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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**

**(2010 - 2011)**

**(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**

**Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2010-2011) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.**

**THIRTEENTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

**January, 2011/Pausha, 1932 (Saka)**

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EMPOWERMENT**

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**Action taken by the Government on the observations/ recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2010-2011) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.**

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 9.3.2011**

**Laid in Rajya Sabha on 9.3.2011**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

**January, 2011/Pausha, 1932 (Saka)**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
EMPOWERMENT (2010-2011)**

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN - CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS  
LOK SABHA**

- 2 Shri T.R. Baalu
- 3 Shri E.T. Mohamed Basheer
- 4 Smt. Bijoya Chakravarty
- 5 Shri Bhudeo Choudhary
- 6 Smt. Rama Devi
- 7 Shri R. Dhruvanarayana
- 8 Shri Premchand Guddu
- 9 Shri Baliram Jadhav
- 10 Dr. Manda Jagannath
- 11 Shri Mohan Jena
- 12 Shri Baliram Kashyap
- 13 Shri G.V. Harsha Kumar
- 14 Shri Basori Singh Masram
- 15 Shri Kamlesh Paswan
- 16 Dr. Niramalli Sivaprasad
- 17 Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
- 18 Shri Manohar Tirkey
- #19. Shri Subhash Bapurao Wankhede
- 20 Vacant
- 21 Vacant

**MEMBERS  
RAJYA SABHA**

- 22 Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
- 23 Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
- 24 Shri Narayan Singh Kesari
- ##25. Shri Mahmood A. Madani
- \*26. Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi
27. Dr. Ram Dayal Munda
28. Shri Baishnab Parida
29. Shri Praveen Rashtrapal
30. Shri Shivpratap Singh
31. Shri Nandi Yelliah

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# Shri Subhash Bapurao Wankhede nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 27.9.2010

## Shri Mahmood A. Madani nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 21.9.2010

\* Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 21.9.2010

## LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri V.R. Ramesh - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Anita Jain - Director
3. Dr. (Smt.) Sagarika Dash - Under Secretary

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirteenth Report on the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants – 2010-2011 relating to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

2. The Fourth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2010. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 20.9.2010. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on 5.1.2011.

3. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix**.

4. For facility of reference observations/recommendations 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:**

**5 January, 2011**  
**15 Pausha, 1932 (Saka)**

**DARA SINGH CHAUHAN**

**Chairman,  
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 Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants 2010-11 relating to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

1.2 The Fourth Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2010. It contained 21 observations/recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all the observations/recommendations have been examined and are categorised as under: -

- (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:  
Paragraph Nos. 2.22, 2.24, 2.28, 3.33, 3.42 and 5.25.  
(Total 6 - Chapter II)
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:  
Paragraph No. 3.34.  
(Total 1 - Chapter III)
- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and which need to be reiterated in Chapter I:  
Paragraph Nos. 2.23, 2.27, 5.11, 5.12 and 6.10.  
(Total 5 - Chapter IV)
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are of interim in nature:  
Paragraph Nos. 2.25, 2.26, 3.19, 3.20, 3.32, 4.15, 5.24, 6.25 and 6.26.  
(Total 9 - Chapter V)

**1.3 The Committee desire that action taken replies on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final action taken 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.

**Recommendation (Sl. No.2 Para No.2.23)**

1.5 The Committee have noted that while separate provisions have been made by the Ministry for educational development of SCs with Rs. 2115 crore and OBCs with Rs. 455 crore such a provision has not been made under the head of educational development of the persons with disability. The Committee have also been informed that earlier too there was a Centrally sponsored scheme of providing scholarship to students with disability which has since been transferred to States in the 90's. What is more disheartening to note is that it was a conscious decision of the Government of India taken up by Planning Commission and the Ministry was also a party to this decision. The Ministry's argument that the educational development needs of the persons with disability are taken care of by other schemes such as Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) does not hold water as SSA being a big umbrella programme with provisions for all sections of society cannot give focused attention to the holistic educational requirements of the persons with disability. As far as States are concerned they have their own resource constraints. Educational development is the key for overall development and security of this section and keeping in view the priority given to education by the Government, the right to education made a fundamental right under Part III of the Constitution, it is imperative that the educational needs of the persons with disability are taken care of. For this, the Committee recommend the Ministry



not to deviate from this priority and urgently make some provision under the head 'educational development of the persons with disability'. The Ministry should revive the earlier provision/scheme in this direction and act to provide some kind of scholarship to the students with disability. The Committee may be apprised of the progress made in this regard as early as possible.

1.6 The Ministry of Social Justice Empowerment in their action taken reply to the above recommendation has stated as under:-

"The Ministry is presently implementing a Scholarship Scheme for Students with Disabilities from a fund of the Ministry called the 'National Fund for People with Disabilities'. The salient features of the scheme are:-

- (i) Under the Scholarship Scheme, financial assistance is given to students with at least 40% disabilities certified as per the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 for pursuing post-Matric/Post-Secondary technical and professional courses including Ph. D & M. Phil from recognized institutions. However, to students with Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities, and Profound or Severe Hearing Impairment, scholarships are awarded for pursuing secondary level courses also.
- (ii) Monthly family income (including income of the parent/guardian) of the beneficiary should not be more than Rs. 15,000/-.
- (iii) Scholarship of (a) Rs.1000/-p.m. for hostellers and Rs.700/- p.m. for day scholars studying in professional courses at graduation and above level, and (b) Rs.700/- p.m. for hostellers and Rs.400/- p.m. for day scholars pursuing Diploma/certificate level professional courses and in respect of students with Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities and Profound or Severe Hearing Impairment, for pursuing general/technical/vocational courses after Class-VIII. Course fee is reimbursed up to a ceiling of Rs.10,000/- per year.
- (iv) Up to five hundred Scholarships are given annually to different categories of disabled students as under:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Disability</b>	<b>Male Students</b>	<b>Female Students</b>
1	Students with orthopedic disability	58 Awards	58 Awards

2	Students with blindness or low vision	58 Awards	58 Awards
3	Students with hearing disability	58 Awards	58 Awards
4	Students with Cerebral palsy, Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities, Profound or Severe Hearing Impairment	76 Awards	76 Awards
	Total	250	250

“Disability” is in the State list. As per available information the following State Governments are implementing their own scholarship Schemes for students with disability:- Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Goa.

Special provision for students with disabilities under SSA has been enhanced from Rs.1200/- per child to Rs.3000/- per child w.e.f. 2010-11.

A proposal to introduce Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF) scheme for students with disabilities, to pursue M. Phil. & Ph.D. programmes on the line of the existing RGNF for SC & ST statement is under examination”.

**1.7 The Committee are not happy with the reply furnished by the Ministry on the introduction of provision of Scholarship to students with disability. Though the Ministry have maintained that they are implementing a scholarship scheme for students with disabilities from a fund called the ‘National Fund for People with Disabilities’, in the opinion of the Committee the above scheme with mere 500 scholarships is not sufficient to meet the educational needs of large number of people with various kinds of disability. The Committee are also not convinced with the reply of the Ministry that disability is in the State list and many States are implementing their own scholarship schemes for people with disability. The Committee observe that out of 28 States and 7 UTs, only 16 States are implementing**

their own scholarship schemes for students with disability. It is also not known as to how much scholarship are being given by the States to the students with disability, the terms and conditions on which these are given and the number of disabled students being covered under the schemes. The Committee are of the view that since persons with disability belong to the most disadvantaged section of the society, the issue of educational empowerment of such people should be addressed at the National Level. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should introduce and implement scholarship scheme for persons with disability covering all the States and UTs in the pattern of scholarship schemes as it exists for SCs/OBCs to take care of the educational needs of this section of society. The Committee desire that till such provision is introduced, the Ministry should increase the number of scholarships under the scheme of 'National Fund for People with Disabilities' so that more people with disability are able to benefit from the financial assistance of the Government.

**Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 2.27)**

1.8 The Committee had noted that funds to the tune of Rs. 100 crore could not be utilized in full and got blocked under the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana because of non-approval of the scheme by the Planning Commission. The Committee also observed that the Planning Commission had now approved the scheme on 11.3.2010 and an allocation of Rs. 400 crore has been made for the scheme during 2010-11. The scheme being a flagship programme of the Ministry aims at the integrated development of villages having more than 50% Scheduled Caste population through convergent implementation of existing Central and State schemes. Since a huge amount of Rs. 400 crore has been earmarked for the scheme, efforts should be made for successful implementation of the said programme during 2010-11 by utilizing the entire amount allocated for the purpose. The Committee had also recommended the Ministry to look into the reasons for under –

utilization/non-utilization of funds under the schemes of Construction of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens, Financial Assistance to Women with Disability to look after their children after birth and Educational and Economical Development of De-notified and Nomadic Tribes, B. R. Ambedkar Foundation, Spinal Injury Centre, Research and Training and take suitable remedial measures to avoid the repeated under-utilization/non-utilization of funds in these schemes.

**Recommendation (Sl. No.19, Para No. 6.10)**

1.9 The Committee were unhappy to observe the 'nil' expenditure under the Scheme of Assistance for Construction of Old Age Homes for the Indigent Senior Citizens during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 & 2010-11. The reason cited by the Ministry for incurring 'nil' expenditure was that the scheme was still awaiting approval of the Planning Commission despite regular follow up. The Committee had been given to understand that the scheme had been initiated in the year 2007-08 in pursuance of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 with the noble intention of constructing old age homes for senior citizens. However, even after three years since the above Act had come into force, concrete steps had not been taken to implement the above scheme. In view of the fact that substantial allocation of Rs. 100 crore had been made under the scheme for the year 2010-11, the Committee had recommended that the scheme should be formulated early and the details of the scheme be worked out expeditiously within the first trimester of the financial year so that the entire amount allocated for the purpose could be utilized. The Committee also desired that the steps taken by the Ministry and Planning Commission may be intimated to the Committee within three months of presentation of this report.

1.10 The Ministry in their action taken note gave position of utilization of funds for various schemes as under:

Full budgeted amount was released to B. R. Ambedkar Foundation and the Spinal Injury Centre during 2009-10. The position in regard to other schemes is briefly given as below:

- (i) *Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)*: After approval of competent authority for launch of this scheme on pilot basis in 1000 SC majority villages of five states, viz. U.P, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Bihar (225 villages each) and Assam (100 villages), which was reviewed in March, 2010, guidelines of the Scheme were circulated to concerned States on 16.3.2010 inviting proposals for central assistance. A Meeting of these States and concerned Ministries was also held on 20.03.2010.

On receipt of complete proposals, full central assistance due has so far been released to three States, viz. Rajasthan, Bihar and Assam. Besides, partial assistance of Rs. 1.3 crore has been released to Tamil Nadu and its complete proposal is likely to be received soon. The Scheme was formally launched in the State of Rajasthan by the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, in the presence of the State Chief Minister and the Union Minister for Rural Development, on 23.07.2010 at village 18BB, Block Padampur, Sri Ganganagar district, which is one of the 225 SC majority villages selected under PMAGY from two districts of Rajasthan viz. Sri Ganganagar (160 villages) and Hanumangarh (65 villages).

Government of Uttar Pradesh has raised certain issues about the scheme and has not agreed to implement it so far.

National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, has been assigned the role of providing technical resource support to the scheme at the national level. It held an orientation programme for Secretaries, SC Welfare, of concerned States and Collectors/CEO, Zila Parishad of concerned districts on 15-17, July, 2010. Guidelines for baseline survey of PMAGY villages have also been finalized and sent to State Governments in August, 2010. for implementation after suitable adaptation. Action has been initiated for expansion of the Scheme to cover a total of 2000 villages during 2010-11, and another 2000 villages in 2011-12 (i.e. a total of 4000 villages in the XI Plan)

- (ii) *Centrally sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens*: Prior to Eleventh Five Year Plan, this Ministry was implementing a Non Plan Scheme, "Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/ Voluntary Organizations/ Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/ Multi Service Centers for Older Persons". The Working Group for the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan on Reforming the Social Deviants and Caring for Other Disadvantaged recommended for transfer of the Non-Plan Scheme to Plan to facilitate construction of old age homes on a large scale to meet the demand gap. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment had also urged the Government to formulate a long term plan to establish an adequate number of old age homes throughout the country for destitute senior citizens. Further, sub section (i) of Section 19 ("Establishment of old age Home") of the Welfare and Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 reads as follows:-(i) The State Government may establish and maintain such number of old age homes at accessible places, as it may deem necessary, in a phased manner, beginning with at least one in each district to accommodate in such homes a minimum of one hundred fifty senior citizens who are indigent"

Keeping the above in view, the Ministry had initially formulated a Centrally-sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens. Initially, the scheme was formulated for construction of 300 old age homes for indigent senior citizens at a cost of Rs 635 crore to cover at least 50% of the districts in the country. The Planning Commission, however, provided a budgetary provision of only Rs. 60 crore for the proposed new Scheme in the Ministry's XI Plan. Subsequently, on the advice of the Planning Commission and the Department of Expenditure, the scheme was recast to fit within the allocation of Rs. 60 crore with a physical target of only 100 old age homes in the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan, and a reduced pattern of funding. Although the Ministry did so as per the advice given by the Planning Commission, when the revised scheme was sent for the Commission's approval, it conveyed *vide* its letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, that the scheme has not been approved on the ground that a token approach for setting up old age homes would not serve any purpose and the position would be reviewed during mid-term appraisal of the Eleventh Plan. As a result, the plan outlay of Rs 29 crore (Rs.1 crore as token amount in 2007-08 and Rs. 13 crore and Rs. 15 respectively in 2008-09 and 2009-10) allocated under the scheme during the first three years of the Eleventh Plan (2007-2012) could not be utilized. With the increased plan outlay of the Ministry in 2010-11, an outlay of Rs. 100 crore has been earmarked for the proposed Scheme, in 2010-11, a fresh proposal for introducing the new Centrally-sponsored Scheme in 2010-11 has been sent for the approval of Full Planning Commission on 9.8.2010 and the matter is being pursued with it.

- (iii) *Scheme of Financial Assistance to Women with Disabilities to look after their Children after Birth:* The Scheme could not be launched during 2009-10 in view of a ban by the Ministry of Finance on introduction of new schemes unless it follows from a budget announcement. However, we have requested Ministry of WCD to incorporate a component in their proposed scheme, "Indira Gandhi Matatruva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) – Conditional Maternity Benefit Scheme" for pregnant and lactating women of 19 years of age and above for providing financial assistance to eligible mothers with disabilities on the lines we had envisaged in our proposed scheme.
- (iv) *Scheme for Educational and Economic Development of De-notified and Nomadic Tribes:* The Scheme could not be launched during 2009-10 as the Report of the National Commission set up to study the developmental aspects of de-notified tribes, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes is still under consideration of the Government.
- (v) *Research & Training Scheme:* Efforts are made to obtain proposals from reputed research and evaluation agencies and universities under the scheme each year. Meeting of the Research Advisory Committee will be held as necessary to consider and approve proposals received.

**1.11 The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry are making efforts for effective utilization of funds under the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana. However, they are not happy with the reply furnished by the Ministry with regard to utilization of funds in other schemes. In regard to the scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens, the Committee observe that though the scheme had been conceived and formulated as early as**

2008-09, it has not been able to kick off due to lack of its proper conception and planning with the desired level of thrust it needed. The Ministry have failed in convincing the Planning Commission of the urgent need for sanction of adequate funds under the scheme for its successful launching. The scheme is the only flagship scheme of the Ministry to take care of the emotional/psychological needs as well as security concerns of the destitute older persons and hence it is very much important that the scheme is not allowed to derail further. Therefore, the Committee desire the Ministry to take up the matter with the Planning Commission for an early approval of the scheme with adequate funding so that the scheme is able to take off soon.

