regularly stressed upon during the course of the meeting of State representatives in the annual meetings of the Ministry. The defaulting states were asked in March and again in June to make the data regarding trainees who have gained employment after completion of the vocational training course available immediately.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL.No.18, Para No.3.87)

5.11 The Committee note that under the scheme of 'Vocational Training Centers in Tribal Areas', traditional courses like Typing & shorthand, Cane and Bamboo artifacts training, Tailoring etc. are offered to the tribal youths to enable them to find employment/ self employment. Apart from the traditional courses, some of the State Governments like Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura and Chhattisgarh are also offering computer training courses. In the era of globalization and advanced technology, the Committee feel that the Vocational Courses offered under the scheme should be in tune with the changing global scenario and urge the Ministry to persuade the remaining States to introduce Computer Training and courses in Information Technology, in addition to the traditional courses offered under the scheme.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

5.12 The recommendation of the Committee has been noted for compliance. All the State Governments who have not so far included the trades of computer training and information technology in their Vocational Training Centers have been asked to do so.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

Recommendation (SL. No. 19, Para No.3.97)

5.13 The Committee are constrained to note that even five years after the incorporation of NSTFDC as a separate entity in the year 2001, consequent to the bifurcation of NSFDC (previously combined Corporation for both SCs and STs), the process of transfer/ bifurcation of State Government guarantees issued in favour of the combined Corporation has not yet been fully completed. The Committee further note that NSTFDC has not been able to step up its operations as availability of State Government guarantee is one of the requirement for release of funds. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to convene a meeting of concerned State Governments/ State Channelising Agencies and NSFDC and work out a mechanism for sharing/transfer of State Government Guarantee and execution of legal requirements at the earliest.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

5.14 On the lines of the recommendations of the Committee, a review meeting has since been organized with the State Channelising Agencies of NSTFDC under the Chairmanship of Secretary (TA) on 16.9.2006. Minister of Tribal Affairs had inaugurated the meeting. In this meeting, various issues relating to NSTFDC schemes were discussed including issues relating to State Government guarantees for NSTFDC operations. NSTFDC is proposing to organise separately another meeting with SCAs of North Eastern States.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs' O.M. No. 16015/8/2006-PC&V dated 20.10.2006]

**New Delhi;
14 December, 2006
23 Agrahayana, 1928 (Saka)**

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

ANNEXURE I

D.O. No. F.21(1)-PD/2004

D. SWARUP
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
New Delhi.

January 1, 2005.

Dear Shri Sahoo,

During the last meeting of Finance Minister with Financial Advisers on 25th October, 2004, it was reiterated that only 33% of the budgeted expenditure would be permissible in the last quarter of the financial year.

2. The necessity for austerity and strict expenditure control is even more imperative in view of the recent developments. You would appreciate that the severe natural disaster which has affected our country would require stepped up expenditure on relief and rehabilitation. Therefore, you may ensure that the austerity and expenditure management guidelines issued on 24th September, 2004 are strictly adhered to. You may also specifically ensure that the decision to restrict the expenditure during the last quarter to 33% of the budgeted amount is strictly complied with. In case of Ministries/Departments, where the Revised Estimates for 2004-05 are lower than the Budget Estimates, the reduced ceilings will apply.

Happy New Year,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(D. Swarup)

Shri M. Sahoo,
Financial Adviser,
Ministry of Tribal Affairs,
New Delhi.

**F. No. 2(72)B(S)/2004
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs
(Budget Division)

New Delhi, dated the 1st February, 2005

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject: Restriction of 33% expenditure in the last quarter –
Ceiling of RE 2004- 05 lower than the BE 2005–06.**

The undersigned is directed to refer to Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's D.O. No. G-21015/1/04 – B&C dated the 28th January, 2005 addressed Secretary (Expenditure) regarding Thirty-three percent of the budgeted expenditure permissible in the last quarter of the financial year i.e. 2004-2005.

2. It is clarified that the 33% expenditure ceiling for the last quarter is to be reckoned with respect to BE provision. However, wherever the RE provision is lower than the BE, the effective ceiling for expenditure during last quarter would be 33% of BE or residual provision with respect to RE, whichever is lower.

