



STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT
(2004-2005)

(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations
contained in the Twenty-eighth Report of the erstwhile Standing Committee
on Labour and Welfare on 'Development of Primitive Tribal Groups'

FOURTH REPORT

Presented to Lok Sabha on 22.3..2005
Laid in Rajya Sabha on 22.3.2005.



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
March, 2005/Phalguna, 1926 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND EMPOWERMENT(2004-2005)**

Smt. Sumitra Mahajan - CHAIRPERSON

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LOK SABHA**

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3. Shri Ashok Argal
4. Smt. Sushmita Bauri
5. Shri Mahaveer Bhagora
6. Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad
7. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
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12. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
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14. Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj
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16. Shri Mohd. Shahid
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19. Smt. Krishna Tirath
20. Smt. Usha Verma
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RAJYA SABHA

22. Smt. Jamana Devi Barupal
23. Shri Silvius Condpan
24. Shri R.S. Gavai
25. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
26. Shri Abdul Wahab Peevee
27. Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal
28. Shri Ram Narayan Sahu
29. Smt. Savita Sharda
30. Shri Tarlochan Singh
31. Shri Veer Singh

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|
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| 2. | Dr.(Smt.) P.K. Sandhu | - | Joint Secretary |
| 3. | Shri R.K. Saxena | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Shri Bhupesh Kumar | - | Under Secretary |
| 5. | Km. M. Tunlut | - | 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 Fourth Report on the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-eighth Report of the erstwhile Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Development of Primitive Tribal Groups' .

2. The Twenty-eighth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and also laid in Rajya Sabha on 20 December, 2002. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 03 December, 2004. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on 18 March , 2005.

3. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-eighth Report of the erstwhile Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Thirteenth 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:
18 March, 2005
27 Phalguna, 1926 (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 Twenty-eighth Report of the erstwhile Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Development of Primitive Tribal Groups' .

1.2 The Twenty-eighth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and also laid in Rajya Sabha on 20 December, 2002. It contained 20 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. 2, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 18 and 20

(Total 8 - Chapter II)

- (ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:
Paragraph Sl. Nos. 1, 4, 17 and 19.

(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, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15 and 16

(Total 7 - Chapter IV)

- (iv) Recommendation/Observation in respect of which replies of the Government is interim in nature:
Paragraph Sl. No. 14.

(Total 1 - 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 Twenty-eighth Report was presented to the House and sent to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs on 20 December, 2002 for taking necessary action on the recommendations contained thereon and furnishing of the action taken notes by 21 March, 2003. However the Ministry, inspite of several reminders, have furnished the action taken notes on 3 December, 2004. The Committee express serious concern over this inordinate delay and hope that the Ministry will take a note of the same and ensure that such delay will not occur in future.

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

A. Formulation of Specific Action Plan for Primitive Tribal Groups

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para 2.11)

1.6 The Committee are surprised to note that despite Government's continued efforts for the development of PTGs right from Fifth Five-Year Plan, no state Governments have ever proposed to delete any group from the list of PTGs. The Committee further note that basic statistics is not available in the Ministry to ascertain the number of PTGs brought at par with other tribal communities during the 8th & 9th Five Year Plans. The Committee note with dismay that no specific action plan has been formulated by the Ministry for rehabilitation of PTGs in their own habitation. This reflects the lackadaisical attitude of the Ministry and lack of commitment to fulfill its objective of bringing the PTGs into the mainstream of the tribal society. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should make concerted efforts to bring maximum number of PTGs at par with other tribal communities during the 10th Five Year Plan by formulating specific Action Plan with the help of tribal Research Institutes and other expert bodies by pooling the resources from SCA to TSP, Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution and funds from Centrally Sponsored, Central Sector & State Plan Schemes.

1.7 The Ministry have stated in their action taken note furnished to the Committee that a Meeting of the Secretaries and Principal Chief Conservators of Forests from the concerned States was convened to emphasize preparation of comprehensive action plan for the development of each of the PTGs. The Ministry have also adopted a system of earmarking of funds to each of the PTGs of different States from the current financial year. The State Governments had been requested to prepare Project Reports under the scheme of Development of PTGs for each of the tribes separately. From this year onwards efforts would be taken to earmark funds for each of the PTG proportionate to their population. On receipt of Base Line Survey Reports from the State Governments, the data would be analyzed to review the impact of various programmes on socio economic development of PTGs over last few years and measures might be taken to exclude the PTGs from the list of PTGs who have advanced to be classified as other STs. The Ministry have also revised guidelines for sanction/release of grants under SCA to TSP wherein a system had been put in place to monitor sanction/releases to States including programmes taken up for.

1.8 It has further been clarified by the Ministry that the meeting of the Secretaries in charge of State Tribal Welfare Departments and Principal Chief Conservators of Forests was convened on 10 February, 2004 to emphasize preparation of comprehensive action plan for the development of each of the PTGs. In the meeting, various representatives of State Governments have expressed their anxiety that forest villages have remained deprived and denied of the benefits of development. There are difficulties in conversion of forest villages into revenue villages. Due to restrictions under the Forest Conservation Acts, it is difficult to take developmental works in villages located within forest areas.