The Committee also view seriously the Ministry's reply on the scheme of Financial Assistance to Women with Disabilities to look after their Children after Birth which could not be launched in 2009-10 in view of the ban by the Ministry of Finance on introduction of new schemes unless it follows from a Budget Announcement. The Committee feel that either the scheme should not have been conceived in view of the above ban or in case it was conceived, earnest efforts should have been made at the Ministerial level to ensure that the scheme followed from the Budget Speech of the Prime Minister. Now that the Ministry have maintained that they have requested the Ministry of Women and Child Development for incorporating Conditional Maternity Benefit Scheme in their Indira Gandhi Matatrva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) so as to benefit the women with disability, the Committee recommend the Ministry to constantly follow up with the Ministry of Women and Child Development and ensure that the above component is definitely incorporated in their scheme.

The Committee observe that a National Commission has been set up to study the developmental aspects of de-notified tribes, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes.

**While welcoming the setting up of the above Commission which would greatly help in identifying and addressing the issues concerning them, the Committee desire the Ministry to take up the matter of early completion of the study with the above Commission so that there is a considered view on launching of Scheme for Educational and Economic Development of De-notified and Nomadic Tribes. The Committee also recommend the Ministry to take all necessary steps to utilize the entire amount of funds earmarked for the scheme of Research and Training.**

**Recommendation (S. No. 15, Para No. 5.11)**

1.12 The Committee had found that the assistive devices are provided free of cost to persons having income up to Rs. 6,500/- per month and at 50 percent concession to persons with income between Rs. 6,500/- and Rs. 10,000/-. The maximum admissible amount for purchase of a device was Rs. 6,500/-. On the one hand while the use of advanced assistive devices has brought a qualitative change in the lives of the persons with disability, on the other hand the cost of the devices have gone up due to advancement in technology making these beyond the reach of the persons with disability. There was an urgent need for early revision in the guidelines of the scheme to upgrade the ceiling limits and make these devices within the reach of the persons with disability. Therefore, the Committee recommended the Ministry to urgently bring changes in the existing ceiling limits by revising the guidelines of the above scheme.

**Recommendation (S. No. 16, Para No. 5.12)**

1.13 The Committee had further noted that even though the appliances provided are of good quality and ISI marked even then the issue of breakage, wear and tear in the appliances do come and at the moment the ADIP scheme does not have any provision to address the issue of regular wear and tear in the costly devices distributed. In this regard the Ministry had maintained that follow up camps are held to look into any defects. However, in the absence of such a provision in-built in the ADIP scheme for repair and



maintenance of these devices at regular intervals, the beneficiaries are often put into difficulty and inconvenience when these devices don't work properly. The warranties coming with the devices as provided by the companies are not enough for this. As such, there is a need for inclusion of such a provision with financial assurance in the scheme itself for repair and maintenance. Therefore, the Committee had recommended the Ministry to take necessary steps in this direction and revise the guidelines of ADIP scheme if need arises to address the above issues and action taken by the Ministry in this regard furnished to the Committee within three months of presentation of this report.

1.14 The Ministry in their Action Taken Replies to both the recommendations have informed that a Committee has been formed in June, 2009 to consider revision of the ADIP Scheme. The Committee is examining *inter alia* the aspect of revision of income limit of the beneficiaries as well as cost norms of assistive aids and appliances.

**1.15 Having observed the present income ceiling under the ADIP scheme for distribution of assistive devices to be very low and the admissible amount for purchase of the devices to be mere Rs. 6500/-, the Committee had recommended that the Ministry should make an early revision in the guidelines of the scheme to upgrade the ceiling limits. The Committee had also recommended that since regular wear and tear are very common in the assistive devices due to which the beneficiaries are often put into lot of inconvenience, the Ministry should take steps and include a provision in the ADIP guidelines for addressing the above issue. The Committee are distressed to note from the reply of the Ministry that apart from setting up of a Committee to look into the above issues no other concrete action has been taken in this direction. It is also observed that though the above Committee had been set up in June, 2009 and more than a year had since elapsed, the Committee has not given their report thereby leading to substantial delay in the**

revision in the ADIP scheme. Therefore, the Committee desire the Ministry to expedite the furnishing of report by the Committee so that the guidelines of the ADIP scheme are revised early, preferably within a defined time frame. The Committee may be apprised of the action taken in this regard within three months of presentation of the Report.

## CHAPTER – II

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

#### Recommendation (Sl. No.1, Para No. 2.22)

2.1 The Committee observe that the budgetary allocation of the Ministry has been increased substantially from Rs. 2500 crore last year (2009-10) to Rs. 4500 crore during the current financial year i.e. 2010-11. Looking at the figures and comparing it with past allocations it indicates a marked increase of 80% over the budgetary allocation of the previous year. This increase would definitely help the Ministry to focus more resourcefully on the needs of the social sector. It would allow the Ministry to expand the scope of the various schemes it is running at present. The Committee have been given to understand that the Ministry would utilize the enhanced amount on long pending projects such as revision of the scholarship schemes, expanding the scope of disability related schemes, Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana, establishment of the Indian Sign Language, Research & Training etc. While appreciating the Ministry's endeavors in getting the planned budget enhanced and congratulating the Ministry for its success in convincing the Planning Commission of the urgent need for augmenting the budget of this Ministry, the Committee hope that this enhanced allocation would be fully utilized. Problems, if any in the way of its utilization should be identified, looked into and resolved in time. The Committee further recommends that the Ministry should do an assessment of utilization of allocated funds at suitable intervals so as to avoid under-utilization and surrender of funds at the close of the financial year.

#### Reply of the Government

2.2 Following steps have been taken by the Ministry so that funds allocated under various schemes are fully utilized:

- (a) Scheme wise, quarterly plan expenditure targets have been fixed for the year 2010-11. Progress of expenditure under each scheme is being reviewed on regular basis to ensure that funds are utilized on time
- (b) In order to ensure timely receipt of proposals from the State Governments, this Ministry vide its letter no. 1-31/2006-Cdn dated 21.3.2007, addressed to Secretaries in-charge of welfare of Scheduled Castes in States/UTs, has inter-alia, mentioned that in the beginning of the financial year, the Ministry would indicate the notional allocation of funds to the States/UTs, which in turn would submit their consolidated recommendations within those allocations and within a stipulated time frame every year. States are requested separately each year, under each scheme to send the proposals from NGOs duly recommended and verified by a specified date so that funds are released quickly and timely. Under other Schemes also, where financial assistance is given to States and not NGOs, State are being regularly pursued to send complete proposals on time.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para No. 2.24)**

2.3 The Committee find that funds to the tune of Rs. 361.69 crore could not be utilized and were surrendered by the Ministry during the last six years. Surrender and under-utilization for the year 2009-10 alone stood at Rs. 50.89 crore. On the issue of underutilization and surrender of funds in 2009-10, the Ministry have stated that the amount allocated could not be utilized due to the fact that budget was passed in the month of July during 2009-10. In their written submission on percentage utilization and shortfall, the Ministry has claimed that they are happy with the 83% spent on various schemes from the overall allocation. Yet in another instance, the Ministry has stated that out of the total budgetary allocation they have utilized 67% up to the end of third quarter which is treated to be satisfactory in the budget parlance. The Ministry's reasoning that surrender and savings occurred in various schemes due to non-receipt of adequate number of proposals from the States/implementing agencies is also not acceptable to the Committee because the schemes are Central sector schemes, funds are released by the Central Government and hence ultimately it is the responsibility of the Ministry to ensure that proposals complete in all respects are received and processed and money released and spent on

time. The Committee are pained to note that while on the one hand the Ministry went on saying that any kind of revision in the scholarship schemes could not be undertaken due to want of funds, on the other hand huge amount of funds could not be utilized and ultimately surrendered. When the Ministry is running important schemes with meagre allocations with a crore or two because of acute shortage of funds, it is very much important that money allocated under each head should be utilized fully and saving/surrender of funds avoided.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.4 The expenditure level of 83% mentioned in the above paragraph was as on 28.2. 2010. By the end of the financial year i.e. 31.3. 2010, Ministry's expenditure level had risen to 98%.

