

**30**

**THIRTIETH REPORT**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
EMPOWERMENT  
(2007-2008)**

**(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS**

**Action taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment on Demands for Grants -2007-2008 of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.**

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 04.03.2008**

**Laid in Rajya Sabha on 04.03.2008**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
December, 2007/Agrahayana, 1929 (Saka)**



## CONTENTS

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.....

INTRODUCTION .....

### CHAPTER - I

Report.....

### CHAPTER II

Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government.....

### CHAPTER III

Observations /Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government.....

### CHAPTER IV

Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and have been commented upon by the Committee in Chapter-I .....

CHAPTER V Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature.....

### ANNEXURE

Minutes of the Third Sitting of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment held on 14 December, 2007.

### APPENDIX

Analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha).....

**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
EMPOWERMENT (2007-2008)**

**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 Hari Bhau Jawale
7. Shri Bhai Lal
8. Shri Tek Lal Mahato
9. Dr. Babu Rao Mediyam
10. Shri Kailash Meghwal
11. Shri Rupchand Murmu
12. Shri Jual Oram
13. Shri Ram Chandra Paswan
14. Shri Rabindar Kumar Rana
15. Shri P.A. Sangma
16. Dr. R. Senthil
17. Smt. Pratibha Singh
18. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
19. Smt. Krishna Tirath
20. Smt. Usha Verma
21. Vacant

**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

---

\* Ceased to be a Member of the Committee consequent to his disqualification from the Membership of the 14<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha by Hon'ble Speaker on 27 January, 2008.

## **SECRETARIAT**

1. Dr. (Smt.) P.K. Sandhu - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ashok Sarin - Joint Secretary
3. Shri R.K. Saxena - Director
4. Shri Bhupesh Kumar - Deputy Secretary
5. Shri Yash Pal Sharma - Executive Assistant

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirtieth Report on the action taken by the Government on the observations/ recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants – 2007-08 relating to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

2. The Twenty-fifth Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 and also laid in Rajya Sabha on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2007. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2007. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2007.
3. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth 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, 2007**  
**23 Agrahayana, 1929 (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 observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants-2007-08 relating to Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

1.2 The Twenty-fifth Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 and was laid in Rajya Sabha on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2007. It contained 22 recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all the recommendations have been received and are categorized as under:

- (i) Observations/Recommendations, which have been accepted by the Government :

Paragraph Nos. 3.19, 3.21, 3.53, 3.67, 3.77, 3.86 and 3.109

(Total 7 – Chapter II)

- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government.

Paragraph Nos. 3.20, 3.42, 3.52, 3.65, 3.78, 3.87 and 3.95

(Total 7 – Chapter III)

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations, in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and have been commented upon by the Committee in Chapter I:

Paragraph Nos. 3.23, 3.25, 3.43 and 3.66

(Total 4 – Chapter IV)

- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature.

Paragraph Nos. 1.4, 3.22, 3.24 and 3.41

(Total 4 – Chapter V)

**1.3 The Committee desire that action taken notes on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final replies 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 some of the replies received from the Government which need reiteration or merit comments.

**A. Funding pattern of Centrally Sponsored Schemes like 'Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas' and 'Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels'**

**Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No.3.23)**

1.5 The Committee had noted with concern that the proposal of the Ministry to change the funding pattern of Centrally Sponsored Schemes like 'Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas' and 'Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels' from 50:50 to 100% funding by Centre during the Eleventh Five Year Plan had not been agreed to by the Planning Commission. The reasons for non-approval of their proposal by the Planning Commission had not been intimated to the Committee. The Committee had desired that the Ministry should pursue the matter vigorously and impress upon the Planning Commission the seriousness of the financial difficulties being faced by the States in providing their 50% matching share so that the aforesaid schemes could be funded 100% by Centre.

**Reply of the Government**

1.6 In their reply, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have stated that the schemes of "Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas" and "Construction of Boys and Girls



Hostels” have been reviewed and EFC proposals are under process with some modifications in the schemes and funding pattern. In the case of Ashram Schools, 100% Central assistance has been proposed in the naxal affected States and in the case of other States, the existing pattern of 50:50 would continue.

As regards the scheme of Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels, as proposed by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has also proposed 100% funding for girls’ hostels. In the case of Boys Hostels, 100% funding has been proposed in naxal-affected States while in the remaining States, the existing pattern of 50:50 would be continued.

**1.7 The Committee had earlier observed that the Ministry’s proposal to change the funding pattern of centrally sponsored schemes like ‘Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas’ and ‘Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels from 50:50 to 100% funding by Center had not been agreed to by the Planning Commission. However, in view of the financial difficulties being faced by the States in providing matching share, the Committee had desired that the Ministry should pursue with the Planning Commission for changing the funding pattern of the above said schemes to 100% by the Centre. The Ministry in their reply have stated that the above schemes have been reviewed by them and in case of ‘Ashram Schools’ there is proposal for 100% central assistance in naxal affected States and for other States the existing pattern of 50:50 would continue. Further, 100% funding has been proposed for construction of girls hostels and in case of boys**

hostels, 100% funding has been proposed in naxal affected States while in remaining States the existing pattern of 50:50 would continue. The Committee have not been indicated whether the Ministry approached the Planning Commission in this regard as was recommended by them in their original Report. Considering the economic and educational backwardness in tribal areas and also financial difficulties of States in providing matching share by them, the Committee do not agree with the above proposal of the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and urge upon the Ministry to take up the proposal of providing 100% central assistance under the schemes 'Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas' and 'Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels' not only in naxal affected areas but also in all the tribal areas. The Committee desire that Ministry should take up the matter with the Planning Commission with a view to ensuring 100% Central Assistance for the aforesaid Schemes.