1.9 The Committee had desired the Ministry to make concerted efforts to bring maximum number of PTGs at par with other tribal communities during the Tenth Five Year Plan by formulating specific action plans. However, the Committee note with serious concern that the Ministry had taken more than a year since the Report of the Committee was presented to convene a meeting of Secretaries in charge of State Tribal Welfare Departments and Principal Chief

Conservators of Forests to emphasise preparation of comprehensive action plan for the development of PTGs. In the meeting, various representatives of State Governments have expressed their anxiety that forest villages have remained deprived and denied of the benefits of development. There are difficulties in conversion of forest villages into revenue villages. Due to restrictions under the Forest Conservation Acts, it is difficult to take developmental works in villages located within forest areas. In view of the same, the Committee observe that for ensuring smooth and speedy development of the PTGs, the Ministry should get the main hurdle in the way to their development removed by effecting amendments in the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and the Forest Conservation Act, 1980. The Committee strongly reiterate their earlier recommendation of making concerted efforts for development of PTGs and bringing them into the mainstream. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs should take up the issue of incorporating necessary amendments in the above mentioned Acts urgently with the competent authorities in the Government and ensure that the necessary amendments are incorporated urgently. The action being taken in this regard may be conveyed to the Committee.

B. Legal and Administrative support for PTGs :

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para 4.7)

1.10 The Committee had noted with concern that no specific legal and administrative machinery exists at the national level for the development of PTGs, some of whom are still at the stage of gatherers, hunters and shifting cultivators etc. The Committee had further noted that only four States viz. Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra had established special agencies at micro-level for the development of the PTGs. The Committee, had therefore, recommended that the remaining States/UTs should also be impressed upon to set up special agencies at micro-level to take care of the PTGs. The Committee had further desired that a Special Officer of suitable rank having adequate knowledge and experience about the conditions and needs of PTGs and having commitment for them, should be posted in the areas of their concentration to protect their interests effectively.

1.11 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in their action taken note furnished to the Committee, have stated that the recommendation has been brought to the notice of the State Governments for compliance.

1.12 The Committee had noted with concern that no specific legal and administrative machinery exists at the national level for the development of Primitive Tribal Groups(PTGs). It was also observed that only four States viz. Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra had established special agencies at micro-level for the development of PTGs. The Committee, had therefore, recommended setting up of special agencies in the remaining States/UTs. The Committee note with dismay that even after a lapse of two years since then, no specific plan has been formulated by the Ministry for setting up of special agencies at micro-level to take care of PTGs. This reflects the apathetic attitude of the Ministry and lack

of commitment to fulfill its objective of bringing the PTGs into the mainstream of society. The Committee strongly feel that since PTGs are still at the stage of gatherers, hunters and shifting cultivators, and are living in remote and hilly areas, they need special care and protection. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to act upon its earlier recommendation in the right earnest and impress upon the States/Union Territories to set up special agencies at micro level to take care of PTGs and depute special officers in PTG areas at the earliest.

C. Strengthening of State Tribal Research Institutes

Recommendation (No. 8, Para No.4.9)

1.13 The Committee had noted that as a result of developmental activities like education, economic development and various training programmes, the lifestyle of PTGs had changed considerably and helped them to join the mainstream. The Committee had appreciated the efforts made by the Ministry to bring the PTGs into the mainstream but at the same time had desired that in the name of modernization, the rich cultural heritage of the PTGs including their traditional livelihood resources should not be adversely affected. The Committee, had therefore, recommended that State Tribal Research Institutes, whose activities include preservation of the cultural heritage of the tribal population, should be strengthened and equipped to perform their job effectively. Moreover, these institutes should be persuaded to work in close tandem with the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Culture, for disseminating the rich tribal culture.

1.14 The Ministry in their reply have stated that the recommendations of the Committee have been brought to the notice of TRIs, set up in different States for compliance by taking appropriate steps. The Ministry held a meeting of State Secretaries in-charge of Tribal Development and Directors of TRIs on 28 November, 2003 to devise strategy for strengthening the TRIs. The TRIs had been facing financial crunch due to difficulty being expressed by the States in making available the State Share of 50% under the scheme of Grant-in-aid to TRIs under Research Scheme. The proposal of the Ministry to extend 100% grant under the

scheme to TRIs has been approved by the Planning Commission in principle. The Ministry have further stated that restructuring of the staff of the TRIs and to change to Central grant from 50% to 100% for TRIs are under consideration. The Ministry also organized a day long seminar of all share holders to get specific feed-back on various issues relating to preservation of cultural heritage of Scheduled Tribes including PTGs and steps required thereof to develop and disseminate the same.

1.15 The Committee had recommended that State Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) should be strengthened and equipped to perform their job effectively and these institutes should be persuaded to work in close tandem with the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Culture, for disseminating the rich tribal culture. The Ministry in their reply have stated that the recommendations of the Committee have been brought to the notice of TRIs, set up in different States, for compliance by taking appropriate steps. It is further stated that TRIs had been facing financial crunch due to difficulty being expressed by the States in making available the State share of 50% under the scheme of Grants-in-aid to TRIs under Research Scheme. The Committee is, however, happy to note that the proposal of the Ministry to extend 100% grant under the scheme to TRIs has been approved by the Planning Commission in principle. The Committee express their serious concern that the issues of restructuring of the staff of the TRIs and to change the Central grant from 50% to 100% for TRIs are still under consideration. The Committee had sent their Report to the Ministry on 20 December, 2002 for taking urgent action on their recommendations. The Committee are shocked at the slow

pace of the functioning of the Ministry. They have taken about one year in convening the meeting of State Secretaries in charge of Tribal Development Departments and Directors of TRIs and the same was convened on 28 November, 2003, which reflects the casual approach of the Ministry in this regard. Besides, the Committee also express their concern over the fact that the Ministry have not taken up the matter of strengthening of State Tribal Research Institutes at the highest level in the State Governments. The Committee hope that the proposal to restructure staff of TRIs and grant of 100% Central Assistance to them would be implemented urgently and the State Tribal Research Institutes would be strengthened and equipped to perform their job effectively.