At the RE Stage, re-appropriation of funds within the schemes of the Ministry is exercised, as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance, keeping in view the pace of expenditure and potential savings likely to arise under various schemes/programmes of the Ministry to avoid the surrender of funds at the close of the financial year. However, trends indicate that 10% of the plan outlay earmarked (except in case of schemes for SC Development where it is only 2%) mandatorily for NER is not fully utilized and therefore remains unspent due to lack of proposals from the NER States resulting in surrender of funds. For instance, during 2009-10, out of total surrender of Rs. 50.89 core, Rs. 24.91 crore (48.95%) were surrendered out of total funds (Rs. 96.24 crore) earmarked under various schemes for the States of the North Eastern Region. Similarly, during 2008-09, total surrender of Rs. 39.45 crore was solely on account of surrender out of funds earmarked for the NER.

The following steps are being taken to improve utilization of funds in the NE region:

- (a) To boost the expenditure in the region and to identify the problems being faced by the State Governments in utilizing the funds, the Ministry has been

organizing meetings with Social Welfare Secretaries of NER States, as well as representatives of non-Government organizations in the region for the last two years. During the year 2009-10, such a meeting was held on 12.11.2009 at Guwahati to discuss the overall low utilization of funds allocated to NE states under various schemes of the Ministry including the issues relating to implementation of various schemes of the Ministry of SJ&E. The thrust of the meeting was to ensure optimum utilization of funds made available to NER states through schemes/programmes of the Ministry so that the most disadvantaged sections of society are not deprived of the benefits of these schemes. The State Governments were impressed upon to furnish an adequate number of proposals to the Ministry. As a result of these efforts, a substantial number of proposals were received from the North Eastern Region. Consequently the overall utilization of funds by North Eastern States rose to 74% in 2009-10 as compared to 58% in 2008-09. Efforts to ensure even better utilization in future will continue.

- (b) Additional Secretary (SJ&E), had requested the Chief Secretaries of all the States in NER in February, 2009 to advise the Welfare Secretaries of the States to examine the requirement of funds under various schemes of the Ministry of SJ&E for the following financial year 2009-10 and send the proposals under various schemes for the next year urgently so that the funds earmarked for the North Eastern Region are fully utilized.
- (c) The Secretary (SJ&E) also requested the Secretary, Ministry of DONER and Secretary North Eastern Council, in April, 2009, to help and guide in improving utilization of Plan funds earmarked for the NER
- (d) The Ministry will continue to seek help of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER) and the North Eastern Council, as in the past, to impress upon the NE States to send complete proposals on an adequate scale under the various schemes implemented in the region by this Ministry.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para No. 2.28)**

2.5 Effective monitoring is an important aspect of any scheme as the efficiency and outcome of the schemes are ensured with this vital tool. On this important aspect the Committee observe that nodal officers appointed for the States/UTs to undertake field visits for on-the-spot study of implementing of the schemes by implementing agencies and NGOs could not undertake the number of prescribed visits to States due to their pre-occupation with winter and Budget Sessions of Parliament. The Ministry have also furnished a very casual reason that due to their engagement in processing of the

proposals received from States/UTs, the nodal officers have not been able to have field visits on a significant scale. Keeping in view that monitoring is a vital mechanism for ensuring effective implementation of a scheme and that it acts as a vigil on the States/implementing agencies for any misutilization and diversion of funds, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should take all necessary steps to ensure that the schemes implemented by them are closely and tightly monitored so as to avoid any laxity and complacency by the States/implementing agencies in implementing the schemes and utilization of funds.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.6 Steps taken by the Ministry for monitoring progress of implementation of schemes include the following: -

- (i) Review meetings are held with States from time to time. Ministry also organizes an Annual Conference of State Welfare Secretaries wherein, inter alia, all schemes of the Ministry are reviewed.
- (ii) National Institutes and Composite Regional Centers under this Ministry have been assigned specific territorial responsibilities for monitoring implementation of the disability related schemes, including distribution of aids and appliances.
- (iii) Progress of schemes is monitored through periodic progress reports, and progress reports sent by States.

As regards the schemes being implemented through NGOs, each NGO is required to be inspected by State Government officers every year, and release of grant is considered only after recommendation of the State level Grant-in-aid Committee, sent along with the inspection report and other relevant documents.

The Ministry also regularly monitors receipt of Utilization Certificates from the Grantee State and NGOs. No further grants are released by the Ministry to Voluntary Organizations/Implementing Agencies without obtaining valid UCs of the grants released in the previous years.

To ensure regular monitoring of its developmental schemes, at State and District levels, the Ministry is also examining the possibility of getting them monitored through State and district level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees on the lines of those set up by the Ministry of Rural Development.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

**Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para No. 3.33)**

2.7 The Committee finds that at the moment the Ministry does not have any grievance redressal cell as far as its schemes on educational development in general and scholarship schemes in particular are concerned. On this, the Ministry have informed that they take up the matter as and when it is received and simply pass it on to the concerned state for rectification. There is no record as to how many of these were actually looked into and what follow up action was taken thereon. No wonder that the Committee, during the course of their examination of the subject "Scholarship Schemes for SCs and OBCs" have received end number of grievances when views/suggestions/comments of people on the scholarship schemes were invited by the Committee. In the absence of such a cell, large numbers of students/parents who have any complaint/issue/grievance are often left in lurch as their concern is not addressed to. The students are also not aware that complaint if any about the disbursement or other aspect of the scheme should be brought to the notice of the Ministry, which in turn takes up the issue with the concerned State. Therefore, the Committee advise the Ministry to create a standing grievance redressal cell so that the students/parents get a platform for hearing of their complaints relating to the schemes on educational development of SCs and OBCs including the scholarship schemes.



### **Reply of the Government**

2.8 The Scholarship Schemes for SC and OBC students are Centrally Sponsored Schemes and therefore prime responsibility for implementing these schemes effectively as well as redressing the grievances of students lies with the State Governments/UTs. Whenever individual complaint regarding delay etc. is received by the Ministry, the matter is taken up with the concerned State Government/UT.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Recommendation (S. No. 13, Para No. 3.42)**

2.9 The Committee note with concern that the performance of the Ministry under the Coaching and Allied scheme for SCs and OBCs has not been up to the mark as out of Rs. 8 crore allocated, the Ministry have spent only Rs. 2.79 crore and the number of beneficiaries has also come down during 2009-10. If the proposals received for grants are incomplete or illegible as per the Ministry's submission, they should co-ordinate with the institutes and rectify and ease the requirements under the scheme so that more number of coaching institutes come forward to impart training to SC/OBC beneficiaries. Considering the fact that IT/BPO sector is booming in upcoming cities such as Pune, Ahmadabad, Bhubaneswar etc, the Ministry should try to tap admissible proposals for training in these cities also.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.10 A committee has been set up in July, 2010, to recommend and revision of the scheme. The Committee will go into all aspects of the matter including those mentioned above.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 18, Para No. 5.25)**

2.11 The Committee note that on the issue of evaluation of NHFDC, though steps have been initiated and the Ministry has got many evaluation studies conducted, the positive outcome of these studies have not been put to use. The Committee also observe that some of the recommendations of the Agricultural Finance Corporation's study on the micro credit scheme of NHFDC such as supporting marketing activities of beneficiaries, strengthening of SCAs, adequate training for beneficiaries and reduced rate of interest for woman beneficiaries, etc. are timely and worth implementation. The Committee therefore, recommends the Ministry to expedite seeking explanation from NHFDC regarding non-implementation of the recommendations in the Evaluation and implement these recommendations in letter and spirit.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.12 The action taken on recommendations in regard to supporting marketing activities of beneficiaries, strengthening of SCAs, adequate training for beneficiaries and reduced rate of interest for women beneficiaries are given below:-