**B. Entrepreneurship development programmes for educated and unemployed ST youths**

**Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No.3.25)**

1.8 The Committee in para 3.25 of the original Report had noted that the prerogative of identifying training activities including programmes for the ST youths was that of the State Government and that the type and manner of training programmes to be given to STs for entrepreneurship was looked after by the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, a Public Sector Undertaking of the Ministry. The training programmes being conducted

for the tribals were of general nature and did not help to develop entrepreneurial skills among educated and unemployed ST youths. The Committee had desired that in this era of globalization and rapid influx of information technology, the Government should create avenues for the educated and unemployed ST youths to develop their entrepreneurial skills which would enable them to get employment as well as inspire them to participate actively in the growing economy. The Committee had also recommended the Ministry to focus their attention towards entrepreneurship development programmes through revamping of existing programmes or creation of a new scheme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan by incorporating latest advancements made in the technology and the economy. For this, they should work in close coordination with State Governments and National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation.

### **Reply of the Government**

1.9 The Ministry, in their reply have stated that National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) provides financial assistance through the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) nominated by the respective Ministries/ State Governments for the economic development of Scheduled Tribes who are having annual family income upto Double the Poverty line Limit (Target Group). The NSTFDC provides Grant to the SCAs for imparting training for Skill and Entrepreneurship Development of the Target Group for self-employment/ employment only for the programmes assisted by NSTFDC and the corporation is not connected in any manner with the other training programmes

of GOI/ State Governments. However, all efforts are being made by NSTFDC in providing the need based training to the Target Group of NSTFDC.

There are programmes/ schemes being implemented for developing entrepreneurial skills for ST youths. Vocational Courses for STs are also in vogue under the existing scheme of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, namely, "Vocational Training Centers in Tribal Areas".

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has noted the Committee's advise regarding creation of a new scheme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan on entrepreneurship development.

**1.10 The Committee are concerned to note that National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation provides Grant to the State Channelising Agencies for imparting training for skill and entrepreneurship development of the target Group for self-employment/ employment only for its assisted programmes and corporation is not connected in any manner with the other training programmes of Government of India/State Governments. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry that the corporation do not assist in any way for other training programmes of Government of India/State Governments. The Committee are of the firm opinion that other training programmes being conducted by the Government of India/State Governments may equally be important for developing the professional skills and generating employment avenues particularly among ST youths. The Committee, therefore, desire that the NSTFDC should also assist scheduled tribe youths in getting need based**

training under the programmes being run by Government of India/State Governments. Apart from this, there should be close coordination & cooperation with these agencies of Centre & State Governments to ensure effective training programmes and to avoid overlapping of certain components thereof.

The Committee also reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Ministry should focus their attention towards entrepreneurship development programmes and formulate a new scheme during the Eleventh Five year Plan by incorporating latest advancements made in the information technology and the economy.

### **C. Development of Forest Villages**

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para No. 3.43)**

1.11 The Committee had noted that for the programme of 'Development of Forest Villages', introduced in 2005-06, Rs. 450 crores had been provided in the Tenth Five Year Plan as a one time measure. The total number of forest villages covered during 2005-06 and 2006-07 was 2347 and Rs. 41277.95 lakhs had been released for the same. During 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 150 crores had been earmarked towards the development of the forest villages. However, the Committee had expressed concern over the fact that proposals for the development of forest villages had not been received from 86 forest villages in the States of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. The Committee had not been intimated about the reasons for non submission of proposals by the States. The Committee had desired that sincere

efforts should be made to cover the remaining 86 forest villages at the earliest and had urged the Ministry to pursue with those States to send their proposals early. The Committee had also desired that developmental activities in the 2347 forest villages, for which funds had been released earlier, should be monitored effectively and properly.

### **Reply of the Government**

1.12 In their action taken reply the Ministry have stated that as on 01.08.2007, the Ministry has released Rs. 459.25 crore for development of 2338 forest villages spread over 11 States in the country, out of a total of 2474 villages. Proposals have been received from U.P. for 2 more villages which is under consideration. As per feedback received from State Governments and the Ministry of Environment & Forests, proposals not received from the remaining 86 villages could be attributed to reasons like villages falling in protected areas, migration of population from the village, etc. However, the Ministry is actively pursuing with the State Governments in the matter.

Regarding the activities in the villages for which funds have been released, State Governments have been advised to furnish progress reports. The Ministry of Environment & Forests is also being requested to take necessary action in the matter.

**1.13 The Committee, in their recommendation, had expressed concern over the fact that proposals for development had not been received from 86 forest villages in Assam, Chattishgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh and had recommended to make sincere efforts to cover the**

remaining 86 forest villages at the earliest and pursue with those states to send their proposals early. The Ministry, in their reply, have stated that the proposals not received from the remaining 86 villages could be attributed to reasons like villages falling in protected areas, migration of population from the village, etc. The Committee are not convinced by this argument of the Ministry which clearly indicates total inaction on their part in inviting proposals from these 86 Forest Villages. The Committee feel that in the absence of concrete proposals from the State Governments for development of forest villages, the development activities can not be initiated. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Ministry should vigorously pursue with the remaining States so that they send the proposals expeditiously, complete in all respects, for carrying out developmental activities in these 86 Forest Villages also. Further, in the 2347 Forest villages for which funds have already been released, the Ministry ought to monitor effectively the proper utilisation of funds released.