(Puneet Agarwal)
Deputy Director(Budget)

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(Shri Mirtunjay Sahoo, Joint Secretary &FA)
Shram Shakti Bhawan
New Delhi

ANNEXURE II

MEENA GUPTA
SECRETARY
Tel: 23381652
Fax: 23073160

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
SHASTRI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

D.O. No.1062/US(IFD)/2003-04

11th November, 2005.

Dear Dr Kishore,

I am writing about the decision taken in the Pre-Budget meeting held on 7th November, 2005, fixing the R.E. (Plan) 2005-06 of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs at Rs. 1398.82 crore imposing a cut of Rs. 100 crore on BE estimate.

2. I am enclosing a small write up explaining the preparedness of the Ministry to incur expenditure of 27% of the Budgeted provision during the current quarter and 33% in the last quarter. In view of the above, the proposed cut would affect the implementation of NCMP, especially with respect to the development of forest villages and the development of tribal lands through minor irrigation and other useful water harvesting structures.

3. As explained by Joint Secretary, Tribal Affairs, in the meeting with you, except for the earmarked increase of Rs. 230.00 crore for Development of Forest Villages and Rs.50.00 crore for Minor Irrigation of Tribal lands, under the Schemes of Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribal Sub Plan(TSP) and grants under Article 275(1), respectively, no increase has been given by the Planning Commission for the year BE 2005-06, compared to the previous financial year 2004-05. In fact, under the schemes of SCA to TSP and grants under the schemes of SCA to TSP and grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution, the outlay has remained static since 2001-02 at Rs. 497.00 crore and Rs. 300.00 crore respectively, and not even a notional increase has been considered during these 4 years as is the usual practice for the social sector, except for a nominal increase of 10% during the year 2004-05 for the provision under Article 275(1) of the Constitution.

4. I may also add that due to higher requirement of funds under the scheme of Post Matric Scholarship (PMS) due to upward revision of rates with effect from 1st April, 2003, the allocation has been increased from Rs. 65.49 crore in the year 2004-05 to Rs 230.65 crore in the year 2005-06 i.e by an amount of Rs 165.16 crore. However, due to this additional requirement for PMS, there have been reductions within the other Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. These factors of the past years do not, therefore, leave any scope for further reduction in the outlay of the Ministry.

5. The Ministry is fully geared to spend the balance amount of the BE provision in next two quarters, as projects under major schemes have already been sanctioned, though fund flow will be done on the receipt of Utilisation Certificates very likely in this quarter itself. I would, therefore, earnestly request you not to impose any cut on the BE (Plan) outlay of Ministry of Tribal Affairs. On the contrary, we would request you to allow an additionality of Rs. 24.15 crore over the B.E. of Rs. 1498.82 crore as already requested by us, to meet the cost of the schemes which were earlier transferred to the State Governments by the Planning Commission and later restored. We would be happy to make a presentation to explain the magnitude of the problem and the deficiencies in terms of the social and physical infrastructure in the tribal areas of the country. You would be aware that this has contributed, in no small measure, in creating conditions conducive for naxalites to operate.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Meena Gupta)

Dr. Adarsh Kishore,
Secretary (Expenditure),
Ministry of Finance,
North Block,
New Delhi.

ANNEXURE III

CONFIDENTIAL

MOST IMMEDIATE

BUDGET MATTER

L.M. VAS
Joint Secretary(Budget)

Tel: 23092804
Fax: 23094052

D.O. No. 2(78)-B(CDN)/2005
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs
(Budget Division)
North Block
New Delhi – 110001

January 4, 2006

Dear Shri Sahoo,

A review of the trend and pace of expenditure as also assessment of likely expenditure in the remaining months of the current financial year in accordance with rules and procedures has been carried out during pre-budget discussions. Accordingly, the ceilings of Non-Plan expenditure in RE 2005-2006 and BE 2006-2007 and Plan expenditure in RE 2005-2006 in respect of the Demands(s) with which you are concerned have been approved as follow:

Demand(s)	RE 2005-06 Plan	RE 2005-06 (Non-Plan)	(Rupees in crore) BE 2006-07 (Non-Plan)
	1398.82	10.35	10.56