- (i) Supporting marketing activities of beneficiaries:-
  - a. NHFDC regularly provides marketing support to its beneficiaries by way of sponsoring them in various national and international exhibitions/trades fairs like Shilpotsav at Dilli Hat, IITF in Pragati Maidan, Delhi, Surajkund Mela, Faridabad etc;
  - b. NHFDC has taken steps to provide training and orientation to its beneficiaries during the exhibitions held last year (2009-10) i.e. Shilpotsav at Dilli Haat, IITF in Pragati Maidan, Delhi.
  - c. NHFDC is in the process of acquiring two stalls on lease in Dilli Haat, Pitampura for providing long term marketing support to its beneficiaries.
- (ii) Strengthening of SCAs:-

NHFDC has following capacity building measures for the SCAs to enhance their capacity to implement NHFDC Schemes:-

- (a) Training of SCA officials
- (b) Workshop/Awareness Camps
- (c) Regional Level Conferences, and
- (d) Incentive to SCAs

(iii) Reduced rate of Interest for women beneficiaries:-

NHFDC is already providing a special rebate of 1% on interest to women with disabilities in all the schemes of NHFDC under Mahila Samridhi Yojana.

(iv) Adequate training for beneficiaries:-

NHFDC provides 100% grants for skill development training to the persons with disabilities (PWDs) including existing beneficiaries. NHFDC also provides a stipend of Rs.1000/-per month to trainees.

During the last two financial years (2008-09 & 2009-10) NHFDC provided skill development training to 768 persons with disabilities in various trades like mobile repairing, DTP operator, Tally, Basic of Computer, Carpentry, Bamboo Article making etc.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

## CHAPTER – III

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

#### Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para No. 3.34)

3.1 The Committee are happy to note that many States have initiated action with regard to paying the scholarships through Post-offices/banks/smart cards by opening accounts in the name of individual students. The Committee recommend that the States which are not implementing the above mentioned system should be asked to do so urgently. The States which are implementing the system partially should also be advised to implement the system in full so that the students get their due scholarship hassle free and on time.

#### Reply of the Government

3.2 The Ministry will continue to pursue the matter with defaulting States/UTs on a regular basis to ensure that all students get their scholarship through Banks and Post Offices.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

## 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**

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para No. 2.23)**

4.1 The Committee have noted that while separate provisions have been made by the Ministry for educational development of SCs with Rs. 2115 crore and OBCs with Rs. 455 crore such a provision has not been made under the head of educational development of the persons with disability. The Committee have also been informed that earlier too there was a Centrally sponsored scheme of providing scholarship to students with disability which has since been transferred to States in the 90's. What is more disheartening to note is that it was a conscious decision of the Government of India taken up by Planning Commission and the Ministry was also a party to this decision. The Ministry's argument that the educational development needs of the persons with disability are taken care of by other schemes such as Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) does not hold water as SSA being a big umbrella programme with provisions for all sections of society cannot give focused attention to the holistic educational requirements of the persons with disability. As far as States are concerned they have their own resource constraints. Educational development is the key for overall development and security of this section and keeping in view the priority given to education by the Government, the right to education made a fundamental right under Part III of the Constitution, it is imperative that the educational needs of the persons with disability are taken care of. For this, the Committee recommend the Ministry not to deviate from this priority and urgently make some provision under the head educational development of the persons with disability. The Ministry should revive the earlier provision/scheme in this direction and act to provide some kind of scholarship to the

students with disability. The Committee may be apprised of the progress made in this regard as early as possible.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.2 The Ministry is presently implementing a Scholarship Scheme for Students with Disabilities from a fund of the Ministry called the 'National Fund for People with Disabilities'. The salient features of the scheme are:-

- (i) Under the Scholarship Scheme, financial assistance is given to students with at least 40% disabilities certified as per the under Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 for pursuing post-Matric/Post-Secondary technical and professional courses including Ph. D & M. Phil from recognized institutions. However, to students with Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities, and Profound or Severe Hearing Impairment, scholarships are awarded for pursuing secondary level courses also.
- (ii) Monthly family income (including income of the parent/guardian) of the beneficiary should not be more than Rs. 15,000/-.
- (iii) Scholarship of (a) Rs.1000/-p.m. for hostellers and Rs.700/- p.m. for day scholars studying in professional courses at graduation and above level, and (b) Rs.700/- p.m. for hostellers and Rs.400/- p.m. for day scholars pursuing Diploma/certificate level professional courses and in respect of students with Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities and Profound or Severe Hearing Impairment, for pursuing general/technical/vocational courses after Class-VIII. Course fee is reimbursed up to a ceiling of Rs.10,000/- per year.
- (iv) Up to five hundred Scholarships are given annually to different categories of disabled students as under:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Disability</b>	<b>Male Students</b>	<b>Female Students</b>
1	Students with orthopedic disability	58 Awards	58 Awards
2	Students with blindness or low vision	58 Awards	58 Awards
3	Students with hearing disability	58 Awards	58 Awards
4	Students with Cerebral palsy, Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities, Profound or Severe Hearing	76 Awards	76 Awards

	Impairment		
	Total	250	250

“Disability” is in the State list. As per available information the following State Governments are implementing their own scholarship Schemes for students with disability:- Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Goa.

Special provision for students with disabilities under SSA has been enhanced from Rs.1200/- per child to Rs.3000/- per child w.e.f. 2010-11.

A proposal to introduce Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF) scheme for students with disabilities, to pursue M Phil & PhD programmes on the line of the existing RGNF for SC & ST statement is under examination.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Comments of the Committee**

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

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 2.27)**

4.3 The Committee note that funds to the tune of Rs. 100 crore could not be utilized in full and got blocked under the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana because of non approval of the scheme by the Planning Commission. The Committee also observes that the Planning Commission has now approved the scheme on 11.3.2010 and an allocation of Rs. 400 crore has been made for the scheme during 2010-11. The scheme being a flagship programme of the Ministry aims at the integrated development of villages having more than 50% Scheduled Caste population through convergent implementation of existing Central and State schemes. Since a huge amount of Rs. 400 crore has been earmarked for the scheme, efforts should be made for successful implementation of the said programme during 2010-11 by utilizing the entire amount allocated for the purpose.

The Committee also recommend the Ministry to look into the reasons for under – utilization/non-utilization of funds under the schemes of Construction of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens, Financial Assistance to Women with Disability to look after their children after birth and Educational and Economical Development of De-notified and Nomadic Tribes, B. R. Ambedkar Foundation, Spinal Injury Centre, Research and Training and take suitable remedial measures to avoid the repeated under-utilization/non-utilization of funds in these schemes.

**Recommendation (Sl. No.19, Para No. 6.10)**

4.4 The Committee are unhappy to observe the 'nil' expenditure under the Scheme of Assistance for Construction of Old Age Homes for the Indigent Senior Citizens during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 & 2010-11. The reason cited by the Ministry for incurring 'nil' expenditure is that the scheme is still awaiting approval of the Planning Commission despite regular follow up. The Committee have been given to understand that the scheme had been initiated in the year 2007-08 in pursuance of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 with the noble intention of constructing old age homes for senior citizens. However, even after three years since the above Act has come into force, concrete steps have not been taken to implement the above scheme. In view of the fact that substantial allocation of Rs. 100 crore has been made under the scheme for the year 2010-11, the Committee recommend that the scheme should be formulated early and the details of the scheme worked out expeditiously within the first trimester of the financial year so that the entire amount allocated for the purpose could be utilized. The Committee may be apprised of the steps taken by the Ministry and Planning Commission within three months of presentation of this report.