#### **D. Grants-in-aid to Tribal Research Institutes**

##### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 15, Para No. 3.66)**

1.14 The Committee in para 3.66 of the Original Report had noted that the Ministry had been releasing grants-in-aid to 18 Tribal Research Institutes engaged in the work of providing planning inputs to the State Governments;

conducting research and evaluation studies; collection of data; setting up of tribal museum for exhibiting tribal artifacts etc. Proposals for setting up new TRIs had been received from the States of Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim but they were either incomplete or not in accordance with the norms of the scheme. The funds released to the Andaman & Nicobar Administration for setting up Tribal Research Institute at Port Blair during 2002-03 had been revalidated during the financial year 2006-07 as Tribal Research Institute could not be set up there. The Committee had expressed concern that undue delay had occurred in setting up Tribal Research Institutes in the States/UT of Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar Islands and urged the Ministry to take up the matter with the concerned State Governments/UT Administration at the highest level, assist and guide the State Government in rectifying the shortcomings in the proposals etc so that the proposed Tribal Research Institutes were set up at the earliest in those States.

### **Reply of the Government**

1.15 In their action taken note the Ministry have stated that to set up Tribal Research Institutes at the earliest in the States of Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim, the Ministry has written letters to the respective State Governments on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 to submit their proposals with State Budgetary Provisions for the year 2007-08. The concerned States have been reminded again to furnish the required details.

In the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, a Tribal Research Institute has been set up and an amount of Rs.29.50 lakh has been released for the year 2006-07.



**1.16 The Committee express their dismay over the fact that the proposals received for setting up Tribal Research Institutes in Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim were either incomplete or not in accordance with the norms of the schemes resulting in inordinate delay in setting up the Tribal Research Institutes in these states. The Committee also express their displeasure that the concerned State Governments have not yet responded to the communication sent by the Central Ministry in this regard in April, 2007. This is yet another instance wherein neither the States submitted their proposals nor the Ministry made sincere efforts to procure the same from the concerned State Governments. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and urge the Government to take up the matter of setting up Tribal Research Institutes in Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim at the level of Union Minister for Tribal Affairs with the respective Chief Ministers.**

## CHAPTER II

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

#### Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para No. 3.19)

2.1 The Committee note that out of Rs. 6478.72 crore allocated by the Planning Commission during the Tenth Five Year Plan, the expenditure incurred was Rs. 5992.15 crore under Plan Schemes of the Ministry leading to shortfall of Rs. 486.57 crore. The expenditure incurred under Non-Plan i.e. Rs. 38.87 crore out of the BE of Rs. 52.06 crore is also not satisfactory. The Committee regret to observe that an amount of Rs. 486.57 crore, which could have been fruitfully utilized for the welfare and development of the Scheduled Tribes could not be utilized. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should evolve an effective mechanism of implementation of schemes, minimize procedural delays and ensure optimum utilization of funds allocated by the Planning Commission during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period.

#### Reply of the Government

2.2 The correct figures relating to shortfall in the Plan Expenditure are given below (figures are upto 4<sup>th</sup> place of decimal).

(Rs. in crores)

Year	BE	RE	Exp.	Shortfall w.r.t. BE	Shortfall w.r.t. RE
2002-03	1090.00	1012.00	1005.1034	84.8966	6.8966
2003-04	1087.00	900.00	893.9045	193.0955	6.0955

2004-05	1146.00	1069.45	1053.064	92.9360	16.3860
2005-06	1498.82	1398.82	1391.9532	106.8668	6.8668
2006-07*	1656.90	1652.68	1648.1408	8.7592	4.5392
<b>Total</b>	<b>6478.72</b>	<b>6032.95</b>	<b>5992.1659</b>	<b>486.5541</b>	<b>40.7841</b>

\* figures for this year are provisional.

It would be seen from the above table that the shortfall in the expenditure was mainly during the year 2003-04 of the 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. During that year, the expenditure was less than 90%. The Ministry took stock of the situation with a view to ensure optimum utilization of allocated funds. The efforts made by the Ministry bore fruit and the expenditure picked up during the subsequent years and it reached 99.47% in the last year of the 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. The Ministry proposes to continue its efforts to ensure full utilization of the allocated funds during all the five years of the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan also. The utilization of funds by State Governments has a direct impact on the fund utilization by the Ministry.

The correct figures relating to the shortfall in the Non Plan Expenditure are given below (figures are upto the 4<sup>th</sup> place of decimal).

(Rs. in crores)

Year	BE	RE	Exp.	Shortfall w.r.t. BE	Shortfall w.r.t. RE
2002-03	6.38	6.39	5.8511	0.5289	0.5389
2003-04	10.70	11.30	**7.2694	3.4306	4.0306
2004-05	13.005	12.4952	9.6688	3.3362	2.8264

Year	BE	RE	Exp.	Shortfall w.r.t. BE	Shortfall w.r.t. RE
2005-06	10.92	10.35	7.9788	2.9412	2.3712
2006-07*	10.56	10.42	8.2848	2.2752	2.1352
<b>Total</b>	<b>51.5650</b>	<b>50.9552</b>	<b>39.0529</b>	<b>12.5121</b>	<b>11.9023</b>

\* Figures for this year are provisional

\*\* This is the reconciled figure whereas the figure of Rs.7.0871 was provisional figure.

It would be seen from the above that the expenditure is nearly 80% of B.E. This should be considered to be adequate because Ministry of Finance has issued several economy instructions from time to time asking all Ministries to contain the non plan expenditure.

In addition, the Ministry has already adopted decentralized procedure since 2005-06 and a Multi Disciplinary State Level Committee was constituted in each State/UT. All the States have adopted this system except Bihar. The State Level Committee is required to identify the service deficient tribal areas and accordingly scrutinize the proposals submitted by voluntary organizations and recommend them on merit in an order of priority. The Ministry makes efforts right from beginning of the financial year that the meetings of the various State Committees are held in time and the proposals are received in the Ministry by first quarter of the financial year. This system has worked successfully for the last two years and procedural delays have been cut down considerably. Thus with the help of State Committees, Ministry is in position to identify the tribal areas which are deficient

in various services and also the functioning of NGOs have come under supervision.