93-Ministry of Tribal Affairs

2. The Planning Commission will be separately communicating the ceilings of Plan expenditure in BE 2006-2007.

3. We shall be grateful if you kindly have the required Statement of Budget Estimates(SBEs) prepared as per the above ceilings and furnish the same to us along with the details of recoveries taken in reduction of expenditure and the receipts netted against expenditure along with supporting notes, on a floppy, in addition to printed hard copy as already requested for vide MOF, DEA OM No. F.2(28)-B(D)/2005 dated 22nd September, 2005, **latest by 12th January, 2006.** It may be noted that the Estimates are required to be submitted according to the revised structure for Demands for Grants although the ceilings indicated above are with reference to the current year's budget estimates.

4. Instructions regarding budgeting for/expenditure from the lump-sum provision for North Eastern Region and Sikkim have been issued by the Ministry of Finance from time to time, latest being OM F.No. 2(66)-B(CDN)/2001 (Vol II) dated 13th September, 2002. It may kindly be ensured that a lump-sum of 10% of the budget support for RE Central Plan allocation for the projects/schemes in the North Eastern Region is made unless your Ministry/Department has

specifically been exempted by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region from doing so. Should the Department(s) fail to make provision at the budget formulation stage for North Eastern Region, transfer of unutilized 10% allocation to the Central Pool of Resources would not be possible.

5. Kindly also ensure that the expenditure incurred in the remaining part of the fiscal is within the agreed revised estimates as decided in the pre-Budget meeting of the Ministry/Department. Savings, if any, may please be identified and reported immediately even after the statement of Budget Estimates have been furnished to us. In particular, the releases to States, CPSUs and Autonomous Bodies etc. may be regulated strictly in accordance with the laid down conditionalities for release of funds like furnishing of utilization certificates for previous releases, utilization of unspent balances, matching contribution by others, adjustment of defaults in interest/repayment of Government loans etc. In this context, detailed guidelines issued from time to time regarding observance of general conditions while releasing funds, and specific conditionalities built into Plan schemes under which the releases are to be regulated may be referred to. Guidelines on expenditure management – Fiscal prudence and austerity issued vide Department of Expenditure's OM F.No. 7(2)/E-Coord/2005 dated 23rd November, 2005 and the Minutes of the Meeting taken by the Finance Minister with all Financial Advisers issued vide Department of Expenditure's OM No.10(5)E-Coord/2004 dated 29th October, 2004, 14th January, 2005 and 20th May, 2005 respectively may also be kept in view. In case of any release in relaxation from these guidelines/conditionalities, specific prior approval of Secretary (Expenditure) is required to be obtained.

6. It may be noted that the above ceilings do not 'per se' authorize any re-appropriation or supplementary grant. Individual proposals seeking Secretary (Expenditure)'s approval to re-appropriations, wherever required under extant Rules and Instructions [vide Rule 10 of Delegation of Financial Powers Rules (DFPR) and orders issued thereunder], should be sent separately on file. Likewise, proposals involving New Service or New Instrument of Service should be sent for seeking appropriate Supplementary Grant. It should now also be possible to finalize the proposals for Supplementary Demands for Grants to be sought in the final batch for 2005-06 during the Budget Session of the Parliament and send the same latest by **3rd February, 2006.**

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

Shri M. Sahoo,
Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser,
Ministry of Tribal Affairs,
New Delhi.

(L.M. VAS)

ANNEXURE IV

RAJIV KUMAR
JOINT SECRETARY

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
SHASTRI BHAVAN,
NEW DELHI – 110001.
Telefax: 23073489

D.O. No:

20th January, 2006

Dear Shri Vas,

As against the Budget Estimates 2005-06 of Rs. 1498.82 crores, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs had projected Revised Estimates (Plan) 2005-06 at Rs. 1522.97 crores i.e. an additionality of Rs. 24.15 crore, to meet the cost of the Schemes of Boys and Girls Hostels and Ashram Schools, which were earlier unilaterally transferred to the State Governments by the Planning Commission and later restored.