## Reply of the Government

4.5 Full budgeted amount was released to B. R. Ambedkar Foundation and the Spinal Injury Centre during 2009-10. The position in regard to other schemes is briefly given as below:

- (i) *Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)*: After approval of competent authority for launch of this scheme on pilot basis in 1000 SC majority villages of five states, viz. U.P, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Bihar (225 villages each) and Assam (100 villages), which was reviewed in March, 2010, guidelines of the Scheme were circulated to concerned States on 16.3.2010 inviting proposals for central assistance. A Meeting of these States and concerned Ministries was also held on 20.03.2010.

On receipt of complete proposals, full central assistance due has so far been released to three States, viz. Rajasthan, Bihar and Assam. Besides, partial assistance of Rs. 1.3 crore has been released to Tamil Nadu and its complete proposal is likely to be received soon. The Scheme was formally launched in the State of Rajasthan by the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, in the presence of the State Chief Minister and the Union Minister for Rural Development, on 23.07.2010 at village 18BB, Block Padampur, Sri Ganganagar district, which is one of the 225 SC majority villages selected under PMAGY from two districts of Rajasthan viz. Sri Ganganagar (160 villages) and Hanumangarh (65 villages).

Government of Uttar Pradesh has raised certain issues about the scheme and has not agreed to implement it so far.

National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, has been assigned the role of providing technical resource support to the scheme at the national level. It held an orientation programme for Secretaries, SC Welfare, of concerned States and Collectors/CEO, Zila Parishad of concerned districts on 15-17, July, 2010. Guidelines for baseline survey of PMAGY villages have also been

finalized and sent to State Governments in August, 2010. for implementation after suitable adaptation. Action has been initiated for expansion of the Scheme to cover a total of 2000 villages during 2010-11, and another 2000 villages in 2011-12 (i.e. a total of 4000 villages in the XI Plan)

- (ii) Centrally sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens: Prior to Eleventh Five Year Plan, this Ministry was implementing a Non Plan Scheme, "Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/ Voluntary Organizations/ Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/ Multi Service Centers for Older Persons". The Working Group for the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan on Reforming the Social Deviants and Caring for Other Disadvantaged recommended for transfer of the Non-Plan Scheme to Plan to facilitate construction of old age homes on a large scale to meet the demand gap. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment had also urged the Government to formulate a long term plan to establish an adequate number of old age homes throughout the country for destitute senior citizens. Further, sub section (i) of Section 19 ("Establishment of old age Home") of the Welfare and Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 reads as follows:-(i) The State Government may establish and maintain such number of old age homes at accessible places, as it may deem necessary, in a phased manner, beginning with at least one in each district to accommodate in such homes a minimum of one hundred fifty senior citizens who are indigent"

Keeping the above in view, the Ministry had initially formulated a Centrally-sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens. Initially, the scheme was formulated for construction of 300 old age homes for indigent senior citizens at a cost of Rs 635 crore to cover at least 50% of the districts in the country. The Planning Commission however provided a budgetary provision of only Rs. 60 crore for the proposed new Scheme in the Ministry's XI Plan. Subsequently, on the advice of the Planning Commission and the Department of Expenditure, the scheme was recast to fit within the allocation of Rs. 60 crore with a physical target of only 100 old age homes in the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan, and a reduced pattern of funding. Although the Ministry did so as per the advice given by the Planning Commission, when the revised scheme was sent for the Commission's approval, it conveyed vide its letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, that the scheme has not

been approved on the ground that a token approach for setting up old age homes would not serve any purpose and the position would be reviewed during mid-term appraisal of the Eleventh Plan. As a result, the plan outlay of Rs 29 crore (Rs.1 crore as token amount in 2007-08 and Rs. 13 crore and Rs. 15 respectively in 2008-09 and 2009-10) allocated under the scheme during the first three years of the Eleventh Plan (2007-2012) could not be utilized.

With the increased plan outlay of the Ministry in 2010-11, an outlay of Rs. 100 crore has been earmarked for the proposed Scheme, in 2010-11, a fresh proposal for introducing the new Centrally-sponsored Scheme in 2010-11 has been sent for the approval of Full Planning Commission on 9.8.2010 and the matter is being pursued with it.

- (iii) *Scheme of Financial Assistance to Women with Disabilities to look after their Children after Birth:* The Scheme could not be launched during 2009-10 in view of a ban by the Ministry of Finance on introduction of new schemes unless it follows from a budget announcement. However, we have requested Ministry of WCD to incorporate a component in their proposed scheme, “Indira Gandhi Matatrva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) – Conditional Maternity Benefit Scheme” for pregnant and lactating women of 19 years of age and above for providing financial assistance to eligible mothers with disabilities on the lines we had envisaged in our proposed scheme.
- (iv) *Scheme for Educational and Economic Development of De-notified and Nomadic Tribes:* The Scheme could not be launched during 2009-10 as the Report of the National Commission set up to study the developmental aspects of de-notified tribes, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes is still under consideration of the Government.
- (v) *Research & Training Scheme:* Efforts are made to obtain proposals from reputed research and evaluation agencies and universities under the scheme each year. Meeting of the Research Advisory Committee will be held as necessary to consider and approve proposals received.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para 1.11 of Chapter – I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (S. No. 15, Para No. 5.11)**

4.6 The Committee find that the assistive devices are provided free of cost to persons having income up to Rs. 6,500/- per month and at 50 percent concession to persons with income between Rs. 6,500/- and Rs. 10,000/-. The maximum admissible amount for purchase of a device is Rs. 6,500/-. On the one hand while the use of advanced assistive devices has brought a qualitative change in the lives of the persons with disability, on the other hand the cost of the devices have gone up due to advancement in technology making these beyond the reach of the persons with disability. There is an urgent need for early revision in the guidelines of the scheme to upgrade the ceiling limits and make these devices within the reach of the persons with disability. Therefore, the Committee recommends the Ministry to urgently bring changes in the existing ceiling limits by revising the guidelines of the above scheme.

### **Recommendation (S. No. 16, Para No. 5.12)**

4.7 The Committee further note that even though the appliances provided are of good quality and ISI marked even then the issue of breakage, wear and tear in the appliances do come and at the moment the ADIP scheme does not have any provision to address the issue of regular wear and tear in the costly devices distributed. In this regard the Ministry have maintained that follow up camps are held to look into any defects. However, in the absence of such a provision in-built in the ADIP scheme for repair and maintenance of these devices at regular intervals, the beneficiaries are often put into difficulty and inconvenience when these devices don't work properly. The warranties coming with the devices as provided by the companies are not enough for this. As such, there is a need for inclusion of such a provision with financial assurance in the scheme itself for repair and maintenance. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Ministry to take necessary steps in this direction and revise the guidelines of ADIP scheme if need arises to address the

above issues. Action taken by the Ministry in this regard may be furnished to the Committee within three months of presentation of this report.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.8 A Committee has been formed in June, 2009 to consider revision of the ADIP Scheme. The Committee is examining inter alia the aspect of revision of income limit of the beneficiaries as well as cost norms of assistive aids and appliances.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Comments of the Committee**

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

## **CHAPTER – V**

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

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para No. 2.25)**

5.1 The Committee observes that for most of the NGO related programmes/schemes run by the Ministry, substantial amount of funds were released at the fag end of the financial year i.e. January to March. While the Secretary during the evidence has tried to justify the above action by saying that the release of funds to NGOs particularly in the case of schemes on disability and social defence sector during the last quarter of the financial year is O.K. with the Ministry because the NGOs still have sufficient time/full year to utilize the amount. However, in the opinion of the Committee this is clearly against the sound budgetary principle, as funds released at the fag end are prone to be diverted and mis-utilized and most of the time not subject to any kind of audit and monitoring. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should ensure that proposals complete in all respects are received well in advance preferably at the commencement of the financial year and processed expeditiously in batches. Due care should be taken at this stage only so as to avoid the undesirable trend of rushing release of funds at the end of the financial year.