D. Protection of PTGs from land alienation

Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para 5.16)

1.16 The Committee had noted with concern that though State Governments and UT Administrations have enacted various Laws and Regulations to check alienation of tribals from their lands, the tribals are still being deprived of their lands in the States/UTs. The Committee had further noted that only five States/UT viz. Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tripura and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have enacted provisions to deal with cases of occupation of tribal land through deceit on the pattern of provisions made in the Bonded Labour Abolition Act, 1976. The Committee, had therefore, strongly recommended that the Ministry should ensure that adequate safeguards are incorporated in the State Laws/Regulations to protect the poor tribals including the PTGs against occupation of their lands by the non-tribals through deceit. State Governments might also be persuaded to amend their Land Alienation Acts to make it more stringent against the offenders and for speedy restoration of lands from illegal occupation. The Committee had also

desired that free legal aid should be provided to the tribals through ITDPs/ITDAs and NGOs especially in the cases of tribal land alienation.

1.17 In their action taken note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry have stated that the recommendation has been brought to the notice of the State Governments/UT Administrations for compliance.

1.18 The Committee deeply regret to note that though it had recommended for protective measures like incorporation of adequate safeguards in State Laws/Regulations to protect the poor tribals against occupation of their lands through deceit; amendment in Land Alienation Acts of States and provision for free legal aid through ITDPs/ITDAs and NGOs, yet the Ministry have not been able to show any progress in this regard. They have only brought the recommendation of the Committee to the notice of the States/UTs for compliance. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to take follow up action with the States/UTs at the highest level so that the poor tribals, especially PTGs are adequately protected against alienation from their lands.

E. Restructuring and strengthening the framework of Integrated Tribal Development Projects(ITDPs)

Recommendation (Sl.No.13, Para 6.11)

1.19 The Committee had noted with concern that though the Project Officers of Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs) were entrusted with the task of implementing policies for protection and development of PTGs, the Ministry were not satisfied with their performance and achievement. The Committee, had therefore, recommended that for effective functioning, framework of ITDPs in States should be suitably restructured and strengthened in terms of finance, manpower and delegation of powers to the Project Officers so that various programmes could be implemented through the line departments smoothly & effectively.

1.20 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in their action taken note furnished to the Committee, have stated that the State Governments have been requested for compliance of the recommendation. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has recently issued orders giving more powers to Project Officers of the ITDPs.

1.21 The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry, since so far only one State i.e, Andhra Pradesh, has issued orders giving more powers to Project Officers of the ITDPs. Keeping in view the fact that implementation of tribal welfare programmes is carried out by ITDP/ITDA frameworks in the States, the Committee feel that there is an immediate need for restructuring and strengthening these frameworks in terms of finance, manpower and delegation of powers to the Project Officers. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and urge the Ministry to persuade the remaining States to restructure and strengthen their ITDP/ITDA frameworks for effective implementation of the schemes for the welfare and development of the poor tribals.

F. Training to the members of Primitive Tribal Groups

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15, Para 6.13)

1.22 The Committee had taken note of the fact that State machineries were not making adequate efforts for the development of PTGs and the degree of participation of PTGs in the activities/programmes for their development was low due to low level of literacy and rigidity of social & cultural values prevailing among the PTGs. The Committee, had therefore, recommended that training to few selected PTG members from each group, might be imparted in batches so that the number of PTGs participating in development programme might increase substantially during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

1.23 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in their action taken reply have stated that efforts are being made for wider dissemination of information among the PTGs as per recommendation through the State Government and Voluntary Agencies. The Ministry have also informed that Seva Bharati, an Established Voluntary Agency is running the Project of "JAN JAGARAN" through 300 single teacher schools in Mandla, Dindori, Shivapuri, Sheopur & Guna Districts of Madhya Pradesh bringing awareness among the PTGs of 300 villages about the importance of education, medical care, vocational training, etc. An awareness Programme has also been undertaken in Karnataka through the organization 'Vivekanand Youth Movement'. The direct impact of the Programme has been in the form of enhancement of student's enrolment in respect of Jenukorba PTGs in local primary schools.

1.24 The Committee had specially recommended to impart training to few selected PTG members from each group so that all the PTGs could be covered by imparting training to selected ones in batches and they could disseminate information among their own group about the programmes being implemented by the Government for their development. The reply given by the Ministry does not indicate any straight forward approach of the Government in this regard. Instead of coming forward with its action plan to impart training to selected

PTG members, the Ministry have mentioned about the awareness generation programmes among PTGs and that too only in two States through two voluntary agencies. The Committee, therefore, take a serious note of the fact that action has not been taken on this important recommendation in letter and spirit. While expressing concern on the superficial approach of the Ministry, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire that the Ministry should expeditiously formulate an action plan to impart necessary training to few selected PTG members from each of the Primitive Tribal Groups to enable them to effectively participate in the programmes being run for their development during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

G. Health Care Facilities for Primitive Tribal Groups

Recommendation (Sl. No. 16, Para 7.25)

1.25 The Committee had noted with concern that only 13 Mobile Dispensaries had been sanctioned to provide health care facilities to the PTGs in six States. There were no Primary Health Centres/Health Sub-Centres functioning exclusively in the PTG areas. Therefore, the identified PTGs had to avail health care facilities from the medical centres functioning in the tribal areas. The Committee had observed that the health care facilities for the PTGs were grossly inadequate particularly for the groups who were living in the remote, hilly and inaccessible areas. The Committee had, therefore, strongly recommended that adequate number of Mobile Dispensaries, Primary Health Centres, Sub-Centres, Community Health Centres, etc. which might exclusively cater to the PTGs should be set up in the areas of their habitation. The Committee had also desired that Project Directors of ITDPs should conduct health surveys among the PTGs regularly and ensure that medicines and other life saving drugs were made available on demand.