2. During the current year, except for the earmarked increase of Rs. 230 crores for development of forest villages and Rs. 50 crores for Minor Irrigation of Tribal Land, no increase has been given by the Planning Commission, compared to the year 2004-05. Also, due to the upward revision of rates under the Scheme of Post Matric Scholarships with effect from 1.4.2003 and consequent higher requirement of funds, the allocation under the Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship was increased from Rs. 65.49 crores in the year 2004-05 to Rs. 230.65 crore for the year 2005-06 i.e. by an amount of Rs. 165.16 crore and because of this, allocations under other Schemes were reduced drastically, leaving no further scope for reductions.

3. Till end October 2005, an expenditure of Rs. 606.10 crore i.e. 40.44% of the BE had already been incurred. The Joint Secretary (Tribal Affairs) along with the Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser explained the preparedness of the Ministry to incur expenditure of 27% of the budgeted provision during the third quarter and 33% in the last quarter during the meeting taken by the Secretary (Expenditure) on 7th November, 2005. Secretary (Expenditure) had assured to correlate the R.E. with the pace of expenditure. Secretary (Tribal Affairs) had written to Secretary (Expenditure) on 11th November 2005 explaining the position in detail. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

4. Consequent to this, the expenditure details till November 2005 were sought by the Ministry of Finance telephonically and the same were furnished. The expenditure till end November 2005 Rs. 832.35 crore. The expenditure till end December 2005 is Rs. 1202.97 crore, which is 80.26% of BE (Rs. 1498.82 crore).

5. Though no response has been received with reference to Secretary (Tribal Affairs)'s letter dated 11.11.2005, the R.E. 2005-06 ceiling has been conveyed at Rs. 1398.82 crore i.e. a cut of Rs.100.00 crore.

6. In view of the position explained above and more than 80% expenditure out of B.E. at the end of December 2005, Ministry of Finance is requested to restore the cut of Rs.100.00 crores imposed at the R.E. stage so that the welfare programmes targeted at the most deprived sections of society are not adversely affected.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Rajeev Kumar)

Encl: as above:

Shri L.M. Vas,
Joint Secretary(Budget),
Department of Economic Affairs,
North Block,
New Delhi.

ANNEXURE V

RAJIV KUMAR
JOINT SECRETARY

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
SHASTRI BHAVAN,
NEW DELHI – 110001.
Telefax: 23073489

D.O. No:17019/08/2006-PC&V

Dated the 28th April, 2006

I am enclosing a statement showing the tentative allocation made to your State/Union Territory under the various schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the current financial year 2006-07 for welfare of the Scheduled Tribes. It may kindly be noted that allocations made under the various schemes are only tentative/indicative and actual sanction and release of funds would depend on the utilization of funds released earlier, proper projectisation of schemes and projects giving adequate justification in terms of physical and financial parameters, clearly spelling out the physical outcomes in quantifiable terms, timely submission of project proposals, recommendations of the State Committee, etc.

2. It has been observed in the past that the State/UT Government is not submitting proposals/projects to this Ministry in time and have a tendency to forward the same at the fag end of the financial year. Some States had even forwarded their proposals to this Ministry as late as the last week of March 2006, which was too late for the Ministry to process. You would, therefore, kindly appreciate that we need to sanction and release Plan funds in an evenly spread manner throughout the year, instead of bunching the expenditure towards the end of the financial year.

3. I am also writing to you separately giving the details of funds released to the State Governments under various schemes of the Ministry during the Tenth Plan period along with the unspent balance available with the States/UTs. I may reiterate that as per the provisions of the FRBM, it would not be possible for this Ministry to release any funds, if the utilization certificates up to 2004-05 are not received and the States may have to forego the funds which will be diverted to those States/UTs who are able to utilize them in a time bound manner.

4. I would in the circumstances request you to kindly direct the Departments concerned to utilize the funds already released by this Ministry for various schemes, on priority basis, and to submit proposals for the current year by the end of May 2006 as per the scheme-wise allocations to enable this Ministry to consider sanction of the same at the earliest.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Rajeev Kumar)

To -As per list attached

Copy to –

PPS to Secretary/PS to JS(RK)/PA to JS(RP)/PA to DDG(Stat)/

PS to JS&FA/All Divisional Heads in the Ministry.