Further, from the current financial year, the Ministry is further simplifying the procedure for application and prescribing a checklist/ time schedule of documents to be submitted apart from strengthening monitoring systems.

The mechanism for obtaining utilization certificates, inviting proposals seeking release of funds, etc. is continuously being streamlined. Wide publicity is also being given to the schemes of this Ministry.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para 3.21)**

2.3 The Committee note that some of the States are finding it difficult to send the utilization certificates of funds released by the Ministry in previous years. Under the scheme of 'Development of Primitive Tribal Groups', States like Rajasthan, Kerala, Manipur and Tamil Nadu have not furnished the utilization certificates upto 2004-05 while Assam is yet to furnish the utilization certificates under the scheme of Coaching and Allied. The utilization certificates in respect of the grants released during the year 2005-06 are also due on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2007. Keeping in view the fact that release of fresh funds is linked to receipt of utilization certificates in respect of funds released in previous years, the Committee urge the Ministry to strictly monitor the utilization of funds by the States and ensure timely submission of Utilization Certificates by them. For this, the Ministry should maintain close coordination with the States at appropriate levels. The Committee also desire that the Ministry should make vigorous efforts

to ensure that physical and financial quarterly progress reports of projects are received on a regular basis.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.4 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs insists that the Utilization Certificates which have already fallen due, according to the provisions of the FRBM Act, are obtained before any new proposals for release of funds is considered. This insistence itself acts as a strong mechanism for monitoring the Utilization Certificates of the funds released in the previous years. The Divisions in the Ministry are maintaining close coordination with the State Governments at the appropriate level, through contacts, letters, telephones, etc., to quicken this process.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No.3.53)**

2.5 The Committee note that though the number of beneficiaries covered under the component of 'Up-gradation of Merit of ST Students' has increased from 303 in 2004-05 to 658 during 2005-06 and 1167 students are expected to be benefited during 2006-07, yet the target fixed yearly i.e. 1480 students has not been achieved for the last three years. The reason attributed by the Ministry is non receipt of proposals/complete proposals from various State Governments/UT administrations. The Committee desire that concrete steps should be taken to improve the performance of the scheme and urge the Ministry to vigorously pursue the States/UTs to send proposals, complete in all respects for the scheme right from the beginning of the financial year.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.6 In the beginning of each financial year all State Governments/UT Administrations are addressed to send complete proposals under the Scheme of 'Up-gradation of Merit of ST students' in time. All State Governments/UT Administrations have been impressed upon to publicize the scheme so that a greater number of Tribal students may avail of the benefits of the scheme. In addition, during the course of bi-annual meeting of State Secretaries/Commissioners of Tribal Welfare/Development Departments of States held in February, 2007 it was again emphasized that they should avail the benefits of the scheme and send complete proposals on time.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendation (SI No. 16, Para 3.67)**

2.7 The Committee note with satisfaction that the Ministry are considering their earlier recommendation to restructure the TRIs and change the funding pattern from 50% Central share to 100%. However, the Committee are constrained to find that the functioning /performance of the TRIs are not monitored or evaluated regularly by the Ministry. The Committee desire that the performance of TRIs should be monitored and evaluated regularly and hope that the Ministry would strengthen the TRIs in terms of manpower and financial resources through a provision of 100% Central funding at the earliest.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.8 Efforts will be made to obtain progress reports periodically for the TRI Scheme from the State Governments.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 17, Para No.3.77)**

2.9 The Committee note that efforts are made by the Ministry to assess the performance of NGOs through spot inspections of the projects run by them. However, the Ministry are unable to provide the details of spot inspections carried out during 2006-07 and are relying on the State Governments to submit the inspection report along with the proposal of the NGOs for their consideration every year. The Committee desire that the Ministry should strengthen its monitoring mechanism in coordination with State Governments and the performance of NGOs should be strictly monitored and regular inspections carried out by the officials of the Ministry as well as concerned State Government authorities to the maximum extent possible.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.10 The directives of the Committee have been noted and efforts are being made to further strengthen the monitoring mechanism in coordination with the State Governments. As already mentioned in response to Para 3.20, annual inspection report from District Collector/authorities is mandatory for NGO proposals.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]



### **Recommendation (SI No. 19, Para No. 3.86)**

2.11 The Committee note that the Ministry have sanctioned a number of Hostels for ST Boys and Girls but no specific time period has been stipulated for completion of the hostels. The Ministry seems to be satisfied with releasing its 50% share without keeping a track on the progress and achievement regarding construction of the hostels. The Committee would like to draw the attention of the Ministry to the fact that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which is also implementing the same scheme for SC Boys and Girls, have specified a time frame of five years for completion of the hostels sanctioned by them which is now proposed to be reduced to two years. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs should also fix a time limit, preferably two years from the date of release of Central assistance for completion of the Boys and Girls Hostels so that State Governments/UT Administrations would act expeditiously and in right earnest and ensure that the sanctioned hostels are completed in time. Steps taken in this regard may be communicated to the Committee.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.12 Ministry of Tribal Affairs is also making a provision in the revised guidelines of Boys/Girls hostels scheme to fix a maximum time limit of 5 years for completion of the hostels.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendation (SI. No. 22, Para No.3.109)**

2.13 The Committee appreciate the steps taken by Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited to reorient its activities and shift the focus from direct trading activities to marketing development of tribal products/produce with the purpose of curtailing the losses incurred by it earlier. Under the detailed roadmap, awaiting the approval of the competent authority, important sectors like retail marketing of tribal products, MFP marketing development, vocational training, skill up gradation and capacity building of MFP gatherers etc. have been covered. Keeping in view the fact that TRIFED has been suffering heavy losses when its focus was on procurement of Minor Forest Produce and Surplus Agricultural Produce rather than on marketing development, the Committee are of the opinion that TRIFED has taken a step in the right direction by confining itself mainly to marketing of tribal handicrafts, handlooms and other natural products and undertaking developmental projects connected with their skill up gradation and income generation. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to get the proposed roadmap prepared by TRIFED, approved by the competent authority expeditiously and ensure that it is properly implemented at the earliest.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.14 The proposal for modifying the Central Sector Scheme of 'Price Support to TRIFED' to 'Grants-in-Aid to TRIFED for Market Development of Tribal Products/Produce' was discussed and approved with some modifications in the Appraisal Committee meeting held on 24.4.2007 under Chairpersonship of

Secretary (TA). Presently, action is in process for obtaining of approval of authorities at appropriate levels as per the laid-down procedures.