1.26 In their action taken note furnished to the Committee, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have stated that the recommendation of the Committee has been brought to the notice of the State Governments and the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The main focus during the Tenth Five Year Plan is ensuring food security through settled agriculture, safe drinking water, primary education and basic minimum medical facilities for each of the PTG. The State Governments and NGOs have been sanctioned projects of hospitals, mobile dispensaries, primary schools, etc., as per the necessity of PTG villages.

1.27 In the Committee's view, the reply of the Ministry, in so far as the health care facilities of the PTGs are concerned, is unsatisfactory. Even though health care is the responsibility of the State Governments and the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Committee are of the opinion that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs should give due importance to this matter while implementing schemes for the development of PTGs. The Committee, while reiterating their earlier recommendation, urge the Ministry to make all out efforts to ensure that basic health care facilities are made available to all the PTGs in the areas of their concentration.

CHAPTER-II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

RECOMMENDATION(Sl. No.2, Para 2.10)

2.1 The Committee note with concern that the progress made so far in the development of PTGs is negligible. The Committee further note that the Ministry had already requested the States and UT Administrations to undertake a baseline survey for identification of the Primitive Tribal Groups. A set of questionnaires and schedules has been circulated to the concerned State Governments to collect information on the socio-economic status of each primitive group. However, the Committee express their concern that no time frame has been fixed to complete the survey. Keeping in view the fact that the Ministry has no authentic data of PTGs population so far, the Committee, strongly recommend that the Ministry should persuade the State Governments/ UT Administrations to undertake a tribe-wise benchmark survey of these Primitive Groups within a specified time frame so that plans and programmes could be formulated for their overall development during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.2 The State Governments have been requested to complete the survey on a priority basis alongwith conservation and development plan suggesting specific programmes to bring them at least at par with the other tribal communities by the end of the current five-year plan. Most of the State Governments have almost completed the baseline survey of Primitive Tribal Groups. The survey reports from the States of Rajasthan, Jharakhand, Manipur, Kerala and Gujarat have been received. The other State Governments have reported to the Ministry that reports are under compilation and likely to be submitted soon. These State Governments are being pursued to complete it quickly and not later than in the current financial year.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

RECOMMENDATION(Sl. No.5, Para 3.10)

2.3 The Committee note with concern that the State Governments are not able to submit the report on the utilisation of funds to the Ministry in time due to difficulties faced by them in getting timely information from their field offices. The Committee observe that the total expenditure incurred by State/NGOs under the new Central Sector Scheme of 'Development of PTGs' during the last three years has not been satisfactory. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should impress upon the State Governments/UT Administrations, to keep constant vigil over the pace of expenditure

and the progress made in the implementation of the scheme should be monitored effectively. Also, the State Governments should be made to realise their obligation towards the PTGs and persuaded to make sincere efforts to utilise the funds released to them fully within the same financial year.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.4. The Ministry convenes meeting of the Secretaries from the States and representatives of the NGOs to review and monitor progress including utilization. The constant persuasion has shown improvement. It has also been made clear to the States that further releases under the schemes of the Ministry would henceforth be strictly linked to timely utilization of funds.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

RECOMMENDATION (Sl.No.7, Para 4.8)

2.5 The Committee note with regret that the PTGs living in inaccessible, hilly and forest areas are unaware of Central protective measures such as SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 and Protection of Civil Rights Act 1955 and there is no separate law to protect the PTGs exclusively from exploitation. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Ministry should pursue the State Governments/UTs Administrations to make special efforts to educate and generate awareness among the PTGs about the provisions of these Acts. The Committee also desire that States/UT should effectively implement the various laws/rules to check exploitation of PTGs in the field of money-lending, liquor vending, collection and disposal of minor forest produce, etc.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.6. The State Governments have been requested to act effectively on the recommendations of the Committee. The Ministry has also funded a few reputed voluntary agencies for promotion of education and awareness generation among PTGs.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

RECOMMENDATION (Sl. No. 9, Para 5.14)

2.7 The Committee note with concern that 85.40 lakh tribal people including PTGs have been displaced from 1951 to 1990 due to development projects like dams, industries and mines. About 21.20 lakh Scheduled Tribe People have been rehabilitated during the same period. The Committee further note that a National Rehabilitation Policy is in the offing. The Committee also observe that the tribal people, especially PTGs, are worst affected by the development projects like dams, industries & mines and they need adequate relief and rehabilitation package. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs being the nodal Ministry should impress upon the Ministry of Rural Development to move a comprehensive Bill, for rehabilitation and resettlement of tribals affected by the developmental projects, in Parliament without further delay.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.8 The Ministry of Rural Development has already notified the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy for People affected by Developmental Projects including tribals. Special compensation has been provided in the policy for tribals. The Ministry also insists on inclusion of specific parameter in rehabilitation and resettlement package before granting clearance for any project involving displacement of scheduled tribes.