ANNEXURE VI

RAJIV KUMAR
JOINT SECRETARY
AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL

SHASTRI BHAVAN,
NEW DELHI – 110001.
Telefax: 23073489

D.O. No:17019/12/2006-PC&V

Dated the 31st May, 2006

Dear

I am writing this letter regarding implementation of various Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes of this Ministry by the State Governments/UT Administrations during the current financial year 2006-07.

2. As you are aware, Government of India provides 50% Central share for some schemes and 100% grant-in-aid to the State Governments/UT Administrations for some other schemes. This Ministry releases funds for the following Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes to the State Governments/UT Administrations, as well as to the NGOs-

Central Sector Schemes:

1. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (State Govts.).
2. Grants under First Proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution (State Govts.).
3. Grant to NGOs for ST including Coaching & Allied Schemes and award for exemplary service (NGOs)
4. Vocational Training Centre in Tribal Areas (States and NGOs)
5. Grant-in-aid to STDCs for MFPs (State Corporations)
6. Development of Primitive Tribal Groups (States and NGOs)
7. State Tribal Development Corporation (State Corporations)

Centrally Sponsored Schemes:

1. Scheme of PMS, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of ST Students (State Govts/UTs.)
2. Scheme for Hostels for ST Girls and Boys (State Govts./UTs)
3. Ashram Schools in TSP Areas (State Govts./UTs)

3. We are enclosing a statement showing the funds released to the States/UTs under the various schemes during the last seven years (1999-2000 to 2005-06) as also the amount lying unspent with the States/UTs. It may kindly be noted that unless the State Governments/UT Administrations/NGOs utilizes the funds already released by the Ministry, at least till the end of the year 2004-05, further release of funds by this Ministry would not be possible as per the conditions stipulated under the FRBM Act.

4. We would, therefore, request the State Governments/UT Administrations to kindly ensure that the funds meant for specific programmes are released urgently to the Departments concerned to enable them to complete the projects and seek further funds during the current year. If necessary, you may kindly call a meeting of the officers of the Tribal Affairs, Finance and Planning Departments so that the funds could be released at the earliest and schemes implemented well in time.

5. It may also be emphasized that the State Governments should ensure that the funds are utilized for the purpose of which they are sanctioned.

6. We may also mention that we are keen to avoid a rush of proposals towards the end of the year for getting the schemes sanctioned. You may, therefore, kindly instruct the concerned Departments suitably so that, while the funds released earlier are utilized well in time, proposals for the current year are submitted immediately as per the Scheme-wise allocations indicated in my letter No. 17019/08/06-PC&V dated 28.4.06 to enable earlier release of funds.

7. It may also kindly be noted that States which either fail to utilize the past funds or fail to submit their proposals, may have to forego the funds which may be diverted to those States who are able to utilize them in a time bound manner.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Rajeev Kumar)

Chief Secretaries of all the States having ST Population.

ANNEXURE VII

RUCHIRA PANT
JOINT SECRETARY

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
SHASTRI BHAVAN,
NEW DELHI – 110001.
Tele: 233883622
Fax: 23073607

D.O. No:22040/17/2006-NGO

Dated the 1ST June, 2006

Dear

The Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment for examination of demands for grants of MTA for the year 2006-07 while examining the issues concerning this Ministry, has expressed its serious concern regarding financial management and utilization of funds under the schemes of this Ministry in paras 3.21 and 3.22 of their report. A copy of the relevant paras of the report is enclosed. The Committee has drawn the attention to the FRBM Act and has urged the Ministry to pursue the matter with the States so that the proposals are received in time and funds released. They have also urged the Ministry to impress upon the States to spend their unspent balances so that the allocation under the schemes can be released to the States in accordance with the FRBM Act. In view of the above, I would request you to comply with the issues raised by the Committee in para 3.21 and 3.22 (Extracts enclosed). In this regard, Secretary (TA)'s D.O. letter No. 22040/58/2005-NGO, dated 4.5.06 may also be referred to.