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

5.2 The Ministry on its part makes all efforts to get complete proposals, with State Government's recommendations, on time. However, State Governments response to this has been uneven. The Ministry will continue to vigorously pursue the matter with them.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 5, Para No. 2.26)**

5.3 On the launching of the Pre-matric scholarship to cover all SC students, the Committee during their examination of the Demands for Grants for 2009-10 had been informed that the concept note for initiation of the scheme has been sent to the Planning Commission, which has already approved it in principle. However, since the financial implications were high, the scheme could not be launched during the last budget and it would be mooted only when there is an enhancement of allocation. Now after having a look at the current Budget, the Committee fails to understand as to why the scheme of Pre-matric scholarship for all SC students does not feature in the current budget though there has been considerable enhancement in the budgetary allocation. The Secretary, during the evidence has submitted that things have been put off till formulation of the XII Five Year Plan in this regard. The Committee view this serious lapse on the part of the Ministry because during the current budget exercise itself some kind of provision of Pre-matric scholarship covering all SC students should have been initiated. The Committee direct the Ministry to take note of this and take necessary action in this regard so that the scheme is able to take off at least during the next financial year.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.4 The plan budget of the Ministry has been increased to Rs.4500 crore in 2010-11 as against the demand of Rs 7000 crore. Although compared to Rs.2500 crore in 2009-10, the increase is significant, but the enhanced allocation during 2010-11 is barely enough to meet the requirement of revision of ongoing Scholarship Schemes for Scheduled Castes and OBCs, and of other Schemes like Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana, Special Central Assistance to SCSP, Rajeev Gandhi National Fellowship, and Deen Dayal Disabled Rehabilitation Schemes. Annual requirement of Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme for all SC Children is over Rs.8,000 crore (as against the Ministry's Plan budget of

Rs.4500 crore in 2009-10 and is not included in the Ministry's approved XI Plan. Introducing of the scheme will depend on the Ministry's getting massive further increase in its Plan outlay, which seems feasible only in the XII Plan.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No. 3.19)**

5.5 The Committee observe that there are serious discrepancies and mismatch of figures on the number of assisted population/beneficiaries who have crossed the below poverty line under the SCA to SCSP obtained by the Ministry from the concerned 8 States for which the figures are available. The Secretary himself was candid enough to accept during the evidence the figures to be rather odd and not correct. The Committee consider that the Scheme of SCA to SCSP has tremendous potential for the overall development of the scheduled caste population and data/feedback on the physical progress, utilization of funds and consequent information on the raising standard of living of the SC population is an important input as far as the assessment of the scheme is concerned. Therefore, the Committee recommends the Ministry to have a fresh look at the whole state of affairs. Instead of being contended with the information sent by States, Officers should be deputed to undertake an exercise of verifying and crosschecking the figures obtained from the concerned States so as to ascertain the accuracy and authenticity of the information. The States, which are not furnishing the requisite information on the number of beneficiaries, should be persuaded to send it at the earliest. The Committee may be apprised of the progress in this regard.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.6 In addition to the information furnished by 8 States sent to the Committee earlier, the Ministry has now received information from Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu on the number of Scheduled Caste families who have been able to cross the poverty



line after having availed financial assistance under the scheme of SCA to SCSP during 2005-06 which is summarized below:

Sl. No	State/UT	No. of BPL families assisted during 2005-06	No. of assisted families who crossed the poverty line
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	96213	21496(22.34%)
2	West Bengal	15443	8030(51.99%)
3	Tamil Nadu	168492	67397(40.0%)

Further, partial information has been received from eight States viz. Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Sikkim, Rajasthan, Chandigarh and Delhi. They have been requested to expedite complete information. The defaulting States/UTs viz. Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Manipur, Uttarakhand, Tripura and Puducherry have been reminded again to provide information at the earliest.

During the course of evidence before the Committee, the Secretary had mentioned information from only two States, viz. Kerala and Karnataka being prima facie anomalous, Chief Secretaries of both States have been requested to get their data verified and a report furnished to this Ministry at the earliest.

Nodal Officers of this Ministry will also conduct sample verification of information reported by the concerned States.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 9, Para No. 3.20)**

5.7 The Committee observe that not all the States/Uts are formulating and implementing Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan as part of their annual plans by earmarking resources in proportion to their share in total population. The Committee also note with serious concern that the percentage of SCSP outlay in respect of States after having reached to a benchmark of 17.16% during the year 2007-08 has been showing a declining trend i.e. 14.22% in 2008-09 & 13.34% in 2009-10. Also, all the Central Ministries are not uniformly earmarking their allocation under the scheme. In this context, the Committee in their earlier Report presented to the Parliament on 17.12.2009 had recommended that the Ministry should take up the above issue with the Planning Commission in the right earnest. The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry have taken up the issue with the Planning Commission and the latter have also realized the fundamental lacuna in the existing guidelines and informed the Ministry that they are in the process of working out fresh guidelines for central Ministries. The Committee are also in agreement with Planning Commission's observation that the present provision of uniform earmarking of 16% by States and the Central Ministries is not working out well and there is a need to review and reformulate the guidelines. The Committee recommend the Ministry should not leave the matter there and take it forward with Planning Commission on the urgent need for an exhaustive review of the existing guidelines on SCA to SCSP to make these more rational, flexible and acceptable for the Ministries and the States.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.8 Guidelines on formulation, implementation and monitoring of SCSP have been issued by the Planning Commission from time to time. Consolidated guidelines in this regard for Central Ministries/Departments were issued by the Commission in December, 2006. The matter regarding implementation of Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) by

Central Ministries/ Departments, including changes necessary in the SCSP guidelines, is being pursued by the Ministry with the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance.

As a result of the continuous efforts of the Ministry, the Planning Commission has constituted a Task Force vide their Order dated 4.6.2010, under the Chairmanship of its Member, Dr. Narendra Jadhav, with the following terms of reference:

- (i) To re-examine and revise the extant Guidelines issued by the Planning Commission for implementation of SCSP and TSP;
- (ii) To understand the operational difficulties in consultation with implementing Ministries and suggest remedial action so that SCSP and TSP can be implemented effectively in future.

The Task Force, is carrying out the above exercise, and will try to complete it as soon as possible. Rationalization of SCSP guidelines pursuant to views of the Task Force would result in their better implementation.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

**Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para No. 3.32)**

5.9 The Committee are happy to note that the budgetary allocation under the post-matric scholarship scheme has been increased significantly from Rs.750 crore during the year 2009-10 to Rs. 1700 crore during the year 2010-2011. The Committee are given to understand that with this enhanced allocation, the Ministry will undertake the much-awaited revision in the scholarship amounts which are at present extremely low. Apart from fulfilling the much-felt needs of the students, this will certainly go a long way in the educational empowerment of the scheduled caste students. However, since the Ministry are yet to work out the details of the revision, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation on early revision of the scholarship and hope that in this exercise every aspect of the scholarship will be taken into account and the scheme is dovetailed and

revamped in total ready to be implemented by the next academic session. The Committee would like to be apprised about the decision taken in this regard at the earliest.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.10 With necessary enhancement in the Plan Outlay in 2010-11, the scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Caste students is being revised in 2010-11 taking all relevant aspects into consideration. The revised scheme is expected to be finalized in the next two months, and will be made effective from the academic session, 2010-11.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Recommendation (S. No. 14, Para No. 4.15)**

5.11 The Committee are constrained to note that the progress of construction of hostels for OBC boys and girls has not at all been satisfactory, as during the last five years out of 353 hostels sanctioned, only 140 hostels could be completed. The reason for shortfall and non-materialization of the remaining sanctioned hostels as furnished to the Committee that ultimately OBC hostels are sanctioned to State Governments and grants get held up due to non-furnishing of Utilization Certificates by the States is not at all acceptable to the Committee. The Ministry's submission that there is a two year time period, tendering process and issue of technical sanction involved in construction of hostels is also not convincing because the Committee observe that even hostels sanctioned during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 could not be completed on time for reasons not known to the Committee. The Committee observe that the present construction period of two years for hostels is an unusually long period allowing for prolonged delay in construction and also cost escalation due to increase in prices of cement and steel etc. Considering the fact that huge constructions are completed in no time these days with advanced building materials and in comparison, hostels are small buildings with simple dormitory type halls

accommodating hardly 100 to 200 students per hostel, the construction should not stretch beyond a year. Accordingly, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should ask State Governments to acquire land before issuing financial sanctions, stipulate in its sanctions that construction be completed within a year and gear up its machinery for strict monitoring of the whole process of construction so that these hostels are completed in a time bound manner strictly within a year's time-frame.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.12 After receipt of financial sanction from the Ministry, the State Government has to take action on tendering and award of contract, which takes considerable time. In most of cases, the States are not able to complete hostels even within the existing time frame of two years. There is already a provision in the scheme stipulating that availability of land should be confirmed by the State Governments/UTs, and sanctions are issued only after such confirmation is received from the State Governments.