(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated 03.12.2004)

RECOMMENDATION (Sl. No. 10, Para 5.15)

2.9 The Committee take note of the fact that the tribals are the original inhabitants of forests but their rights in forests and on forest produce are not adequately protected. The enactment of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, the Wildlife Preservation Act, 1972 and various policies of Central Government etc. have failed to protect the traditional rights of the PTGs in the forests. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs should coordinate the efforts being made by important Ministries/Departments like Rural Development, Agriculture, Environment & Forests, Health & Family Welfare, etc. for protecting the rights of the tribals in the forests. Keeping in the view the role of forests in the development of PTGs the Committee also desire that PTGs should also be actively involved in protection, conservation and development of forests. The Committee note with concern that in the name of implementation of Conservation Acts and in the name of public interest, orders are obtained from Courts which result in the eviction of tribals from their traditional abodes. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take active interest in such litigation and, if necessary, intervene to protect the interest of the tribals.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.10 The Ministry is alert in the matters of unauthorized evictions of tribals and is in constant contact of concerned Ministries to protect the interest of tribals including PTGs. On the initiatives of the Ministry, the Ministry of Environment & Forests has issued clarification to all State Governments for not undertaking eviction operations in respect of eligible forest dwellers (encroachers) as per guidelines issued in 1990. The MOEF is taking further steps to regularize the occupation of forestland by eligible forest dwellers including tribals.

2.11 The Ministry has taken up in the right earnest various issues concerning tribal forest interface with the concerned Ministry. The Ministry has also requested to the Ministry of Environment & Forests to include representative of Ministry of Tribal Affairs in the Central Empowered Committee set up under orders from Hon'ble Supreme Court, so that the interest of tribals may be protected.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

RECOMMENDATION (Sl. No.12, Para 5.17)

2.12 The Committee commends the efforts made by the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation in implementing the Scheme of Watershed Development Project in Shifted Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) in which 67,000 hectares of land have been treated benefiting nearly 41,000 Jhumia families during the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Committee also note with satisfaction that the number of Jhumia families benefited during the Ninth Five Year Plan has increased to 99,037 and the total areas of land treated is 1,59,949 hectares. Keeping in view the fact that PTGs are mostly shifting cultivators, the Committee desire that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs should coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture, so that concerted efforts are made towards reclamation of land for settlement and agriculture purposes of the PTGs and the tribal people during the Tenth Plan period.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.13 The Ministry has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Agriculture for reclamation of land of PTGs for settled agriculture. Efforts are also being made to sanction projects under the scheme of Development of PTGs and also through grants being released by the Ministry under other schemes/programmes.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

RECOMMENDATION (Sl. No. 18, Para 7.27)

2.14 The Committee note that the average rate of literacy among the PTGs is estimated at 10% only as compared to the rate of literacy among the whole tribal communities which is 29.60% according to the 1991 Census. The Committee view the situation seriously and recommend that the Ministry should make all out efforts for the spread of literacy among the PTGs during the Tenth Five Year Plan by ensuring that children of PTGs are enrolled in schools, hostels, ashram schools and educational complexes set up for imparting education to the tribal students in general and the PTGs in particular. The Committee further desire that incentives to check the dropout rates among the PTGs should be made more attractive. The Committee also urge the Ministry to approach the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Education and State Education Departments for construction of more schools in PTG areas for raising the level of literacy among the PTGs.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.15 The recommendation of the Committee has been brought to the notice of the Ministry of Human Resources Development and the State Governments for initiating action. Efforts have been made for promotion of education and literacy in PTG areas through the programmes of the Ministry as well as through schemes of the Ministry of Human Resources Development. The Ministry has taken up prospects for strengthening and creation of educational infrastructure in tribal areas for promoting levels of literacy among scheduled tribes including PTGs.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

RECOMMENDATION (Sl. No. 20, Para 8.5)

2.16 The Committee note with grave concern that funds earmarked for the development of PTGs are at times utilized by the States/Uts for meeting the administrative costs and that are comparatively higher. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should strengthen its monitoring over the schemes by keeping a close watch on the pace of expenditure incurred by States/UT and ensure that funds are not diverted for other purposes in any case. The Committee also feel that evaluation study on the schemes for "Development of PTGs" is required in order to assess the progress made and difficulties faced in the implementation of the scheme. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to undertake evaluation studies for ascertaining the impact of the scheme at the earliest so that corrective measures can be taken both in planning and execution at the beginning of the Tenth Five Year Plan.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

2.17 The Ministry has given reorientation to the scheme from 2003-04 by indicating the allocation under the scheme to each of the PTG and sanctioned projects on prioritized activities for ensuring food security, shelter, primary education, safe drinking water and basic minimum medical facilities. The monitoring and evaluation mechanism have been provided in the scheme. The Ministry reviews the performance of the project on annual basis. Further the Ministry has initiated the process to undertake evaluation of programmes implemented under the scheme of PTGs in last few years through reputed organizations.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

CHAPTER –III

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

RECOMMENDATION (Sl.No.1, Para 1.7)

3.1 The Committee note that although the Tribal Sub Plan concept and Special Central Assistance to State Governments for the socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes have been in operation since the Fifth Five Year Plan, the benefits of these schemes are not percolating to the Primitive Tribal Groups to the desired extent. The Committee further note that a special Central Sector Scheme was introduced in 1998-99 with the approval of the Planning commission and Ministry of Finance with the objective to cover those items/activities not already covered specifically by any existing scheme. The committee, therefore, desire that this scheme should be implemented in the right earnest so as to give a boost to the development of Primitive Tribal Groups and bring them to the stage from where they can demand and receive the services.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.2 The development of Primitive Tribal Group is being accorded priority. The States have been asked to prepare baseline survey and thereafter PTG-wise conservation and development plans, so as to direct resources in a more focused manner.