[Ministry of Tribal Affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

## CHAPTER III

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

#### Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para No.3.20)

3.1 The Committee note with concern that Planning Commission has scaled down the budget proposal of the Ministry from Rs. 2468.56 crore to Rs. 1719.71 crore for the Annual Plan 2007-08 which is a mere 3.79% increase over the corresponding figure of 2006-07 i.e. Rs. 1656.90 crore. This implies that the amount in real terms during the current year has come down if inflation is taken into consideration. This decline is inexplicable as some new schemes like National Institute of Tribal Affairs(NITA), Institutes of Excellence/Top Class Education, National Overseas Scholarship Scheme, National Tribal Affairs Awards, Centers of Excellence and Habitat/Hamlet development of Primitive Tribal Groups have also been launched. Obviously, the funds provided in the budget are not adequate to address the gigantic stature of the backwardness of the Scheduled Tribes and the Committee, therefore, express their serious concern as to how the Ministry will be able to implement the new schemes as well as the existing ones effectively in the absence of adequate funds. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance again so that its budgetary allocation for 2007-08 is augmented at RE stage and implementation of programmes for the welfare and development of the tribal people do not suffer due to paucity of funds.

The Committee also desire that the Ministry should strengthen its monitoring mechanism to ensure that the funds released for various tribal welfare schemes are fully utilized during the year. There should not be any diversion of funds and implementation status of schemes needs to be regularly monitored by the Ministry.

### **Reply of the Government**

3.2 In view of the recommendations of the Standing Committee, the matter is being taken up with the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance requesting them to allocate additional funds to this Ministry.

The mechanism followed to ensure proper utilization of funds is as under:

- (i) The provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act are strictly followed;
- (ii) Utilization Certificates are insisted upon as a pre-requisite for further release of funds;
- (iii) Periodic progress reports regarding the status of implementation of schemes are obtained;
- (iv) Central Government Officers undertake on the spot visits to the States/ Union Territories for ascertaining the progress of implementation of various schemes/ programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs;
- (v) Meetings/ Conferences are convened at the Central level with State Ministers and State Secretaries in charge of Tribal Welfare and Development Departments in the States to ensure timely submission of proposals, speed up of implementation of the schemes/ programmes, and reviewing the physical and financial progress;

(vi) At the State and field level, bodies like the Tribes Advisory Council, Project Implementation Committees of ITDPs and Panchayat Samities also monitor timely spending of funds and effective implementation of the schemes/ programmes.

In respect of NGOs, the annual inspection report from District Collector/ authorities is also mandatory.

No report of diversion of funds has come to the notice of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para No. 3.42)**

3.3 The Committee note that the Ministry have been proactively advocating the need for an effective Tribal Sub-plan component (8% for Central Ministries/Departments and in proportion to their ST population in respect of States) and that the Planning Commission has also issued orders to this effect. The Committee note with concern that various Ministries have not found it feasible to earmark separate allocation for the Scheduled Tribes. Though the Ministry have rightly taken up this issue with the Planning Commission, the Committee are of the view that a focused attention towards the development of STs is possible only if the States and Central Ministries earmark the TSP component separately and utilize the same in consultation with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, which is the nodal Ministry for overall policy, planning and coordination of programmes for development of the Scheduled Tribes. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to vigorously pursue the matter with the

Planning Commission and concerned States/Central Ministries/Departments so that the TSP component i.e. 8% for Central Ministries/Departments and in proportion to ST population in respective States are put in a separate budget head, which is made non-divertible and non-lapsable for implementation of schemes for the Scheduled Tribes, in a more focused and integrated manner. If need be, the matter may be brought to the notice of Cabinet Secretariat who may be requested to pursue with the defaulting Central Ministries. The matter may also be taken up at the highest level with the States.

### **Reply of the Government**

3.4 The Ministry specifically do not have any mandate to formulate any policy guidelines for implementation of TSP through various Central Government Ministries. The Planning Commission has issued guidelines for both formulation and implementation of TSP by the Central Government Ministries as also preparation of schemes/ programmes by the State Governments. They have also issued orders for States to earmark funds under a separate Budget Head. The Planning Commission has set up a Tripartite Committee consisting of representatives of Planning Commission, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and concerned Ministries. The Tripartite Committee in consultation with each concerned Ministry will identify the programme/ scheme projects benefiting STs.

This Ministry in the interest of the Tribals is taking the support of the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission for implementation of Tribal Sub Plan strategy in the States as also the Central Government Ministries functioning with Social Welfare as a mandate. However, this Ministry has no role to play in enforcing TSP; the Planning Commission, which approves the Budget outlay

annually for the Central Government Ministries as also the State Governments, is in a position to enforce TSP. However, on the basis of the recommendation of the Committee, this Ministry has written to all the concerned Central Ministries/ Departments for abiding by the TSP guidelines.

The matter is being actively pursued with the State Governments regularly by this Ministry and many of the States have begun to comply with the requirements of TSP.