The recommendation regarding reduction in the time period for completion from the present two years to one year will be discussed in review meeting, with State Governments planned to be held in 2010-11 and suitable view will be taken thereafter.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 17, Para No. 5.24)**

5.13 The Committee observes that the National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation (NHFDC) offers financial assistance in the form of concessional loans to persons with disability through the State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs). However, a look at the release of funds to SCAs in the year 2009-10 shows that many States such as Assam, Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura did not receive any grant and as such there was no beneficiary coverage in these States. Out of these States, the

States of Goa, Karnataka did not receive any grant even during 2008-09. The Committee recommends the Ministry to look into the specific problems being faced by these States and hurdles if any should be cleared so that the people with disability in these States are not deprived of the benefits of NHFDC.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.14 The main reasons for non-release of funds to States of Assam, Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura are:-

- (i) Non-receipt of proposals from State Channelizing Agency (SCA);
- (ii) Non-submission of utilization details,
- (iii) Non-repayment of over dues; and
- (iv) In case of Madhya Pradesh, lack of sufficient Government Guarantee of the State Govt.

These issues have been taken up by the NHFDC with concerned State Governments. The bottlenecks in the implementation of NHFDC's Schemes were also discussed with SCAs during a National Conference of State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) on 4.9.2009 organized by NHFDC. NHFDC had also organized two regional conferences at (i) Bhubaneswar, on 6.11.2009 and (ii) Gandhinagar, on 7.12.2009 in this regard. Ministry has also taken up the issue with State Governments to ensure improved implementation of NHFDC's Schemes.

The concerned State Governments have already been conveyed the observations of the Standing Committee by NHFDC on 15.6.2010 and have been requested to take immediate necessary action.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 20, Para No. 6.25)**

5.15 The Committee note with concern that at present there is no National Policy on Drug and Substance Abuse Prevention and Rehabilitation. About the steps taken in this

direction, the Committee have been informed that a sub-committee of the National Consultative Committee on De-addiction and Rehabilitation (NCCDR) has been constituted. The Ministry have informed that there is a large number of people who are under the spell of some kind of drugs/alcohols and their de-addiction and rehabilitation is an area of national concern calling for collective action. The Committee also endorse the above view/ information shared by the Ministry and consider that a national strategy to tackle the issue of drug addiction is a priority area and the constitution of the above Committee is definitely a positive development. A National Policy on Drug and Substance Abuse Prevention and Rehabilitation is absolutely necessary not only for curbing the increasing number of drug addicts in the country but also in rehabilitating the addicts and giving them a new lease of life. Most nations of the world have already formulated their national policy on drug abuse highlighting their strategy to curb the menace and India should not be left behind. While recommending the Ministry to expedite the early finalization of the above policy within a stipulated time frame, the Committee urge the Ministry to ensure that the National Policy in this regard should be an all comprehensive one covering every aspect of the problem. It should also be in tune with the UN Charter of Drug Abuse. Smaller issues of having preventive strategy in schools through dissemination of information and awareness to larger issue of tackling cross border trade of narcotics should also be incorporated in the above policy.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.16 National Consultative Committee on De-addiction and Rehabilitation (NCCDR) in its meeting held on 10.12.2008, *inter alia*, decided that a Sub Committee be constituted to formulate a draft National Policy on Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse and Rehabilitation. A Sub Committee, which was constituted subsequently, after discussions and deliberations, has prepared a draft National Policy on Prevention of

Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse and Rehabilitation. The draft National Policy was discussed in a meeting of NCCDR held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010, and further action is being taken in the light of suggestions received therein. States and concerned Ministries will also be consulted before finalizing the National Policy.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 1-6/2010/(PS) PREM dated 20.9.2010).

**Recommendation (Sl. No. 21, Para No. 6.26)**

5.17 The Committee observes that only one state i.e. the State of Rajasthan has availed the funds for organizing de-addiction camps for three successive years. In this regard, the Committee are not happy with the reason advanced by the Ministry that the scheme being demand driven, the fund could be disbursed to only one organization as demand had been made only by them. Drug addiction being an all pervasive phenomenon prevalent in the country, a sizeable population in States like Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, North East being under its influence and more number adding each day, it is very unfortunate that the Ministry is not able to bring many States under the fold of the scheme. The Committee hopes that the Ministry will keep it in mind and improve the position by trying to motivate, guide and appropriately assist the States so that organizations/NGOs from all the States throng to avail the grants for organizing de-addiction camps.

**Reply of the Government**

5.18 Notional allocation under the scheme for the year 2010-11 was conveyed to the States on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010 and they were asked to send their proposal by 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2010. The matter is being perused with defaulting States and will also be discussed in regional level review meetings, proposed to be held in October, 2010.

**NEW DELHI**  
**5 January, 2011**  
**15 Pausha 1932 (Saka)**

**DARA SINGH CHAUHAN**  
**Chairman**  
**Standing Committee on**  
**Social Justice and Empowerment.**



**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2011.**

The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1550 hrs. in Committee Room No. 'G-074', PLB, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN - CHAIRMAN**

**MEMBERS  
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri T.R. Baalu
3. Shri E.T. Mohamed Basheer
4. Shri Bhudeo Choudhary
5. Smt. Rama Devi
6. Shri R. Dhruvanarayana
7. Shri Premchand Guddu
8. Shri Baliram Jadhav
9. Dr. Manda Jagannath
10. Shri Mohan Jena
11. Shri G.V. Harsha Kumar
12. Shri Kamlesh Paswan
13. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
14. Shri Manohar Tirkey

**MEMBERS  
RAJYA SABHA**

15. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
16. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
17. Shri Narayan Singh Kesari
18. Shri Baishnab Parida
19. Shri Nandi Yelliah

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                           |   |                  |
|----|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Smt. Anita Jain           | - | Director         |
| 2. | Shri Sanjeev Kumar Mishra | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Dr. (Smt.) Sagarika Dash  | - | Under Secretary  |

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

- (i) Draft Twelfth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-2011) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.
- (ii) Draft Thirteenth on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-2011) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- (iii) Draft Fourteenth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-2011) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

3. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the Thirteenth Report without any amendment.

4. The Committee authorized the Chairman to finalize the draft Report and present the same to Parliament.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

## APPENDIX

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

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
I. Total number of Recommendations	21	
II. Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government (Paragraph Nos. 2.22, 2.24, 2.28, 3.33, 3.42 and 5.25).	6	28.57
III. Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies (Paragraph No. 3.34).	1	4.76
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 No. 2.23, 2.27, 5.11, 5.12 and 6.10)	5	23.81
V. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature (Paragraph Nos. 2.25, 2.26, 3.19, 3.20, 3.32, 4.15, 5.24, 6.25 and 6.26).	9	42.86