3.3 The PTG-wise projects are sanctioned under the scheme of Development of PTGs in consultation with States and concerned NGOs. In addition to funding under the scheme, funds are also provided under other schemes of the Ministry for the development of PTGs, specially under SCA to TSP.

(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated 03.12.2004)

RECOMMENDATION(Sl. No. 4, Para 3.9)

3.4 The Committee note that as per the guidelines of the Ministry, funds out of SCA to TSP could be utilised for the development of Primitive Tribes through ITDPs, MADA pockets/clusters, Dispersed Tribal Groups but the Ministry do not maintain separate figures for each of these programmes since the beginning of the Fifth Five Year Plan. The Committee further note with concern that the States have not shown any details of separate allocations in their State Plan schemes for the development of PTGs except under the Central Sector Scheme of 'Development of Primitive Tribal Groups'. The Committee fail to understand as to how the Ministry would be able to ensure that a part of the SCA to TSP and State Plan funds are actually utilised for the PTGs without getting

any feedback from them. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take up the matter with the State Governments/UT Administrations, to indicate separately the allocation of funds for PTGs both under Centrally Sponsored and State Plan Schemes for proper and effective implementation of the schemes meant for the development of the primitive tribes.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.5 In the revised guidelines for sanction of grants under SCA to TSP as circulated vide F.No.14020/5/2003-SG&C, dated 02.05.2003 there is formula to arrive at the admissible grant of a state from the total allocation against the scheme. In the formula, due weightage is given to the numerical size of PTG as well as No. of PTGs in the State. While issuing sanctions under SCA to TSP, it is specially mentioned that funds should be spent for PTGs as well in proportion to the population. Further, the performa for reporting progress report has also been revised to include physical financial progress separately for PTGs.

(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated 03.12.2004)

RECOMMENDATION(Sl. No. 17, Para 7.26)

3.6 The Committee appreciate the efforts being made by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare specifically for the health care of the PTGs. ICMR has undertaken some pilot projects and research studies in some PTG areas but since provision of health facilities and medical staff is not within the purview of ICMR, the Committee desire that the Ministry should take up the matter with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to provide adequate funds through its resources or approach WHO (World Health Organisation for undertaking studies in other areas also in a phased manner. The Committee also desire that the Ministry should pursue the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to make all out efforts to provide health care facilities and medical infrastructure for the PTGs living in hilly and inaccessible areas.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.7 The recommendation of the Committee is noted. The Ministry of Health and family Welfare has also been requested to take necessary action on the recommendations of the Committee.

(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated 03.12.2004)

RECOMMENDATION(Sl. No. 19, Para 7.28)

3.8 The Committee note that very few States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tripura and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, have constructed pucca houses/upgraded the houses for the PTGs but the number of pucca houses constructed by them have been very limited. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to pursue the States/UTs vigorously to provide adequate funds for construction of pucca houses as per the needs and lifestyles of the PTGs.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

3.9 The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested for taking steps as per recommendations of the Committee.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

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 2.11)

4.1 The Committee are surprised to note that despite Government's continued efforts for the development of PTGs right from Fifth Five-Year Plan, no state Governments have ever proposed to delete any group from the list of PTGs. The Committee further note that basic statistics is not available in the Ministry to ascertain the number of PTGs brought at par with other tribal communities during the 8th & 9th Five Year Plans. The Committee note with dismay that no specific action plan has been formulated by the Ministry for rehabilitation of PTGs in their own habitation. This reflects the lackadaisical attitude of the Ministry and lack of commitment to fulfill its objective of bringing the PTGs into the mainstream of the tribal society. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should make concerted efforts to bring maximum number of PTGs at par with other tribal communities during the 10th Five Year Plan by formulating specific Action Plan with the help of tribal Research Institutes and other expert bodies by pooling the resources from SCA to TSP, Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution and funds from Centrally Sponsored, Central Sector & State Plan Schemes.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.2 The Ministry convened a Meeting of the Secretaries and Principal Chief Conservators of Forests from the concerned States to emphasize preparation of comprehensive action plan for the development of each of the PTGs. The Ministry have also adopted a system of earmarking of funds to each of the PTGs of different States from the current financial year. The State Governments have been requested to prepare Project Reports under the scheme of Development of PTGs for each of the tribes separately. From this year onwards efforts would be taken to earmark funds for each of the PTG proportionate to their population. On receipt of Base Line Survey Reports from the State Governments, the data would be analyzed to review the impact of various programmes on socio economic development of PTGs over last few years and measures might be taken to exclude the PTGs from the list of PTGs who have advanced to be classified as other STs. The Ministry have also revised guidelines for sanction/release of grants under SCA to TSP wherein a system had been put in place to monitor sanction/releases to States including programmes taken up for.