2. Further the Committee has voiced their concern about the coverage of PTG families under the "Jamshree Bima Yojana" as also non-submission of Baseline Survey Reports by the States vide para 3.74 and 3.75. A copy of the relevant paras of the report is enclosed. In this regard our letter of even no. dated 24.4.06 may also please be referred to. The Ministry has released an amount of Rs. 5.00 crores and Rs.10.00 crores under Janshree Bima Yojana to the States during 2004-05 and 2005-06. The details are enclosed herewith. You are requested to send the utilization certificates immediately for the grants released in previous years, to enable this Ministry to consider further release of funds under Janshree Bima Yojana. Further, the State Governments are requested to ensure the submission of Base Line Surveys to this Ministry within the current financial year.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(RUCHIRA PANT)

Encl: As above

Shri R. K. Verma,
Administrator,
Daman and Diu,
Secretariat, Moti Daman

ANNEXURE VIII

DETAILS OF AMOUNT SANCTIONED AND RELEASED BY NSTFDC TO WOMEN BENEFICIARIES UNDER ADIVASI MAHILA SASHAKTIKARAN YOJANA (AMSY)

Rs. (in crore)

	Financial Year	Sanctions			Disbursement	
		Amount (NSTFDC's Share)	No. of Beneficiaries	Increase over previous year in %age for no. of beneficiaries	Amount	No. of beneficiaries
1	2002-03	6.25	3325		3.93	2106
2	2003-04	6.46	5992	80%	3.42	3202
3	2004-05	11.81	8108	35%	11.97	9279
4	2005-06	15.06	9946	23%	0.89	287

Procedure for availing financial assistance from NSTFDC

- i. The funds of NSTFDC are annually notionally allocated to State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) based on tribal population of respective State/UT with respect to total ST population.
- ii. Project proposals are forwarded by SCAs to NSTFDC for availing financial assistance.
- iii. Proposals are processed by NSTFDC for its financial viability and for sanctioned cases. Letter of Intent (LOI) intimating the sanction of Scheme/Project is conveyed to SCAs.
- iv. After acceptance of terms and conditions of LOI and submission of list of selected applicants, funds for cases meeting the norms for disbursement laid down by NSTFDC are released to SCAs by NSTFDC for implementation of sanctioned scheme(s)/project(s).

Note

- a. In view of above procedure gap exists between sanctions and disbursements.
- b. Sanction is an on going process. Hence release of funds for sanctioned case(s) pertaining to the previous years takes place in the subsequent years.

**MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SITTING OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON
THURSDAY, 14th DECEMBER, 2006.**

**The Committee met from 15.30 hrs. to 1630 hrs. in Committee Room B
Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.**

PRESENT

Smt. Sumitra Mahajan - CHAIRPERSON

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Mahaveer Bhagora
3. Dr Babu Rao Mediyam
4. Shri Rabindar Kumar Rana
5. Shri P.A. Sangma
6. Smt. Pratibha Singh
7. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
8. Smt. Usha Verma

**MEMBERS
RAJYA SABHA**

9. Shri Urkhao Gwra Brahma
10. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
11. Dr. Radhakant Nayak
12. Ms. Anusuiya Uikey
13. Shri Nand Kishore Yadav

LOK SABHA 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 welcomed the new Members nominated to the Committee. Thereafter, she apprised the Members that they were meeting to consider and adopt three Draft Reports of the Committee namely, (i) Twentieth Report on "The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2006" (ii) Twenty-first Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Committee on the subject "National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation" of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and (iii) Twenty-second Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants – 2006-2007 of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

3. X X X X X X X X X X

4. X X X X X X X X X X

5. The Committee then took up the Twenty-second Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants 2006-2007 of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and adopted the same without any amendment.

6. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalize and present the reports on their behalf to the Parliament.

7. X X X X X X X X X X

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX

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

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	22	
II. Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government: (Sl. Nos. 1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 20 and 22)	7	31.82%
III. Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government: (Sl. Nos. 4, 8, 10 and 21)	4	18.19%
IV. 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. 3, 9, 13, 15 and 16)	5	22.72%
V. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature: (Sl. Nos. 6, 11, 14, 17, 18 and 19)	6	27.27%