The States have been urged from time to time to place the entire TSP funds (at least in equal proportion to the population of Scheduled Tribes in the States) in a “single budget head” and place under the administrative control of the Tribal Development/ Welfare Department of the State Government for integrated and focused planning and implementation of projects/ scheme to improve the socio-economic conditions of STs and to bring them at par with the rest of the population. Many of the States have done so.

The Central Ministries have also been requested from time to time to utilize at least 8% of their budget for the welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No. 3.52)**

3.5 The Committee note that under the scheme of Post Matric Scholarships, Planning Commission has approved Rs. 202.99 crores for the year 2007-08 at the BE stage out of Rs. 225 crores proposed by the Ministry to cover 9.17 lakh students whereas Rs. 255.04 crores were released during 2006-07 for about 7.9 lakh beneficiaries. The Committee would like to be informed as to how with the



reduced allocation more students would be covered under the scholarships. Keeping in view the fact that the Ministry proposes to cover 9.17 lakh beneficiaries during the year 2007-08, the Committee express apprehension that the implementation of this important scheme of providing financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe students would be hampered due to paucity of funds. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to review the requirement of funds under the scheme again and approach the Planning Commission/Ministry of Finance for more allocations.

### **Reply of the Government**

3.6 The scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribes is administered by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which have a committed liability to meet part of the cost. The Government of India gives 100% central assistance over and above this committed liability. The level of committed liability of respective State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations is equivalent to the level of actual expenditure incurred by them under the scheme during the terminal year of the last Five Year Plan. As far as the North Eastern States are concerned, since 2006-07 was the terminal year of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the actual expenditure incurred by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations during 2006-07 will be their committed liability for all the years of the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Accordingly, the actual expenditure during 2006-07 incurred by the State Government/UT Administration has become their respective committed liability for 2007-08.

The Committee has rightly noted that Planning Commission has approved Rs.202.99 crores for the year 2007-08 to cover 9.17 lakh students whereas Rs.255.04 crores were released during 2006-07 for about 7.9 lakh beneficiaries. In this connection, it is mentioned that as the committed liability on the part of State Governments/UT Administrations will be higher during 2007-08, based on actual expenditure for 2006-07, the central share is, therefore, expected to be less during 2007-08 and as such more number of beneficiaries will be covered with lower budget allocation.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

**Recommendation (Sl. No. 14, Para No. 3.65)**

3.7 The Committee note that under the scheme of Research Information and Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others, there is always a shortfall in the expenditure during the last three years. The reasons for the shortfall are stated to be non-receipt of revised documents from grantee; non-receipt of Bills from DAVP and Prasar Bharati, non receipt of Utilization Certificates and proposals from States etc. Besides, components of the scheme like Construction of Adivasi Bhavan and Promotion of Tribal Culture are still non-starters. The Committee take a serious view of this situation of non-performance on the part of the Government and desire that the Ministry should take urgent and concrete measures to minimize procedural delays and streamline its delivery mechanism for effective implementation of schemes for the welfare and development of the Scheduled Tribes. The Ministry should make serious efforts to develop their culture and language also.

### **Reply of the Government**

3.8 The scheme Promotion of Tribal Culture was not operationalised as it is similar to the scheme of Organization of Tribal Festival. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has, time and again, requested the Ministry of Urban Development to allot the land for construction of Adivasi Bhavan. Entire provision for construction of Adivasi Bhavan remained unutilized due to non-availability of land. However, more efforts will be made for minimizing the delay.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendations (Sl. No. 18, Para No. 3.78)**

3.9 The Committee find that the Ministry have adopted a decentralized procedure for receipt, identification, scrutiny and sanction of proposals from NGOs. The project proposals for service deficient tribal areas need to be recommended by multidisciplinary 'State Committee for Voluntary Efforts' for each State. However, the Committee note with concern that the State Level Committee has not been constituted in U.P. and Bihar so far. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to pursue the States of U.P. and Bihar to constitute the State level Committee at the earliest.

### **Reply of the Government**

3.10 With continuous efforts of the Ministry, Government of Uttar Pradesh has constituted the Multidisciplinary State Level Committee. Bihar is yet to follow.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 20, Para No. 3.87)**

3.11 The Committee note that under the Scheme of 'Construction of Hostels for ST Boys and Girls', expenditure is shared on a 50:50 matching basis by the Centre and the State Governments while the responsibility for maintenance of the hostels lies with concerned States/UTs. The Committee have been informed that State Governments are finding it difficult to provide funds for maintaining the hostels and thus maintenance of hostels remains neglected. The Committee desire that the Ministry should persuade the concerned State Governments to bear the maintenance costs of hostels.

### **Reply of the Government**

3.12 The responsibility for maintenance of hostels lies with the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations as there is no provision in the scheme for giving funds for maintenance. As States/UTs are finding it difficult to provide funds for maintaining the hostels, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has addressed all States/UTs to explore the possibility of using funds available under Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution and through National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in districts covered under the programme for this purpose.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 21, Para No. 3.95)**

3.13 The Committee note that the scheme of Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets is being revised in order to have a more focused approach to improve literacy among tribal girls in districts where there is significant tribal population and female tribal literacy is below the national level of 35%. The

Committee further note that the Ministry have revised the list of identified low literacy districts using two parameters viz, percentage of tribal population and ST female literacy rate and propose to implement the revised scheme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan as per the revised list of identified districts. The Committee appreciate the efforts being made by the Ministry to make the scheme more effective and focused towards improvement of literacy among tribal girls and urge them to finalize the revised scheme at the earliest and implement the same right from the beginning of the financial year 2007-08.