4.3 It is also clarified that the Ministry convene a meeting of the Secretaries in charge of State Tribal Welfare Departments and Principal Chief Conservators of Forests on 10 February, 2004 to emphasize preparation of comprehensive action plan for the development of each of the PTGs. In the meeting, various representatives of State Governments express their anxiety that forest villages have remained deprived and

denied of the benefits of development. There are difficulties in conversion of forest villages into revenue villages. Due to restrictions under the Forest Conservation Acts, it is difficult to take developmental works in villages located within forest areas.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

Comments of the Committee

(Please See Para 1.9 of Chapter–I of the Report)

RECOMMENDATION(SI. No. 6, Para 4.7)

4.4 The Committee note with concern that no specific legal and administrative machinery exists at the national level for the development of Primitive Tribal Groups, some of whom are still at the stage of gatherers, hunters and shifting cultivators, etc. The Committee further note that only four States viz. Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have established special agencies at micro-level for the development of the PTGs. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the remaining States/UTs should also be impressed upon to set up special agencies at micro-level to take care of the PTGs. The Committee further desire that Special Officer of suitable rank having adequate knowledge and experience about the conditions and needs of PTGs and having commitment for them, should be posted in the areas of their concentration to protect their interests effectively.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.5 The recommendation has been brought to the notice of the State Governments for compliance.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

Comments of the Committee

(Please See Para 1.12 of Chapter–I of the Report)

RECOMMENDATION(Sl.No. 8, Para 4.9)

4.6 The Committee note that as a result of developmental activities like education, economic development and various training programmes, the lifestyle of PTGs has changed considerably and helped them to join the mainstream. The Committee appreciate the efforts made by the Ministry to bring the PTGs into the mainstream but at the same time desire that in the name of modernization, the rich cultural heritage of the PTGs including their traditional livelihood resources should not be adversely affected. The Committee, therefore, recommend that State Tribal Research Institutes, whose activities include preservation of the cultural heritage of the tribal population should be strengthened and equipped to perform their job effectively. Moreover, these institutes should be persuaded to work in close tandem with the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Department of Culture, for disseminating the rich tribal Culture.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.7 The recommendations of the Committee have been brought to the notice of TRIs set up in different States for compliance by taking appropriate steps. The Ministry held a meeting of State Secretaries in-charge of Tribal Development and Directors of TRIs on 28 November, 2003 to devise strategy for strengthening the TRIs. The TRIs had been facing financial crunch due to difficulty being expressed by the States in making available the State Share of 50% under the scheme of Grant-in-aid to TRIs under Research Scheme. The proposal of the Ministry to extend 100% grant under the scheme to TRIs has been approved by the Planning Commission in principle. The Ministry also organized a day long seminar of all share holders to get specific feed-back on various issues relating to preservation of cultural heritage of Scheduled Tribes including PTGs and steps required thereof to develop and disseminate the same.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

Comments of the Committee

(Please See Para 1.15 of Chapter-I of the Report)

RECOMMENDATION(Sl. No. 11, Para 5.16)

4.8 The Committee note with concern that though State Governments and UT Administrations have enacted Laws and Regulations to check the alienation of tribals from their lands plots the tribals are still being deprived of their lands in the States/UTs. The Committee further note that only five States/UT viz. Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tripura and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have enacted provisions to deal with cases of occupation of tribal land through deceit on the pattern of provisions made in the

Bonded Labour Abolition Act, 1976. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Ministry should ensure that adequate safeguards are incorporated in the State Laws/Regulations to protect the poor tribals including the PTGs against occupation of their lands by the non-tribals through deceit. State Governments might also be persuaded to amend their Land Alienation Acts to make it more stringent against the offenders and for speedy restoration of lands from illegal occupation. The Committee also desire that free legal aid should be provided to the tribals through ITDPs/ITDAs and NGOs especially in the cases of tribal land alienation.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.9 The recommendation has been brought to the notice of the State Governments/Union Territory Administration for compliance.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

Comments of the Committee

(Please See Para 1.18 of Chapter-I of the Report)

RECOMMENDATION(SI. No. 13, Para 6.11)

4.10 The committee note with concern that though the Project Officers of Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs) are entrusted with the task of implementing policies for protection and development of PTGs, the Ministry are not satisfied with their performance and achievement. The Committee, therefore, recommend that for effective functioning, ITDP framework in States should be suitably restructured and strengthened in terms of finance, manpower and delegation of powers to the Project Officers so that various programmes could be implemented through the line departments smoothly and effectively.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.11 The State Governments have been requested for compliance of the recommendation. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has recently issued orders giving more powers to Project Officers of the ITDPs.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

Comments of the Committee

(Please See Para 1.21 of Chapter–I of the Report)

RECOMMENDATION(Sl. No. 15, Para 6.13)

4.12 The Committee further note that State machineries are not making adequate efforts for the development of PTGs and the degree of participation of PTGs in the activities/ programmes for their development is low due to the factors of rigidity of social and cultural values prevailing among them and low level of literacy, etc. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the training to few selected PTG members from each group, who will be able to disseminate information among their own group may be imparted in batches so that the number of PTGs participating in development programme may increase substantially during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.13 The efforts are being made for wider dissemination of information among the PTGs as per recommendation through the State Government and Voluntary Agencies. Seva Bharati, an Established Voluntary Agency is running the Project of “JAN JAGARAN” through 300 single teacher schools in Mandla, Dindori, Shivapuri, Sheopur and Guna Districts of Madhya Pradesh for bringing awareness among the PTGs of 300 villages about importance of education, medical care, vocational training, etc. Awareness programme have also been under taken in Karnataka through the organization – Vivekanand Youth Movement. The direct impact of the programme has been in form of enhancement of students’ enrolment in respect of Jenukorba PTGs in local primary schools.