### **Reply of the Government**

3.14 EFC note was circulated in April 2007 and now a date for EFC meeting from Ministry of Finance is being obtained.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **RECOMMENDATION/ 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. 6, Para No.3.23)**

4.1 The Committee also note with concern that the proposal of the Ministry to change the funding pattern of Centrally Sponsored Schemes like 'Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas' and 'Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels' from 50:50 to 100% funding by Centre during the Eleventh Five Year Plan has not been agreed to by the Planning Commission. The reasons for non-approval of their proposal by the Planning Commission have not been intimated to the Committee. The Committee desire that the Ministry should pursue the matter vigorously and impress upon the Planning Commission the seriousness of the financial difficulties being faced by the States in providing their 50% matching share so that the aforesaid schemes could be funded 100% by Centre.

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

4.2 The schemes of "Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas" and "Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels" have been reviewed and EFC proposals are under process with some modifications in the schemes and funding pattern. In the case of Ashram Schools, 100% Central assistance has been proposed in the naxal affected States and in the case of other States, the existing pattern of 50:50 would continue.

As regards the scheme of Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels, as proposed by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has

also proposed 100% funding for girls' hostels. In the case of Boys Hostels, 100% funding has been proposed in naxal-affected States while in the remaining States, the existing pattern of 50:50 would be continued.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Comments of the Committee**

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

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No.3.25)**

4.3 The Committee note the reply of the Ministry that the prerogative of identifying training activities including programmes for the ST youths is that of the State Government and that the type and manner of training programmes to be given to STs for entrepreneurship is looked after by the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, which is a Public Sector Undertaking of the Ministry. The training programmes being conducted for the tribals are of general nature and do not help develop entrepreneurial skills among educated and unemployed ST youths. The Committee desire that in this era of globalization and rapid influx of information technology, the Government should create avenues for the educated and unemployed ST youths to develop their entrepreneurial skills which will enable them to get employment as well as inspire them to participate actively in the growing economy. The Committee, also recommend the Ministry to focus their attention towards entrepreneurship development programmes through revamping of existing programmes or creation of a new scheme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan by incorporating latest advancements made in the technology and the economy. For this, they should

work in close coordination with State Governments and National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.4 National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) provides financial assistance through the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) nominated by the respective Ministries/ State Governments for the economic development of Scheduled Tribes who are having annual family income upto Double the Poverty line Limit (Target Group). The NSTFDC provides Grant to the SCAs for imparting training for Skill and Entrepreneurship Development of the Target Group for self-employment/ employment only for the programmes assisted by NSTFDC and the corporation is not connected in any manner with the other training programmes of GOI/ State Governments. However, all efforts are being made by NSTFDC in providing the need based training to the Target Group of NSTFDC.

There are programmes/ schemes being implemented for developing entrepreneurial skills for ST youths. Vocational Courses for STs are also in vogue under the existing scheme of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, namely, "Vocational Training Centers in Tribal Areas".

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has noted the Committee's advise regarding creation of a new scheme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan on entrepreneurship development.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Comments of the Committee**

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



### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para No. 3.43)**

4.5 The Committee note that for the programme of 'Development of Forest Villages', introduced in 2005-06, Rs. 450 crores have been provided in the Tenth Five Year Plan as a one time measure. The total number of forest villages covered during 2005-06 and 2006-07 is 2347 and Rs. 41277.95 lakhs have been released for the same. During 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 150 crores have been earmarked towards the development of the forest villages. However, the Committee express concern over the fact that proposals for the development of forest villages have not been received from 86 forest villages in the States of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. The Committee have not been intimated about the reasons for non submission of proposals by the States. The Committee desire that sincere efforts should be made to cover the remaining 86 forest villages at the earliest and urge the Ministry to pursue with those States to send their proposals early. The Committee also desire that developmental activities in the 2347 forest villages, for which funds have been released earlier, should be monitored effectively and properly.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.6 As on 01.08.07, the Ministry has released for Rs. 459.25 crore for development of 2338 forest villages spread over 11 States in the country, out of a total of 2474 villages. Proposals have been received from U.P. for 2 more villages which is under consideration. As per feedback received from State Governments and the Ministry of Environment & Forests, proposals not received from the remaining 86 villages could be attributed to reasons like villages falling

in protected areas, migration of population from the village, etc. However, the Ministry is actively pursuing with the State Governments in the matter.

Regarding the activities in the villages for which funds have been released, State Governments have been advised to furnish progress reports. The Ministry of Environment & Forests is also being requested to take necessary action in the matter.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Comments of the Committee**

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

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 15, Para No. 3.66)**

4.7 The Committee note that the Ministry have been releasing grants-in-aids to 18 Tribal Research Institutes engaged in the work of providing planning inputs to the State Governments; conducting research and evaluation studies; collection of data; setting up of tribal museum for exhibiting tribal artifacts etc. Proposals for setting up new TRIs have been received from the States of Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim but they were either incomplete or not in accordance with the norms of the scheme. The funds released to the Andaman & Nicobar Administration for setting up TRI at Port Blair during 2002-03 have been revalidated during the financial year 2006-07 as TRI could not be set up there. The Committee express concern that undue delay has occurred in setting up TRIs in the States/UT of Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar Islands and urge the Ministry to take up the matter with the concerned State Governments/UT Administration at the highest level, assist and guide the

State Government in rectifying the shortcomings in the proposals etc so that the proposed TRIs are set up at the earliest in those States.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.8 To set up TRIs at the earliest in the States of Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim, the Ministry has written letters to the respective State Governments on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 to submit their proposals with State Budgetary Provisions for the year 2007-08. The concerned States have been reminded again to furnish the required details.

In the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, a TRI has been set up and an amount of Rs.29.50 lakh has been released for the year 2006-07.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para 1.16 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. 1, Para No. 1.4)**

5.1 Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants, 2006-07 was presented to Parliament on 16 May, 2006. Although the Action Taken Notes have been received from the Ministry, the Committee regret to observe that as per Direction 73A of 'Directions by the Speaker' necessary statement in the House regarding the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the original Report has not been made. While deprecating this inordinate delay, the Committee desire that requisite action in this connection should be taken expeditiously by the Ministry.