(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated 03.12.2004)

Comments of the Committee

(Please See Para 1.24 of Chapter–I of the Report)

RECOMMENDATION(Sl. No. 16, Para 7.25)

4.14 The Committee note with concern that only 13 Mobile Dispensaries have been sanctioned to provide health care facilities to the PTGs in six States. There are no Primary Health Centres/Health Sub-Centres functioning exclusively in the PTG areas. Therefore, the identified PTGs have to avail health care facilities from the medical centres functioning in the tribal areas. The Committee observe that the health care facilities for the PTGs are grossly inadequate particularly for the groups who are living in the remote, hilly and inaccessible areas. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend

that adequate number of Mobile Dispensaries, Primary Health Centres, sub-Centres, Community Health Centres, etc. which may exclusively cater to the PTGs should be set up in the areas of their habitation. The Committee also desire that Project Directors of ITDPs should conduct health surveys among the PTGs regularly and ensure that medicines and other life saving drugs are made available on demand.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

4.15 The recommendation of the Committee has been brought to the notice of the State Governments and the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The main focus during the Tenth Five Year Plan is ensuring food security through settled agriculture, safe drinking water, primary education and basic minimum medical facilities for each of the PTG. The State Governments and NGOs have been sanctioned projects of hospitals, mobile dispensaries, primary schools etc. as per the necessity of PTG villages.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

Comments of the Committee

(Please See Para 1.27 of Chapter-I of the Report)

CHAPTER-V

RECOMMENDATION/OBSERVATION IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT IS INTERIM IN NATURE

RECOMMENDATION (Sl. No. 14, Para 6.12)

5.1 The Committee note that financial assistance has been provided to State Governments and Voluntary Agencies for formation of Self Help Groups and generation of awareness among the PTGs to enable them to gain knowledge about various Government Programmes and schemes for their development. However, the Ministry have no information on the number of Self Help Groups set up so far. The Committee fail to understand how in the absence of such vital data, funds released for the formation of Self Help Groups will actually be utilised for that purpose. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should ensure that funds provided for the formation of Self Help Groups are fully utilised, as intended, by the State Governments and NGOs and also to collect the necessary data on Self Help Groups formed in States/UTs at the earliest.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

5.2 The Ministry had requested the State Governments and voluntary organizations to furnish the utilization status of grants released for setting up of Self Help Groups. As per report received in the Ministry, in Orissa, 75 SHGs are functioning.

**(Ministry of Tribal Affairs O.M. No. F.No.16015/4/2002-R&P(NGO), dated
03.12.2004)**

**New Delhi:
18 March, 2005
27 Phalguna, 1926 (Saka)**

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

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH SITTING ON THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON 18TH
MARCH, 2005.**

The Committee met from 14.00 hrs. to 15.15 hrs. in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Smt. Sumitra Mahajan - Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Smt. Susmita Bauri
3. Shri Mahaveer Bhagora
4. Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad
5. Shri Rupchand Murmu
6. Shri Rameshwar Oraon
7. Dr. R. Senthil
8. Mohd. Sahid Akhlaque
9. Smt. Pratibha Singh
10. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
11. Smt. Usha Verma

RAJYA SABHA

12. Smt. Jamana Devi Barupal
13. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
14. Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal
15. Shri Tarlochan Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Dr. (Smt.) P.K. Sandhu - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Bhupesh Kumar - Under Secretary

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

1. Smt. P. Jyoti Rao - Secretary
2. Shri S. Chatterjee - Joint Secretary
3. Shri Rajiv Kumar - Joint Secretary
4. Dr. R. M. Dubey - Director

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members and representatives of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and informed them that the meeting has been convened to seek clarifications from the Ministry on certain points furnished in their action taken notes on the Twenty-eighth Report of the erstwhile Committee on Labour and Welfare on 'Development of Primitive Tribal Groups' and the Second Report of the Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment on Demands for Grants, 2004-05 of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The Committee expressed grave concern over the fact that the Ministry had taken a long time in furnishing the action taken notes on the Twenty-eighth Report on 'Development of PTGs'. Though the Report was sent to the Ministry 20 December, 2002 for furnishing action taken notes by 21 March, 2003, the Ministry furnished the action taken notes on 3 December, 2004. The Committee also pointed out that not much progress has been made even after a long time in implementing the recommendations of the Committee.

3. Thereafter, the Secretary and other officials of the Ministry clarified the points raised by the Members.

4. Hon'ble Chairperson thanked the Secretary and other officials for their cooperation and valuable information given to the Committee.

(The Witnesses then withdrew)

5. The Committee took up the Draft Fourth Report on 'Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Twenty-eighth Report of the erstwhile Committee on Labour and Welfare on 'Development of Primitive Tribal Groups' for consideration and adoption. Certain changes incorporated in the Report on the basis of written clarifications received from the Ministry were read out. The Committee then adopted the draft Fourth Report without any amendment.

6. XX XX XX

7. XX XX XX

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

9. The Committee then placed on record their deep appreciation and thanks to the officers and staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for their hard work and valuable assistance rendered by them to facilitate the work of the Committee in preparing their draft Reports within the limited time.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE TWENTY-EIGHTH REPORT OF THE ERSTWHILE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE (THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA)

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	20	
II. Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government (Sl. Nos. 2, 5, 7, 9, 10,12, 18 and 20)	8	40%
III. Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government (Sl. Nos. 1, 4, 17 and 19)	4	20%
IV. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and commented upon by the Committee (Sl. Nos. 3, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15 and 17)	7	35%
V. Recommendation/Observation in respect of which final replies of Government is interim in nature (Sl. No. 14)	1	5%