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

5.2 Consequent on the adjournment of Parliament sine die on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2007, the Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs could not make the statement under Direction 73A of the "Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha". The same will be made in the forthcoming session of Parliament.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 5, Para No. 3.22)**

5.3 The Committee note that though the Ministry have undertaken the process of review of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to ensure implementation of modified schemes from 2007-08 onwards, yet they are still in the process of carrying out modifications in the schemes for implementation. The reasons for the delay in

modifying the schemes has not been conveyed by the Ministry. The Committee feel that the Ministry have made inordinate delay in finalizing the modifications to be incorporated in the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to finalize all the modifications in the Centrally sponsored Schemes at the earliest so that they could be implemented effectively.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.4 All the Centrally Sponsored schemes of the Ministry are under review and are to be finalized shortly as per procedure laid down for EFCs/SFCs.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para No. 3.24)**

5.5 The Committee have been given to understand that formulating a quantifiable tribal development index specially for the tribals has found mention in the draft National Tribal Policy of the Ministry. The Ministry propose to put certain issues such as land restored to STs, policy changes by State Governments to empower Gram Sabhas in scheduled areas, control and access of STs over forest and natural resources, improvement in infant mortality rate etc. in the Tribal Development Index. The Committee hope that with such an index, it would be feasible to monitor the welfare and development of the tribals and therefore, urge the Ministry to finalize the proposed draft National Tribal Policy at the earliest.

## **Reply of the Government**

5.6 The Draft National Tribal Policy has already been prepared and was placed before Cabinet for approval on 31.5.2007. The Cabinet has referred the Policy to Group of Ministers for discussion and also with a direction to harmonize the Draft National Tribal Policy with the Rehabilitation Policy of Ministry of Rural Development. A meeting of GoM is expected to take place shortly..

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 9,Para No. 3.41)**

5.7 Though one of the features of the guidelines regarding utilization of funds under the scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan is support to the tribal population below the poverty line, yet the Ministry have no information about the number of ST families/individuals assisted to cross the poverty line. The Ministry have explained this by saying that due to lack of adequate manpower in the Ministry, intensive monitoring of schemes like Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan is not possible and accordingly, details of BPL families are also not maintained. Information has now been sought from the State Governments about the number of ST families/individuals assisted under the scheme. The Committee are surprised that even after working on this scheme for more than two decades, the Ministry are still ignorant about the number of ST families living below the poverty line and those who were assisted under the scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan so far. This clearly indicates lack of concern and commitment on the part of the Government. The Committee hope that the Ministry would now obtain the data of ST

families/individuals living below poverty line as well as the number of ST families/individuals assisted so far under the scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan by exploring all possible avenues so that realistic action plan could be prepared to assist them during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.8 SCA to TSP is a programme designed to assist the State Governments/ UTs which are categorized as TSP States so that the States/ UTs are able to formulate specific projects for alleviation of poverty in tribal areas. The funding of SCA to TSP is meant to augment the plan activities of the State Government for the purpose of employment-cum-income generation and infrastructure incidental thereto, both family-based and Self Help Groups/ community based. Crossing the poverty line is dependent on many factors and assistance under SCA to TSP is only one step of the Government towards this.

However, the State Governments have been requested to furnish the requisite information vide Ministry's letter dated 09.04.2007.

[Ministry of Tribal affairs OM No. 16015/02/2007-PC & V dated 10.08.2007]

**NEW DELHI:**  
**14 December, 2007**  
**23 Agrahayana, 1929 (Saka)**

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

## ANNEXURE

### MINUTES OF THE THIRD SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2007.

The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1550 hrs. in Committee Room 'C', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

#### PRESENT

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

#### **MEMBERS**

##### **LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad
3. Shri Haribhau Jawale
4. Shri Bhai Lal
5. Shri Tek Lal Mahato
6. Dr. Babu Rao Mediyam
7. Shri Kailash Meghwal
8. Shri Rupchand Murmu
9. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
10. Smt. Usha Verma

#### **MEMBERS**

##### **RAJYA SABHA**

11. Shri Urkhao Gwra Brahma
12. Shri Silvius Condpan
13. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
14. Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal
15. Shri Veer Singh
16. Ms. Anusuiya Uikey

#### **SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri R.K. Saxena - Director
2. Shri Bhupesh Kumar - Deputy Secretary



2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them that the sitting has been convened to consider and adopted the following Draft Reports of the Committee.

- (i) Draft Twenty- ninth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty-fourth Report on Demands For Grants (2007-08) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- (ii) Draft Thirtieth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- (iii) Draft Thirty-first Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations / recommendations contained in the Twenty-sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.
- (iv) Draft Thirty-second Report on the subject "Voluntary Organisations Engaged in Implementing Integrated Programme for Welfare of Older Persons" pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

3. XXX XXX XXX XXX

4. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the Thirtieth Report without any amendment.

5. XXX XXX XXX XXX

6. XXX XXX XXX XXX

7. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalise these draft 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 TWENTY-FIFTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	22	
II. Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government: (Paragraph Nos. 3.19, 3.21, 3.53, 3.67, 3.77 3.86 and 3.109)	7	31.81%
III. Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government: (Paragraph Nos. 3.20, 3.42, 3.52, 3.65, 3.78, 3.87 and 3.95)	7	31.81%
IV. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and have been commented upon by the Committee in Chapter I (Paragraph Nos. 3.23, 3.25, 3.43 and 3.66 )	4	18.18%
V. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature: (Paragraph Nos. 1.4, 3.22, 3.24 and 3.41)	4	18.18%